

5.6 – Indirect Proofs (Part 1)

Write the first step of an indirect proof of the given statement.

- 1) A number g is divisible by 2.

Assume temporarily that a number g is not divisible by 2.

- 2) There are more than three red houses on the block.

Assume temporarily that there are only 3 red houses on the block.

- 3) $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral.

Assume temporarily that $\triangle ABC$ is scalene.

- 4) $m\angle B \cong 90$

Assume temporarily that $m\angle B \neq 90$

5. $\angle C$ is not a right angle.

Assume temporarily that $\angle C$ is a right angle.

- 6) There are less than 15 pounds of apples in the basket.

Assume temporarily that there is exactly 15 lbs of apples.

- 7) If the number ends in 4, then it is not divisible by 5.

Assume temporarily, if the number ends in 4, then it is divisible by 5.

- 8) If $\overline{MN} \cong \overline{NO}$, then point N is on the perpendicular bisector of \overline{MO} .

Assume temporarily, if $\overline{MN} \cong \overline{NO}$, the point N is not on the \perp bis. of \overline{MO}

- 9) If two right triangles have congruent hypotenuses and one pair of congruent legs, then the triangles are congruent.

Assume temporarily , then the triangles are not congruent.

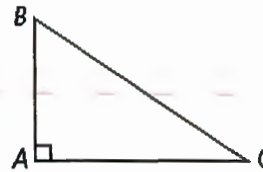
- 10) If two parallel lines are intersected by a transversal, then alternate interior angles are congruent.

Assume temporarily , then AIA are not congruent.

11) Fill in the blanks to prove the following statement: In right $\triangle ABC$, $m\angle B + m\angle C = 90$.

Given: right $\triangle ABC$

Prove: $m\angle B + m\angle C = 90$



Assume temporarily that $m\angle B + m\angle C \neq 90$. If $m\angle B + m\angle C \neq 90$, then $m\angle A + m\angle B + m\angle C \neq 180$. According to the Triangle Angle Sum Theorem, $m\angle A + m\angle B + m\angle C = 180$. This contradicts the previous statement, so the temporary assumption is false.

Therefore, $m\angle B + m\angle C = 90$.

12) Use indirect reasoning to eliminate all but one of the following answers. In what year was Barack Obama born?

~~1809~~

~~1909~~

1961

~~2000~~

Identify the two statements that contradict each other.

13) I. $\triangle ABC$ is acute.

II. $\triangle ABC$ is scalene.

III. $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral.

14) I. $m\angle B \leq 90$

II. $\angle B$ is acute.

III. $\angle B$ is a right angle.

15) I. $\overline{FA} \parallel \overline{AC}$

II. \overline{FA} and \overline{AC} are skew.

III. \overline{FA} and \overline{AC} do not intersect.

16) I. Victoria has art class from 9:00 to 10:00 on Mondays.

II. Victoria has math class from 10:30 to 11:30 on Mondays.

III. Victoria has math class from 9:00 to 10:00 on Mondays.

17) I. $\triangle MNO$ is acute.

II. The centroid and the orthocenter for $\triangle MNO$ are at different points.

III. $\triangle MNO$ is equilateral.

18) I. $\triangle ABC$ such that $\angle A$ is obtuse.

II. $\triangle ABC$ such that $\angle B$ is obtuse.

III. $\triangle ABC$ such that $\angle C$ is acute.

19) I. The orthocenter for $\triangle ABC$ is outside the triangle.

II. The median for $\triangle ABC$ is inside the triangle.

III. $\triangle ABC$ is an acute triangle.