CONTENTS

Introduction		3
Chapter 1	**Natural Numbers and Integers**	9
1.1	Primes	10
1.2	Unique Factorization	11
1.3	Integers	13
1.4	Even and Odd Integers	15
1.5	Closure Properties	18
1.6	A Remark on the Nature of Proof	19
Chapter 2	**Rational Numbers**	21
2.1	Definition of Rational Numbers	21
2.2	Terminating and Non-terminating Decimals	23
2.3	The Many Ways of Stating and Proving Propositions	26
2.4	Periodic Decimals	30
2.5	Terminating Decimals Written as Periodic Decimals	34
2.6	A Summary	36
Chapter 3	**Real Numbers**	38
3.1	The Geometric Viewpoint	38
3.2	Decimal Representations	39
3.3	The Irrationality of $\sqrt{2}$	42
3.4	The Irrationality of $\sqrt{3}$	43
3.5	The Irrationality of $\sqrt{6}$ and $\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}$	44
3.6	The Words We Use	45
3.7	An Application to Geometry	46
3.8	A Summary	51

Chapter 4	**Irrational Numbers**	52
4.1	Closure Properties	52
4.2	Polynomial Equations	54
4.3	Rational Roots of Polynomial Equations	57
4.4	Further Examples	62
4.5	A Summary	64
Chapter 5	**Trigonometric and Logarithmic Numbers**	65
5.1	Irrational Values of Trigonometric Functions	65
5.2	A Chain Device	68
5.3	Irrational Values of Common Logarithms	69
5.4	Transcendental Numbers	71
5.5	Three Famous Construction Problems	73
5.6	Further Analysis of $\sqrt[3]{2}$	78
5.7	A Summary	79
Chapter 6	**The Approximation of Irrationals by Rationals**	81
6.1	Inequalities	81
6.2	Approximation by Integers	84
6.3	Approximation by Rationals	86
6.4	Better Approximations	89
6.5	Approximations to within $\frac{1}{n^2}$	94
6.6	Limitations on Approximations	99
6.7	A Summary	102
Chapter 7	**The Existence of Transcendental Numbers**	103
7.1	Some Algebraic Preliminaries	104
7.2	An Approximation to α	107
7.3	The Plan of the Proof	108
7.4	Properties of Polynomials	109
7.5	The Transcendence of α	111
7.6	A Summary	113
Appendix A	**Proof That There Are Infinitely Many Prime Numbers**	115
Appendix B	**Proof of the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic**	117
Appendix C	**Cantor's Proof of the Existence of Transcendental Numbers**	122
Answers and Suggestions to Selected Problems		129
Index		135