

Name: _____



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Prove the following:

a) $(n+2)^2 - (n-2)^2$ is a multiple of 8.

$$\begin{aligned} &= (n+2)(n+2) - (n-2)(n-2) \\ &= (n^2 + 4n + 4) - (n^2 - 4n + 4) \\ &= 8n \text{ which is a multiple of 8} \end{aligned}$$

b) $(2n+3)^2 - (2n-3)^2$ is divisible by 8

$$\begin{aligned} &= (2n+3)(2n+3) - (2n-3)(2n-3) \\ &= (4n^2 + 12n + 9) - (4n^2 - 12n + 9) \\ &= 24n = 8(3n) \text{ which is a multiple of 8} \end{aligned}$$

b) $(7n+1)^2 - (7n-1)^2$ is a multiple of 4.

$$\begin{aligned} &= (7n+1)(7n+1) - (7n-1)(7n-1) \\ &= (49n^2 + 14n + 1) - (49n^2 - 14n + 1) \\ &= 28n = 4(7n) \text{ which is a multiple of 4} \end{aligned}$$

d) The sum of any three consecutive whole numbers is a multiple of 3.

$$\begin{aligned} &n + (n+1) + (n+2) \\ &= 3n + 3 \\ &= 3(n+1) \text{ which is a multiple of 3} \end{aligned}$$

e) The sum of any four consecutive numbers is a multiple of 2.

$$\begin{aligned} &n + (n+1) + (n+2) + (n+3) \\ &= 4n + 6 \\ &= 2(2n+3) \text{ which is a multiple of 2} \end{aligned}$$

f) The square of any odd number is also odd.

$$\begin{aligned} &(2n+1)^2 \\ &= 4n^2 + 4n + 1 \\ &= 2(2n^2 + 2n) + 1 \text{ which is always odd} \end{aligned}$$

g) The product of any two consecutive odd numbers leaves a remainder of three when divided by four.

$$\begin{aligned} &(2n+1)(2n+3) \\ &= 4n^2 + 8n + 3 \\ &= 4(n^2 + 2n) + 3 \text{ so has a remainder of 3} \end{aligned}$$

Exam question:

Prove that the difference between the squares of any two consecutive whole numbers is equal to the sum of the same two numbers.

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

$$n + (n+1) = 2n + 1 \text{ so always equal}$$

