



STEP III, 2006, Q5 EC

- 5 There were many different approaches to this question; the key to their acceptability is the extent to which they can be justified as sufficiently general. It is clearly not acceptable to illustrate the result with one or more special cases only. It was also important to note the “if and only if” phrase in the question. Those who managed to reach beyond the first proof produced different approaches to the second part, particularly with a preference for the algebraic approach.



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