

OBJECTIVE: I can factor polynomials.

### Vocabulary

Factor: Polynomial used to multiply

Constant: The number in equation; when the exponent of variable is zero  $3x^0 = 3 \cdot 1 = 3$

Coefficient: Number multiplying variable

$$(3)x^2y$$

When factoring ALWAYS look for a greatest common factor or GCF!!!

### Factoring Identities

1. difference of squares  $(a+b)(a-b) = a^2 - b^2$
2. perfect sq. trinomial  $(a \pm b)^2 = a^2 \pm 2ab + b^2$
3. difference or sum of cubes  

$$a^3 \pm b^3 = (a+b)(a^2 \mp ab + b^2)$$

### EXAMPLES

Factor each expression using the polynomial identities where possible. If you used an identity, write the identity you used. Show work if it is not an identity!

1.  $x^2 + 3x + 2$

$\cancel{ax^2 + bx + c}$

$\cancel{x^2} + \cancel{1x} + \cancel{2x} + \cancel{2}$

$x(x+1) + 2(x+1)$

$(x+2)(x+1)$

2.  $3x^2 - x - 2$

$\cancel{3x^2 - 3x + 2x - 2}$

$3x(x-1) + 2(x-1)$

$(x-1)(3x+2)$

3.  $4x^2 - 16$

$4(x^2 - 4)$

$4(x+2)(x-2)$

4.  $4x^2 + 9$   
not factorable

5.  $4x^2 - 12x + 9$   
 $(2x - 3)^2$

6.  $27x^3 + 8$  sum of cubes  
 $(3x+2)(9x^2 - 6x + 4)$

7.  $8x^3 - 125$

$(2x-5)(4x^2 + 10x + 25)$

8.  $32x^3 - 4y^3$

$4(8x^3 - y^3)$

$4(2x-y)(4x^2 + 2xy + y^2)$

9.  $6x^2 - 4x - 16$

$2(3x^2 - 2x - 8)$

$2(3x^2 - 6x + 4x - 8)$

$2(3x+4)(x-2)$

These are quadratic in form. Factor the same way, just change the variable.

10.  $x^4 - 25$

$(x^2+5)(x^2-5)$

11.  $5x^6 + 7x^3 + 2$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^6 + 5x^3 + 2x^3 + 2 \\ \hline 5x^3(x^3+1) + 2(x^3+1) \\ (x^3+1)(5x^3+2) \\ (x+1)(x^2-x+1)(5x^3+2) \end{array}$$

12.  $2x^2 - 9x + 6$

not factorable

Expand the product using polynomial identities, if possible. Show work if it is not an identity!

13.  $(5x - 6)(5x + 6)$

$25x^2 - 36$

14.  $(4x + 5)^2$

$(4x+5)(4x+5)$

$16x^2 + 40x + 25$

15.  $(2x - 5)^3$

$(2x-5)(2x-5)(2x-5)$

$(4x^2 - 20x + 25)(2x-5)$

$14x^2 - 20x + 25$

|      |          |          |        |
|------|----------|----------|--------|
| $2x$ | $8x^3$   | $-40x^2$ | $50x$  |
| $-5$ | $-20x^2$ | $-10x$   | $-125$ |

$8x^3 - 60x^2 - 50x - 125$