

Worksheet and Notes on Factoring and GCF Factoring, General Algebra II  
Mrs. Slack-Joles, {NY Standard AA20}

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**The factors of a number are the numbers that divide evenly into it.**

**The factors of a variable that is raised to a power are the lower powers of that same variable.**

**To factor a number or expression is to find two or more numbers or expressions that we can multiply to get that number or expression as an answer.**


**To factor something completely, factor it so that the expressions we are multiplying to get it as a result cannot be factored.**

**A Prime number is an integer greater than 1 whose only factors are 1 and itself.**

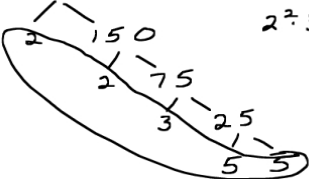
**A Composite number is an integer greater than 1 that is not prime.**

1. **EXAMPLE:** This will help you with problems 2 and 3. Factor into primes if possible.

a.  $36 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 = 2^2 \cdot 3^2$



b.  $300 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 = 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2$



2. Factor into Primes if possible. 128

3. Factor into Primes if possible. 400