

Mathematics 300

Quiz 15

Name: _____

You must show your work to get full credit.

1. Prove or disprove: If $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a \mid bc$, then $a \mid b$ or $a \mid c$.

Solution. This is false. One counterexample is $a = 4$, $b = 2$ and $c = 2$, Then $4 = a \mid 4 = bc$, but 4 does not divide either b or c .

Another counterexample is $a = 4$, $b = 2$ and $c = 6$. Then $4 = a \mid 12 = bc$, but 4 does not divide $b = 2$ or $c = 6$. □