

2. Say whether the following is true or false and support your answer by a proof: The sum of any five consecutive integers is divisible by 5 (without remainder).

PROOF Assume the above statement is true.

- If the sum of any five consecutive integers - call it  $s$  - is divisible by 5, then, there is an integer  $p$  such that  $s = 5p$ .
- Consider an integer  $n$ . The next four consecutive integers are:  $n + 1$ ,  $n + 2$ ,  $n + 3$ , and  $n + 4$ .
- The sum of these five consecutive integers,  $s = n + (n + 1) + (n + 2) + (n + 3) + (n + 4)$ , which is equal to  $5n + 10$ .
- Simplifying,  $s = 5(n + 2)$ .  $(n + 2)$  is an integer - call it  $p$ . So,  $s = 5p$ . Therefore,  $s$  is divisible by 5.

Hence, the statement is true. This completes the proof. ■