

### SHORT ANSWER TYPE

1. Give an example of a statement  $P(n)$  which is true for all  $n \geq 4$  but  $P(1)$ ,  $P(2)$  and  $P(3)$  are not true. Justify your answer.

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n)$  which is true for all  $n \geq 4$  but  $P(1)$ ,  $P(2)$  and  $P(3)$  are not true

Let  $P(n)$  be  $2^n < n!$

So, the examples of the given statements are,

$$P(0) \Rightarrow 2^0 < 0!$$

$$\text{i.e } 1 < 1 \Rightarrow \text{not true}$$

$$P(1) \Rightarrow 2^1 < 1!$$

$$\text{i.e } 2 < 1 \Rightarrow \text{not true}$$

$$P(2) \Rightarrow 2^2 < 2!$$

$$\text{i.e } 4 < 2 \Rightarrow \text{not true}$$

$$P(3) \Rightarrow 2^3 < 3!$$

$$\text{i.e } 8 < 6 \Rightarrow \text{not true}$$

$$P(4) \Rightarrow 2^4 < 4!$$

$$\text{i.e } 16 < 24 \Rightarrow \text{true}$$

$$P(5) \Rightarrow 2^5 < 5!$$

$$\text{i.e } 32 < 60 \Rightarrow \text{true, etc.}$$

2. Give an example of a statement  $P(n)$  which is true for all  $n$ . Justify your answer.

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n)$  which is true for all  $n$ .

Let  $P(n)$  be

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$P(0) \text{ is } 0 = \frac{0(0+1)}{2} = 0; \text{ it's true}$$

$$P(1) \text{ is } 1 = \frac{1(1+1)}{2} = 1; \text{ it's true}$$

$$P(2) \text{ is } 1 + 2 = \frac{2(2+1)}{2}; \text{ it's true}$$

$$P(k) \text{ is } 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + k = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$$

$$P(k) \text{ is } 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + k + 1 = \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + k + 1 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k)$  is true for all  $k$ .

Therefore,  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n$ .

**Prove each of the statements in Exercises 3 to 16 by the Principle of Mathematical Induction:**

**3.  $4^n - 1$  is divisible by 3, for each natural number  $n$ .**

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n) = 4^n - 1$  is divisible by 3.

So, substituting different values for  $n$ , we get,

$P(0) = 4^0 - 1 = 0$  which is divisible by 3.

$P(1) = 4^1 - 1 = 3$  which is divisible by 3.

$P(2) = 4^2 - 1 = 15$  which is divisible by 3.

$P(3) = 4^3 - 1 = 63$  which is divisible by 3.

Let  $P(k) = 4^k - 1$  be divisible by 3,

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow 4^k - 1 = 3x.$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= 4^{k+1} - 1 \\ &= 4(3x + 1) - 1 \\ &= 12x + 3 \text{ is divisible by 3.} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = 4^n - 1$  is divisible by 3 is true for each natural number  $n$ .

**4.  $2^{3n} - 1$  is divisible by 7, for all natural numbers  $n$ .**

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n) = 2^{3n} - 1$  is divisible by 7.

So, substituting different values for  $n$ , we get,

$P(0) = 2^0 - 1 = 0$  which is divisible by 7.

$P(1) = 2^3 - 1 = 7$  which is divisible by 7.

$P(2) = 2^6 - 1 = 63$  which is divisible by 7.

$P(3) = 2^9 - 1 = 512$  which is divisible by 7.

Let  $P(k) = 2^{3k} - 1$  be divisible by 7

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow 2^{3k} - 1 = 7x.$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= 2^{3(k+1)} - 1 \\ &= 2^3(7x + 1) - 1 \\ &= 56x + 7 \\ &= 7(8x + 1) \text{ is divisible by 7.} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = 2^{3n} - 1$  is divisible by 7, for all natural numbers  $n$ .

**5.  $n^3 - 7n + 3$  is divisible by 3, for all natural numbers  $n$ .**

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n) = n^3 - 7n + 3$  is divisible by 3.

So, substituting different values for n, we get,

$$P(0) = 0^3 - 7 \times 0 + 3 = 3 \text{ which is divisible by 3.}$$

$$P(1) = 1^3 - 7 \times 1 + 3 = -3 \text{ which is divisible by 3.}$$

$$P(2) = 2^3 - 7 \times 2 + 3 = -3 \text{ which is divisible by 3.}$$

$$P(3) = 3^3 - 7 \times 3 + 3 = 9 \text{ which is divisible by 3.}$$

Let  $P(k) = k^3 - 7k + 3$  be divisible by 3

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow k^3 - 7k + 3 = 3x.$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= (k+1)^3 - 7(k+1) + 3 \\ &= k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k + 1 - 7k - 7 + 3 \\ &= 3x + 3(k^2 + k - 2) \text{ is divisible by 3.} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = n^3 - 7n + 3$  is divisible by 3, for all natural numbers n.

