

Algebraic Proofs

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1) Algebraic Proofs: Easier

1) Prove that $\frac{1}{2}(n+1)(n+2) - \frac{1}{2}n(n+1) = n+1$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(n+1)[n+2-n] = n+1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(n+1)[2] = n+1$$

$$= n+1 = n+1$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS} \quad "$$

(2 Marks)

2) Prove that $(2n+1)^2 - (2n-1)^2$ is a multiple of 8 for all positive integer values of n .

$$4n^2 + 4n + 1 - (4n^2 - 4n + 1)$$

$$= 8n$$

↑
multiple of 8.

(2 Marks)

3) Prove that $(2n+1)^2 - (2n-1)^2 - 10$ is not a multiple of 8 for all positive integer values of n .

$$= 4n^2 + 4n + 1 - (4n^2 - 4n + 1) - 10$$

$$= 8n - 10$$

$$= 8n - 8 - 2$$

$$\underbrace{8(n-1)} - 2$$

divisible by 8, but not after -2.

(2 Marks)

1) Algebraic Proofs: Medium

- 4) Prove algebraically that the sum of the squares of any two consecutive even numbers is always a multiple of 4.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(2n)^2 + (2n+2)^2 \\
 &4n^2 + 4n^2 + 8n + 4 \\
 &8n^2 + 8n + 4 \\
 &4(2n^2 + 2n + 1) \\
 &\Rightarrow \\
 &\text{Always a multiple of 4}
 \end{aligned}$$

(2 Marks)

- 5) Prove algebraically that the difference between the squares of any two consecutive even numbers is always a multiple of 4.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(2n+2)^2 - (2n)^2 \\
 &4n^2 + 8n + 4 - 4n^2 \\
 &8n + 4 \\
 &4(2n + 1) \\
 &\Rightarrow \\
 &\text{Always a multiple of 4}
 \end{aligned}$$

(2 Marks)

- 6) Prove algebraically that the difference between the squares of any two consecutive numbers is always an odd number.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(2n+1)^2 - (2n)^2 \\
 &4n^2 + 4n + 1 - 4n^2 \\
 &= \underline{4n + 1} \\
 &4n \rightarrow \text{even} \\
 &\text{Adding 1 makes it odd.}
 \end{aligned}$$

(2 Marks)

1) Algebraic Proofs: Harder

- 7) Prove algebraically that the sum of the squares of any two consecutive odd numbers cannot be a multiple of 4.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(2n+1)^2 + (2n+3)^2 \\
 &4n^2 + 4n + 1 + 4n^2 + 12n + 9 \\
 &8n^2 + 16n + 10 \\
 &8n^2 + 16n + 8 + 2 \\
 &\underbrace{4(2n^2 + 4n + 2)} + 2
 \end{aligned}$$

multiple of 4

Adding 2 does not make it a multiple of 4 also

(2 Marks)

- 8) Prove algebraically that the sum of the squares of any three consecutive odd numbers always leaves a remainder of 11 when divided by 12.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(2n+1)^2 + (2n+3)^2 + (2n+5)^2 \\
 &4n^2 + 4n + 1 + 4n^2 + 12n + 9 + 4n^2 + 20n + 25 \\
 &12n^2 + 36n + 35 \\
 &12n^2 + 36n + 24 + 11 \\
 &12(n^2 + 3n + 2) + 11
 \end{aligned}$$

multiple of 12

↖ remainder of 11.

(2 Marks)