

2.4 Factoring Quadratic Expressions

To factor a polynomial is to write it as a product of its factors.

Steps:

- 1) Factor out GCF first if there is one.
- 2) Factor the remaining trinomial or difference of squares (if possible)
- 3) Write your answer as a product.

Factor.

Ex ① $\frac{20x^2}{4x} + \frac{4x}{4x}$ GCF: $4x$

$$4x(5x + 1)$$

② $\frac{2x^2}{x} - \frac{x}{x}$ GCF: x

$$x(2x - 1)$$

③ $\frac{6x^2}{3} + \frac{3x}{3} - \frac{9}{3}$ GCF: 3

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

④ $\frac{-2x^2}{-2} + \frac{4x}{-2} - \frac{8}{-2}$ GCF: -2

$$-2(x^2 - 2x + 4) \quad \text{or} \quad 2(-x^2 + 2x - 4)$$

* Grouping: $5x^2 + 10x$
 $5x(x + 2)$

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

$$\textcircled{5} \quad x^2 - 10x + 24$$

$1 \cdot 24$
 $2 \cdot 12$
 $3 \cdot 8$
 $4 \cdot 6$

$$(x - 4)(x - 6)$$

$-4x$
 $-6x$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad 2x^2 + 11x + 14$$

$1 \cdot 14$
 $2 \cdot 7$

$$(2x + 7)(x + 2)$$

$-7x$
 $4x$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad 6x^2 - 13x + 2$$

$$(6x - 1)(x - 2)$$

$-1x$
 $-12x$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad 8x^2 - 13x - 6$$

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

$3x$
 $-16x$

You try:

$$\textcircled{a} \quad x^2 - 11x + 18$$

$$\textcircled{b} \quad 3x^2 - 2x - 8$$