

**Factoring and Solving Equations Test A2**

1) Factor the following expressions completely: (2 marks each)

a)  $x^2 + 8x + 15$   
 Factors of 1 are  $1 \times 1$   
 Factors of 15 are  $1 \times 15$  or  $3 \times 5$   
 Playing around we find  $1 \times 3 + 1 \times 5 = 8$   
 $= (x + 5)(x + 3)$

b)  $6x^2 - 5x - 1$   
 Factors of 6 are  $1 \times 6$  or  $2 \times 3$   
 Factors of  $-1$  are  $-1 \times 1$   
 Playing around we find  $1 \times 1 + 6 \times -1 = -5$   
 $= (x - 1)(6x + 1)$

c)  $-14x^5y^3 + 21x^4y^2 + 28x^4y^3$   
 $= 7x^4y^2(-2xy + 3 + 4y)$

d)  $3x^5(9x + 7)^7 - 18x^4(9x + 7)^4$   
 $= 3x^4(9x + 7)^4(x(9x + 7)^3 - 6)$

e)  $4x^2 - 2x - 2$   
 $= 2(2x^2 - x - 1)$   
 Factors of 2 are  $1 \times 2$   
 Factors of  $-1$  are  $1 \times -1$   
 Playing around we find  $1 \times 1 + 2 \times -1 = -1$   
 $= 2(2x + 1)(x - 1)$

f)  $8 - 12x + 4x^2$   
 $= 4(2 - 3x + x^2)$   
 Factors of 2 are  $1 \times 2$   
 Factors of 1 are  $-1 \times -1$  (to get a negative middle number)  
 Playing around we find  $1 \times -1 + 2 \times -1 = -3$   
 $= 4(1 - x)(2 - x)$   
 OR  $= 4(x - 1)(x - 2)$

g)  $2x^2 - 72y^2$   
 common factors should always be done first  
 $= 2(x^2 - 36y^2)$   
 difference of squares gives  
 $= 2(x - 6y)(x + 6y)$

2) Solve for the specified variable. (2 marks each)

a)  $E = \frac{mv^2}{2}$  for m  
 $2E = mv^2$   
 $m = \frac{2E}{v^2}$

b)  $d = t\left(v + \frac{at}{2}\right)$  for v  
 $d = vt + \frac{at^2}{2}$       or       $\frac{d}{t} = v + \frac{at}{2}$   
 $d - \frac{at^2}{2} = vt$        $\frac{d}{t} - \frac{at}{2} = v$   
 $v = \frac{d - \frac{at^2}{2}}{t}$        $v = \frac{2d - at^2}{2t}$   
 $v = \frac{2d - at^2}{2t}$

3) Solve the following equations for the unknown variable  $x$ :

(2 marks each)

a)  $4 + 9x = 3 - 7x$

$$7x + 9x = 3 - 4$$

$$16x = -1$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{16}$$

b)  $3(4x + 5) = -2(x + 4) - 9$

$$12x + 15 = -2x - 8 - 9$$

$$12x + 2x = -17 - 15$$

$$14x = -32$$

$$x = -\frac{32}{14} = -\frac{16}{7}$$

c)  $\frac{2}{10x} = \frac{2}{-x-3}$

$$LCD = 10x(-x - 3)$$

$$10x(-x - 3) \left(\frac{2}{10x}\right) = 10x(-x - 3) \left(\frac{2}{-x-3}\right)$$

$$2(-x - 3) = 2 * 10x$$

$$-2x - 6 = 20x$$

$$-6 = 20x + 2x$$

$$-6 = 22x$$

$$x = -\frac{6}{22} = -\frac{3}{11}$$

d)  $\frac{4}{9}x + 3 = 2x + 1$

$$\frac{4}{9}x - 2x = 1 - 3$$

$$9\left(\frac{4}{9}x - 2x\right) = 9(-2)$$

$$4x - 18x = -18$$

$$-14x = -18$$

$$x = \frac{-18}{-14}$$

$$x = \frac{9}{7}$$

e)  $\frac{1}{4x} + \frac{4}{3} = \frac{1}{2}$

$$LCD = 12x$$

$$12x\left(\frac{1}{4x} + \frac{4}{3}\right) = 12x\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$3 + 16x = 6x$$

$$16x - 6x = -3$$

$$10x = -3$$

$$x = -\frac{3}{10}$$

f)  $\frac{1}{4x} + \frac{2}{8(x+1)} = \frac{3}{x+1}$

$$LCD = 8x(x + 1)$$

$$8x(x + 1)\left(\frac{1}{4x} + \frac{2}{8(x+1)}\right) = 8x(x + 1)\left(\frac{3}{x+1}\right)$$

$$2(x + 1) + 2x = 24x$$

$$4x + 2 = 24x$$

$$2 = 24x - 4x$$

$$2 = 20x$$

$$x = \frac{2}{20} = \frac{1}{10}$$

g)  $\frac{4}{2x^2-3x-2} + \frac{2}{2x^2+7x+3} = 0$

$$\frac{4}{(2x+1)(x-2)} + \frac{2}{(2x+1)(x+3)} = 0$$

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

$$(2x + 1)(x - 2)(x + 3)\left(\frac{4}{(2x+1)(x-2)} + \frac{2}{(2x+1)(x+3)}\right) = (2x + 1)(x - 2)(x + 3)(0)$$

$$4(x + 3) + 2(x - 2) = 0$$

$$4x + 12 + 2x - 4 = 0$$

$$6x + 8 = 0$$

$$x = -\frac{8}{6} = -\frac{4}{3}$$

$$x = -\frac{4}{3}$$

4) Write the solutions to the following pre-factored equations:

(1 mark)

$$\begin{aligned} -(x-3)(3x+2) &= 0 \\ (x-3)^2 = 0 \text{ or } (3x+2) &= 0 \\ x = 3 \text{ or } x &= -\frac{2}{3} \\ x = 3, -\frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

5) Simplify by first factoring and then cancelling common factors.

(5 marks)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-5x^2+4x+1}{5x^2+6x+1} \div \frac{2x^2+2x-4}{2x^2+12x+10} \\ = \frac{-5x^2+4x+1}{5x^2+6x+1} \times \frac{2(x^2+6x+5)}{2(x^2+x-2)} \\ = \frac{(5x+1)(-x+1)}{(5x+1)(x+1)} \times \frac{2(x+1)(x+5)}{2(x+2)(x-1)} \\ = \frac{-(x-1)}{1} \times \frac{x+5}{(x+2)(x-1)} \\ = -\frac{x+5}{x+2} \end{aligned}$$

6) Solve the following trinomials by factoring or using the quadratic equation. If you have taken the module on exponents, simplify the radicals as much as possible without using a calculator.

(2 marks)

$$\begin{aligned} 7x^2 - 4x - 1 &= 0 \\ x &= \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(7)(-1)}}{2(7)} \\ x &= \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16+28}}{14} \\ x &= \frac{4 \pm 2\sqrt{11}}{14} \\ x &= \frac{2(2 \pm \sqrt{11})}{14} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{11}}{7} \end{aligned}$$