

1. Say whether the following is true or false and support your answer by a proof.

$$(\exists m \in \mathbb{N})(\exists n \in \mathbb{N})(3m + 5n = 12)$$

Claim: $(\exists m \in \mathbb{N})(\exists n \in \mathbb{N})(3m + 5n = 12)$ is false

Proof: By cases.

Negating the original claim we get

$$(\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N})(3m + 5n \neq 12)$$

Given $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$

If $m = n = 1$ then $3m + 5n = 8 < 12$

If $m = 2$ and $n = 1$ then $3m + 5n = 11 < 12$ and

If $m = 1$ and $n = 2$ then $3m + 5n = 13 > 12$.

If $m = n = 2$ then $3m + 5n = 16 > 12$.

All cases up to here have been not equal than 12, and the last one with $m = n = 2$ is greater than 12, so every other combination with $m, n > 2$ will be bigger than 12, therefore, for all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ $3m + 5n \neq 12$, proving the original claim as false. \square