

# True or false?

This sentence is false.

Apparently, the sentence is both true and false; or neither.

So we have to be careful about language.

# Introductions

- ▶ Who are you?
- ▶ What do you do for fun?
- ▶ When will you graduate?
- ▶ Where are you from?
- ▶ Why are you studying mathematics?

# Vocabulary for today

- ▶ Statement
- ▶ Open sentence
- ▶ Universal quantifier
- ▶ Existential quantifier
- ▶ Negation

# Statements

A statement is a sentence that is either true or false.

Examples:

- ▶ The number  $\pi$  is irrational.
- ▶ The instructor's shirt is red.

Non-examples:

- ▶ Are we having fun yet?  
(questions are not statements)
- ▶ Go for the gold.
- ▶  $x^2 = 2x$   
(an *open sentence* that becomes a statement only when a specific value is substituted for the variable)

# Quantifiers

Example: “there exists an  $x$  for which  $x^2 = 2x$ ” is a quantified statement with an existential quantifier.

In symbols,  $\exists x x^2 = 2x$ .

(True statement:  $x = 0$  works, and so does  $x = 2$ .)

Example: “For every  $x$ ,  $x^2 = 2x$ ” is a quantified statement with a universal quantifier.

In symbols,  $\forall x x^2 = 2x$ .

(False statement: the equation is wrong when  $x = 1$ , for example.)

Examples with implicit quantifiers:

- ▶ Aggies love traditions.  
(implicit universal quantifier)
- ▶ Some weeks have eight days.  
(implicit existential quantifier)

# Negation

If  $P(x)$  is the open sentence  $x^2 = 2x$ , then the negation is  $x^2 \neq 2x$ , symbolized by  $\neg P(x)$ .

Interaction of negation with quantifiers:

$\neg(\exists x x^2 = 2x)$  means the same as  $\forall x x^2 \neq 2x$ .

Similarly,  $\neg(\forall x x^2 = 2x)$  means the same as  $\exists x x^2 \neq 2x$ .

## Examples from page 12

- ▶ The area of a rectangle is its length times its width.  
(Universal: For every rectangle, the area is the length times the width.)
- ▶ A triangle may be equilateral.  
(Existential: There exists an equilateral triangle.)