

Fill in the blanks.

Theorem. *The number $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.*

Proof. Assume, to the contrary, that $\sqrt{2}$ is ____
 $\Rightarrow \sqrt{2} = \frac{a}{b}$, such that a and b are ____ and $b \neq$
____.

Moreover, we may assume that the fraction $\frac{a}{b}$ is in ____
terms.

$$\Rightarrow 2 = \left(\sqrt{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 = \frac{a^2}{b^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2b^2 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$\Rightarrow a^2$ is even, since ____ is an integer

$\Rightarrow a$ is ____

$\Rightarrow a = 2c$, for some integer c

$\Rightarrow a^2 = (2c)^2 = 4$ ____; but, $a^2 = 2b^2$

$$\Rightarrow 4c^2 = 2b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = 2$$

$\Rightarrow b^2$ is even, since b^2 is an ____ \Rightarrow ____ is even.

However, this is absurd, because a and b cannot both be even as $\frac{a}{b}$ is in lowest terms. Therefore, we have reached a contradiction. □