Now n-m is even by supposition and  $n^2+nm+m^2$  is an integer (being a sum of products of integers). Thus  $(n-m)(n^2+nm+m^2)$  is the product of an even integer and an integer, and so, by exercise 28, it is even. Hence, by substitution,  $n^3-m^3$  is even [as was to be shown]. (Alternatively, the given statement can be proved by direct use of the definition of even, without

reference to exercise 28.)

Proof: Suppose a and b are any nonnegative real numbers. Then

$$\sqrt{a}$$
 = that unique nonnegative real number u such that  $u^2$  equals a

and

$$\sqrt{b}$$
 = that unique nonnegative real number v such that  $v^2$  equals b

By substitution and the laws of exponents,  $ab = u^2v^2 = (uv)^2$ . So uv is that unique nonnegative real number such that  $(uv)^2 = ab$ . Hence  $\sqrt{ab} = uv = \sqrt{a}\sqrt{b}$ .