

Step 1. Taking advantage of the fact that  $(a+b)(a-b)=a^2-b^2$ , We can rationalize the denominator.

As each fraction is in the form  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{a}+\sqrt{b}}$  We can multiply each fraction by  $\frac{\sqrt{a}-\sqrt{b}}{\sqrt{a}-\sqrt{b}}$  to give

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}+\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{1}-\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{1}-\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{3}} \dots\dots\dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{99}+\sqrt{100}} \times \frac{\sqrt{99}-\sqrt{100}}{\sqrt{99}-\sqrt{100}} =$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{1}-\sqrt{2}}{1-2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{3}}{2-3} \dots\dots\dots + \frac{\sqrt{99}-\sqrt{100}}{99-100} =$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{1}-\sqrt{2}}{-1} + \frac{\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{3}}{-1} \dots\dots\dots + \frac{\sqrt{99}-\sqrt{100}}{-1} =$$

This can be written in sigma notation as

$$\sum_{n=1}^{99} -(\sqrt{n} - \sqrt{n+1}) \quad \text{or} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{99} -\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1} =$$

$$-\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{2} \quad -\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} \quad -\sqrt{3} + 4 \quad -\sqrt{4} + \sqrt{5} \dots\dots\dots -\sqrt{98} + \sqrt{99} \quad -\sqrt{99} + \sqrt{100}$$

We see that we get a lot of cancellations and are left with

$$-\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{100} =$$

$$-1 + 10 = 9$$