

1135-M1-2647 **Elizabeth Theta Brown*** (brownet@jmu.edu), Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics, MSC 1911,
800 South Main, Harrisonburg, VA 22807. *A Good False Proof of the Fundamental Theorem of
Finitely Generated Abelian Groups.*

We offer a compelling but false proof of FTFGAG, together with a guided discovery project on detecting the errors suitable for a first course in abstract algebra. This “proof,” together with the analysis, is useful in that it offers undergraduates both a decent intuition of why the theorem is true, and practice finding subtle errors. Instructors who doubt that such practice is needed are invited to offer the –false–proof, and see how many students object. (Received September 26, 2017)