

QUESTION 5

Theorem for any integer n , at least one of the integers n , $n + 2$, $n + 4$ is divisible by 3.

Proof: by consideration of cases.

Any $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ can be written as $3k$, $3k + 1$ or $3k + 2$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

(i) Assume $n = 3k$. Then (trivially) n is divisible by 3.

(ii) Assume $n = 3k + 1$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}n + 2 &= 3k + 1 + 2 \\&= 3k + 3 \\&= 3(k + 1)\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $n + 2$ is divisible by 3.

(iii) Assume $n = 3k + 2$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}n + 4 &= 3k + 2 + 4 \\&= 3k + 6 \\&= 3(k + 2)\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $n + 4$ is divisible by 3.

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