

**LESSON**  
**6-4** **Practice B**  
**Factoring Polynomials**

Determine whether the given binomial is a factor of the polynomial  $P(x)$ .

1.  $(x - 4)$ ;  $P(x) = x^2 + 8x - 48$

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2.  $(x + 5)$ ;  $P(x) = 2x^2 - 6x - 1$

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3.  $(x - 6)$ ;  $P(x) = -2x^2 + 15x - 18$

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4.  $(x + 3)$ ;  $P(x) = 2x^2 - x + 7$

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Factor each expression.

5.  $2x^4 + 2x^3 - x^2 - x$

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6.  $4x^3 + x^2 - 8x - 2$

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7.  $5x^6 - 5x^4 + x^3 - x$

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8.  $2x^4 + 54x$

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9.  $64x^3 - 1$

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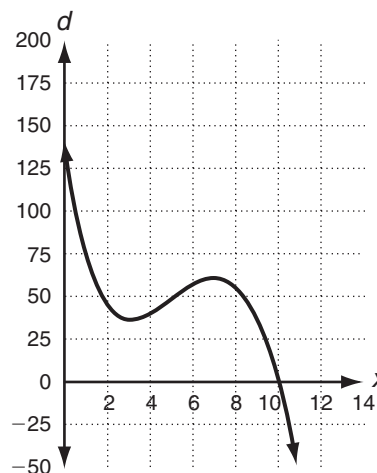
10.  $3x^4 + 24x$

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Solve.

11. Since 2006, the water level in a certain pond has been modeled by the polynomial  $d(x) = -x^3 + 16x^2 - 74x + 140$ , where the depth  $d$ , is measured in feet over  $x$  years. Identify the year that the pond will dry up. Use the graph to factor  $d(x)$ .

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**LESSON**  
**6-4 Practice A**  
**Factoring Polynomials**

Tell whether each statement is true or false.

Given:  $P(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3$

- $x - 1$  is a factor of  $P(x)$ .
- $x + 1$  is a factor of  $P(x)$ .
- $P(1) = 0$ .

False  
True  
False  
True

Determine whether the given binomial is a factor of the polynomial  $P(x)$ .

- $(x + 1)$ ;  $P(x) = 5x^2 + 11x + 6$
- $(x - 3)$ ;  $P(x) = 3x^4 + 3x^3 - 2x^2 - 2x$

Yes No

Factor each expression.

- $2x^2 + 8x + 2x + 8$   
 $2(x + 4)(x + 1)$
- $x^3 + 2x^2 - x - 2$   
 $(x + 2)(x + 1)(x - 1)$
- $x^3 + x^2 + 7x + 7$   
 $(x^2 + 7)(x + 1)$
- $x^3 - 2x^2 - 4x + 8$   
 $(x + 2)(x - 2)(x - 2)$
- $g^3 + 8$   
 $(g + 2)(g^2 - 2g + 4)$
- $128m - 2m^4$   
 $2m(4 - m)(16 + 4m + m^2)$

Solve.

- June factored the polynomial  $c^9 - d^{12}$  into  $(c^3 + d^4)(c^6 - c^3d^4 + d^8)$ . Is she correct? How do you know?

No; possible answer: the polynomial is the difference of two cubes; she used the formula for the sum of two cubes.

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**LESSON**  
**6-4 Practice B**  
**Factoring Polynomials**

Determine whether the given binomial is a factor of the polynomial  $P(x)$ .

- $(x - 4)$ ;  $P(x) = x^2 + 8x - 48$
- $(x + 5)$ ;  $P(x) = 2x^2 - 6x - 1$

Yes No

- $(x - 6)$ ;  $P(x) = -2x^2 + 15x - 18$
- $(x + 3)$ ;  $P(x) = 2x^2 - x + 7$

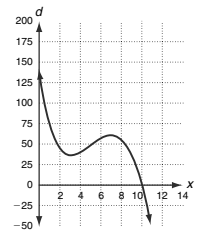
Yes No

Factor each expression.

- $2x^4 + 2x^3 - x^2 - x$   
 $x(2x - 1)(x + 1)$
- $4x^3 + x^2 - 8x - 2$   
 $(4x + 1)(x^2 - 2)$
- $5x^5 - 5x^4 + x^3 - x$   
 $x(5x^3 + 1)(x^2 - 1)$
- $2x^4 + 54x$   
 $2x(x + 3)(x^2 - 3x + 9)$
- $64x^3 - 1$   
 $(4x - 1)(16x^2 + 4x + 1)$
- $3x^4 + 24x$   
 $3x(x + 2)(x^2 - 2x + 4)$

Solve.