### 6. $3^{2n} - 1$ is divisible by 8, for all natural numbers n.

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$$P(n) = 3^{2n} - 1 \text{ is divisible by 8.}$$

So, substituting different values for n, we get,

$$P(0) = 3^0 - 1 = 0 \text{ which is divisible by 8.}$$

$$P(1) = 3^2 - 1 = 8 \text{ which is divisible by 8.}$$

$$P(2) = 3^4 - 1 = 80 \text{ which is divisible by 8.}$$

$$P(3) = 3^6 - 1 = 728 \text{ which is divisible by 8.}$$

Let  $P(k) = 3^{2k} - 1$  be divisible by 8

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow 3^{2k} - 1 = 8x$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= 3^{2(k+1)} - 1 \\ &= 3^2(8x + 1) - 1 \\ &= 72x + 8 \text{ is divisible by 8.} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = 3^{2n} - 1$  is divisible by 8, for all natural numbers n.

### 7. For any natural number n, $7^n - 2^n$ is divisible by 5.

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$$P(n) = 7^n - 2^n \text{ is divisible by 5.}$$

So, substituting different values for n, we get,

$$P(0) = 7^0 - 2^0 = 0 \text{ Which is divisible by 5.}$$

$$P(1) = 7^1 - 2^1 = 5 \text{ Which is divisible by 5.}$$

$$P(2) = 7^2 - 2^2 = 45 \text{ Which is divisible by 5.}$$

$$P(3) = 7^3 - 2^3 = 335 \text{ Which is divisible by 5.}$$

Let  $P(k) = 7^k - 2^k$  be divisible by 5

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow 7^k - 2^k = 5x.$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= 7^{k+1} - 2^{k+1} \\ &= (5 + 2)7^k - 2(2^k) \\ &= 5(7^k) + 2(7^k - 2^k) \\ &= 5(7^k) + 2(5x) \text{ Which is divisible by } 5. \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = 7^n - 2^n$  is divisible by 5 is true for each natural number  $n$ .

### 8. For any natural number $n$ , $x^n - y^n$ is divisible by $x - y$ , where $x$ integers with $x \neq y$ .

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n) = x^n - y^n$  is divisible by  $x - y$ ,  $x$  integers with  $x \neq y$ .

So, substituting different values for  $n$ , we get,

$$P(0) = x^0 - y^0 = 0 \text{ Which is divisible by } x - y.$$

$$P(1) = x - y \text{ Which is divisible by } x - y.$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(2) &= x^2 - y^2 \\ &= (x + y)(x - y) \text{ Which is divisible by } x - y. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(3) &= x^3 - y^3 \\ &= (x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2) \text{ Which is divisible by } x - y. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $P(k) = x^k - y^k$  be divisible by  $x - y$ ;

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow x^k - y^k = a(x - y).$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= x^{k+1} - y^{k+1} \\ &= x^k(x - y) + y^k(x - y) \\ &= x^k(x - y) + y^k a(x - y) \text{, which is divisible by } x - y. \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = x^n - y^n$  is divisible by  $x - y$ , where  $x$  integers with  $x \neq y$  which is true for any natural number  $n$ .

### 9. $n^3 - n$ is divisible by 6, for each natural number $n \geq 2$ .

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n) = n^3 - n$  is divisible by 6.

So, substituting different values for  $n$ , we get,

$$P(0) = 0^3 - 0 = 0 \text{ Which is divisible by } 6.$$

$$P(1) = 1^3 - 1 = 0 \text{ Which is divisible by } 6.$$

$$P(2) = 2^3 - 2 = 6 \text{ Which is divisible by } 6.$$

Let  $P(k) = k^3 - k$  be divisible by 6.

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow k^3 - k = 6x.$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= (k+1)^3 - (k+1) \\ &= (k+1)(k^2+2k+1-1) \\ &= k^3 + 3k^2 + 2k \\ &= 6x+3k(k+1) \text{ [}n(n+1) \text{ is always even and divisible by 2]} \\ &= 6x + 3 \times 2y \text{ Which is divisible by 6.} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = n^3 - n$  is divisible by 6, for each natural number  $n \geq 2$ .

### 10. $n(n^2 + 5)$ is divisible by 6, for each natural number $n$ .

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n) = n(n^2 + 5)$  is divisible by 6.

So, substituting different values for  $n$ , we get,

$P(0) = 0(0^2 + 5) = 0$  Which is divisible by 6.

$P(1) = 1(1^2 + 5) = 6$  Which is divisible by 6.

$P(2) = 2(2^2 + 5) = 18$  Which is divisible by 6.

$P(3) = 3(3^2 + 5) = 42$  Which is divisible by 6.

Let  $P(k) = k(k^2 + 5)$  be divisible by 6.

So, we get,

$$\Rightarrow k(k^2 + 5) = 6x.$$

Now, we also get that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) &= (k+1)((k+1)^2 + 5) = (k+1)(k^2+2k+1+5) \\ &= k^3 + 3k^2 + 8k + 6 \\ &= 6x + 3k^2 + 3k + 6 \\ &= 6x + 3k(k+1) + 6 \text{ [}n(n+1) \text{ is always even and divisible by 2]} \\ &= 6x + 3 \times 2y + 6 \text{ Which is divisible by 6.} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = n(n^2 + 5)$  is divisible by 6, for each natural number  $n$ .

