1. Prove that if n is a positive integer, then  $n^2 + 2$  is not divisible by 4.

**Solution**. (Proof by cases) If n is a positive integer, then either it is odd or even.

- If n is odd, then n = 2k + 1 for some integer k and hence  $n^2 + 2 = (2k + 1)^2 + 2 = 4(k^2 + k) + 3$ . Since  $k^2 + k$  is an integer, we obtain that  $n^2 + 2$  has remainder 3 when divided by 4 and so cannot be divisible by 4.
- If n is even, then n = 2k for some integer k and hence  $n^2 + 2 = 4k^2 + 2$ . Since  $k^2$  is an integer, we obtain that  $n^2 + 2$  has remainder 2 when divided by 4 and so cannot be divisible by 4.

[A proof by cases can also be given using congruences.]

- 2. (a) Use the Euclidean algorithm to find gcd(630, 100).
- (b) Find integers x, y such that gcd(630, 100) = 630x + 100y.

**Solution**. (a) We have  $630 = 6 \times 100 + 30$ ,  $100 = 3 \times 30 + 10$ ,  $30 = 3 \times 10$ . Hence gcd (630, 100) = 10.

(b) We have  $10 = 100 - 3 \times 30 = 100 - 3 \times (630 - 6 \times 100) = 630 \times (-3) + 100 \times 19$ . We can therefore take x = -3 and y = 19.