- Since 2006, the water level in a certain pond has been modeled by the polynomial  $d(x) = -x^3 + 16x^2 - 74x + 140$ , where the depth  $d$ , is measured in feet over  $x$  years. Identify the year that the pond will dry up. Use the graph to factor  $d(x)$ .



2016;  $-(x - 10)(x^2 - 6x + 14)$

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**LESSON**  
**6-4 Practice C**  
**Factoring Polynomials**

Use the Factor Theorem to verify that each linear binomial is a factor of the given polynomial. Then use synthetic division to write the polynomial as a product.

- $(x + 5)$ ;  $P(x) = 2x^2 + 6x - 20$   
 $(x + 5)(2x - 4)$
- $(x - 1)$ ;  $P(x) = x^4 - 6x^3 + 4x^2 + 1$   
 $(x - 1)(x^3 - 5x^2 - x - 1)$
- $(x + 2)$ ;  $P(x) = 3x^3 + 12x^2 + 17x + 10$   
 $(x + 2)(3x^2 + 6x + 5)$
- $(x - 8)$ ;  $P(x) = x^4 - 8x^3 - 4x^2 + 33x - 8$   
 $(x - 8)(x^3 - 4x + 1)$

Factor each expression.

- $16x^3 - 12x^2 + 20x - 15$   
 $(4x - 3)(4x^2 + 5)$
- $3x^5 + 54x^4 + 243x^2$   
 $3x^2(x^2 + 9)(x^2 + 9)$
- $x^6 - 10x^5 + 25x^4$   
 $x^4(x - 5)^2$
- $6x^3 + 12x^2 + 4x + 8$   
 $2(3x^2 + 2)(x + 2)$
- $250x^4 + 54x$   
 $2x(5x + 3)(25x^2 - 15x + 9)$
- $-3x^5 + 24x^2$   
 $-3x^2(x - 2)(x^2 + 2x + 4)$

Solve.

- The voltage generated by an electrical circuit changes over time according to the polynomial  $V(t) = t^3 - 4t^2 - 25t + 100$ , where  $V$  is in volts and  $t$  is in seconds. Factor the polynomial to find the times when the voltage is equal to zero.

$(t - 4)(t - 5)(t + 5)$ ; the voltage is equal to zero at 4 s and 5 s.

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**LESSON**  
**6-4 Review for Mastery**  
**Factoring Polynomials**

Sometimes you can use grouping to factor a third degree polynomial. To factor by grouping means to group terms with common factors. Then factor the common factors. Continue to factor until the expression can no longer be factored.

Factor:  $x^3 + 4x^2 - 9x - 36$ .

Start by grouping terms to factor out the greatest possible power of  $x$ .

$x^2$  is a factor of  $x^3 + 4x^2$ .

$-9$  is a factor of  $-9x$  and  $-36$ .

$(x^3 + 4x^2) + (-9x - 36)$

$x^2(x + 4) - 9(x + 4)$

$(x + 4)$  is a common factor.

$(x + 4)(x^2 - 9)$

$(x^2 - 9)$  is the difference of squares.

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

Recall that  $(a^2 - b^2) = (a + b)(a - b)$ . So  $(x^2 - 9) = (x + 3)(x - 3)$ .

Factor each expression.

- $x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x + 12$   
 $(x^3 - 3x^2) + (-4x + 12)$   
 $x^2(x - 3) - 4(x - 3)$   
 $(x - 3)(x^2 - 4)$   
 $(x - 3)(x + 2)(x - 2)$
- $x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 6$   
 $(x^3 + 6x^2) + (-x - 6)$   
 $x^2(x + 6) - 1(x + 6)$   
 $(x + 6)(x^2 - 1)$   
 $(x + 6)(x + 1)(x - 1)$
- $x^3 + x^2 - 9x - 9$   
 $(x^3 + x^2) + (-9x - 9)$   
 $x^2(x + 1) - 9(x + 1)$   
 $(x + 1)(x^2 - 9)$   
 $(x + 1)(x + 3)(x - 3)$
- $x^3 + 2x^2 - 16x - 32$   
 $(x^3 + 2x^2) + (-16x - 32)$   
 $x^2(x + 2) - 16(x + 2)$   
 $(x + 2)(x^2 - 16)$   
 $(x + 2)(x + 4)(x - 4)$

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