### 11. $n^2 < 2^n$ for all natural numbers $n \geq 5$ .

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n)$  is  $n^2 < 2^n$  for  $n \geq 5$

Let  $P(k) = k^2 < 2^k$  be true;

$$\Rightarrow P(k+1) = (k+1)^2$$

$$= k^2 + 2k + 1$$

$$2^{k+1} = 2(2^k) > 2k^2$$

Since,  $n^2 > 2n + 1$  for  $n \geq 3$

We get that,

$$k^2 + 2k + 1 < 2k^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (k+1)^2 < 2^{(k+1)}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = n^2 < 2^n$  is true for all natural numbers  $n \geq 5$ .

**12.  $2n < (n + 2)!$  for all natural number n.**

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n)$  is  $2n < (n + 2)!$

So, substituting different values for n, we get,

$P(0) \Rightarrow 0 < 2!$

$P(1) \Rightarrow 2 < 3!$

$P(2) \Rightarrow 4 < 4!$

$P(3) \Rightarrow 6 < 5!$

Let  $P(k) = 2k < (k + 2)!$  is true;

Now, we get that,

$\Rightarrow P(k+1) = 2(k+1) ((k+1)+2)!$

We know that,

$[(k+1)+2)! = (k+3)! = (k+3)(k+2)(k+1)\dots\dots\dots 3 \times 2 \times 1]$

But, we also know that,

$= 2(k+1) \times (k+3)(k+2)\dots\dots\dots 3 \times 1 > 2(k+1)$

Therefore,  $2(k+1) < ((k+1) + 2)!$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$P(n) = 2n < (n + 2)!$  Is true for all natural number n.

**13.  $\sqrt{n} < 1/\sqrt{1} + 1/\sqrt{2} + \dots 1/\sqrt{n}$ , for all natural numbers n.**

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$P(n)$  is  $\sqrt{n} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots\dots\dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} ; n \geq 2$   $P(n)$  is  $\sqrt{n} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots\dots\dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} ; n \geq 2$

$P(2)$  is  $\sqrt{2} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow 1.414 < 1.707$  It's true

$P(3)$  is  $\sqrt{3} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \Rightarrow 1.732 < 2.284$  It's true

Let  $P(k)$  is  $\sqrt{k} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots\dots\dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} ;$  is true

Adding  $\sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k}$  on both sides.

$\Rightarrow \sqrt{k} + \sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots\dots\dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} + \sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k}$

$\left[ \because \sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k} = \frac{(\sqrt{k+1} - \sqrt{k})(\sqrt{k+1} + \sqrt{k})}{(\sqrt{k+1} + \sqrt{k})} = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{k+1} + \sqrt{k})} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{k+1}} \right]$

$\Rightarrow \sqrt{k+1} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots\dots\dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k+1}}$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$$\sqrt{n} < 1/\sqrt{1} + 1/\sqrt{2} + \dots + 1/\sqrt{n}, \text{ for all natural numbers } n \geq 2$$

**14.  $2 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2n = n^2 + n$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .**

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$$P(n) \text{ is } 2 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2n = n^2 + n.$$

So, substituting different values for  $n$ , we get,

$$P(0) = 0 = 0^2 + 0 \text{ Which is true.}$$

$$P(1) = 2 = 1^2 + 1 \text{ Which is true.}$$

$$P(2) = 2 + 4 = 2^2 + 2 \text{ Which is true.}$$

$$P(3) = 2 + 4 + 6 = 3^2 + 2 \text{ Which is true.}$$

Let  $P(k) = 2 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2k = k^2 + k$  be true;

So, we get,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) \text{ is } 2 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2k + 2(k+1) &= k^2 + k + 2k + 2 \\ &= (k^2 + 2k + 1) + (k+1) \\ &= (k+1)^2 + (k+1) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$2 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2n = n^2 + n$  is true for all natural numbers  $n$ .

**15.  $1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .**

**Solution:**

According to the question,

$$P(n) \text{ is } 1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1.$$

So, substituting different values for  $n$ , we get,

$$P(0) = 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1 \text{ Which is true.}$$

$$P(1) = 1 + 2 = 3 = 2^{1+1} - 1 \text{ Which is true.}$$

$$P(2) = 1 + 2 + 2^2 = 7 = 2^{2+1} - 1 \text{ Which is true.}$$

$$P(3) = 1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 = 15 = 2^{3+1} - 1 \text{ Which is true.}$$

Let  $P(k) = 1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^k = 2^{k+1} - 1$  be true;

So, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P(k+1) \text{ is } 1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} &= 2^{k+1} - 1 + 2^{k+1} \\ &= 2 \times 2^{k+1} - 1 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true when  $P(k)$  is true.

Therefore, by Mathematical Induction,

$1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$  is true for all natural numbers  $n$ .