

Question		Answer	Marks	AO	Guidance
12		Assume there is a prime number p which is one less than a square number	M1*	2.1	Setting up proof by contradiction
		$p = n^2 - 1$ for some positive integer $n \geq 2$			
		$p = (n-1)(n+1)$	M1*	2.1	factorising
		If $n = 2$ $p = 1 \times 3 = 3$ which is prime [$p = 2$ is not 1 less than a square number]	E1	2.1	Considers the possibility that one factor might be 1
		If $n > 2$ then p has two [proper] factors so is not prime which is a contradiction. So there are no prime numbers other than 3 which are 1 less than a square number	E1 (dep)	2.1	Condone missing reference to $n = 2$ (or $p = 3$) for this step. Conclusion must be clear.
			[4]		Allow SC1 where M1M0 or M0M0 has been awarded and $3 = 2^2 - 1$ is established