Problem Set 1 - Solution

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1. Prove by contradiction. Suppose that $\sqrt[3]{2}$ is sensible. Then by definition, there exist positive integers a and b such that $\sqrt{a/b} = \sqrt[3]{2}$. Squaring both sides of the equation gives us $\sqrt{a/b} = \sqrt[3]{4}$, which implies that $\sqrt[3]{4}$ is rational.

   This means there exists positive integers x and y such that $x/y = \sqrt[3]{4}$ and x/y is in lowest term. Therefore, we have:

$$x/y = \sqrt[3]{4} \tag{1}$$
$$x^3/y^3 = 4 \tag{2}$$
$$x^3 = 4y^3 \tag{3}$$

   In the last equation, the right side is even, so is the left side. Since x^3 is even, x must be even. Therefore x^3 is a multiple of 8, this implies that y^3 is also a even number, thus y is even, too. x and y are both even, this contradicts the assumption that x/y is in lowest term.

   Thus $\sqrt[3]{4}$ is irrational, the original assumption must not be true.

2. **A Wrong Attempt:**

$$\exists x.\ (E(x,y) \wedge E(x,z) \wedge x \neq y \wedge x \neq z \wedge y \neq z) \tag{4}$$

   This doesn't say "x emailed exactly two other people in the class.". It also doesn't existentially quantify y and z.

   Right Attempt:
   First, we modify the above predicate to express that there exist students x, y and z such that x have emailed y and z.

$$\exists x \exists y \exists z.\ (E(x,y) \wedge E(x,z) \wedge x \neq y \wedge x \neq z \wedge y \neq z) \tag{5}$$

   The following predicate restricts that x emailed exactly y and y, besides herself.

$$\forall s,\ E(x,s) \implies s = x \vee s = y \vee s = z \tag{6}$$

   Combining these two predicates, we can say that there exists some student x who has emailed to exactly two other students y and z, besides possibly herself.

$$\exists x \exists y \exists z.\ (E(x,y) \wedge E(x,z) \wedge \tag{7}$$
$$x \neq y \wedge x \neq z \wedge y \neq z \wedge \tag{8}$$
$$\forall s,\ E(x,s) \implies s = x \vee s = y \vee s = z) \tag{9}$$

3. (a) $\exists a, b, c.\ (n = a \cdot a + b \cdot b + c \cdot c)$

(b) We can express $x = 1$ as: $\forall y.\ (xy = y)$. Further we can express $x > 1$ as: $\exists y.\ (y = 1 \wedge x > y)$. Replacing $y = 1$ with the previous predicate gives us: $\exists y.\ (\forall z.\ (yz = z) \wedge x > y)$.

(c)

$$\neg(\exists x.\ (x > 1 \wedge x < n \wedge \exists y.\ (y > 1 \wedge y < n \wedge xy = n))) \tag{10}$$

A better version:

$$IS - PRIME(n) \equiv (n > 1) \wedge \neg(\exists x \exists y.\ (x > 1 \wedge y > 1 \wedge x \cdot y = n)) \tag{11}$$

(d)

$$\exists n \exists p \exists q.\ \text{IS-PRIME}(p) \wedge\ \text{IS-PRIME}(q) \wedge (n = p \cdot q) \wedge (p \neq q) \tag{12}$$

(e) **My Attempt:**

$$\neg(\exists n.\ \text{IS-PRIME}(n) \wedge\ \text{IS-PRIME}(p) \wedge\ \forall p, n > p) \tag{13}$$

Right Solution:

$$\neg(\exists n.\ \text{IS-PRIME}(n) \wedge (\forall p,\ \text{IS-PRIME}(p) \implies n \geq p)) \tag{14}$$

(f) We can express $n > 2$ as:

$$\exists k.\ (k = 1) \wedge (n > k + k). \tag{15}$$

So the predicate is:

$$\forall(n), (n > 2 \wedge \exists k. n = k + k) \implies \exists p \exists q.\ \text{IS-PRIME}(p) \wedge\ \text{IS-PRIME}(q) \wedge (n = p + q) \tag{16}$$

(g)

$$\forall(n), (n > 1 \implies \exists p.\ \text{IS-PRIME}(p) \wedge (n < p) \wedge (p < n + n)) \tag{17}$$