

Problem 1

/360

Is it the case for all integers x that

$$12 \text{ divides } x(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)?$$

If so, prove it. If not, provide a counterexample.

Solution

Problem 2

/360

Is it the case for all integers x that

$$16 \text{ divides } 17^n - 1?$$

If so, prove it. If not, provide a counterexample.

Solution

Problem 3

/360

Suppose $S \subset \mathbb{Z}$ and that for all $x \in S$, $x > -10$. Does S have a least element? If so, prove it. If not, give a counterexample.

Solution

Problem 4

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Suppose $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$. Is it the case that $ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}$? If so, prove it. If not, give a counterexample.

Solution

Problem 5

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Suppose $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$. Is it the case that $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$? If so, prove it. If not, give a counterexample.

Solution

Problem 6

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Suppose $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{m}$. Is it the case that $a^c \equiv b^d \pmod{m}$? If so, prove it. If not, give a counterexample.

Solution

Find a polynomial $f(n)$ so that

$$f(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n (k^2 + k).$$

Solution

Find a polynomial $f(n)$ so that

$$f(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n k^3$$

Solution

Prove by induction that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\binom{n}{2} = \frac{(n)(n-1)}{2}.$$

(I thank Marilyn Rayner for correcting an error in a previous version of this problem.)

Solution

Prove by induction that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and for all integers x and y ,

$$\frac{x^n - y^n}{x - y}$$

is an integer.

Solution

Prove by induction that, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n (2k + 1)$$

is a perfect square. (I thank Marilyn Rayner for correcting an error in a previous version of this problem.)

Solution

Prove by induction that, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\sqrt{2\sqrt{3\sqrt{4\cdots\sqrt{(n-1)\sqrt{n}}}}} < 3.$$

Solution

Prove by induction that, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k} \frac{1}{2^k} = 2^n.$$

(This problem might be very hard)

Solution

Problem 14

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Let F_n be the Fibonacci numbers. For which values of n does F_n end in a zero?

Solution

Problem 15

/360

Let F_n be the Fibonacci numbers (here, $F_1 = 1$ and $F_2 = 1$, and $F_{n+2} = F_{n+1} + F_n$). Suppose x is a real number for which $x^2 = 1 - x$. Is it the case that $x^{100} = F_{99} - F_{100}x$? If so, prove it. (This is a situation where you might want to prove a much stronger statement by induction).

Solution

Problem 16

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Define a sequence G_n so that $G_1 = 1$, $G_2 = 1$, $G_3 = 1$, and $G_{n+3} = G_{n+2} + G_{n+1} + G_n$. For which n is G_n even? Prove your claim by using induction.

Solution

Problem 17

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Prove that there are infinitely many prime numbers.

Solution

Problem 18

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State and prove the binomial theorem.

Solution

Use the Binomial theorem to expand $(1 + x)^8$.

Solution

Show that for every integer $x \geq 2$, there is a prime number p so that p divides x .