1/15

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

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.

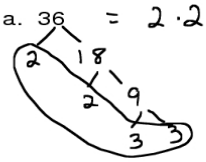
To factor something completely, factor it so that the expressions we are multiplying to get it as a result cannot be factored.

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

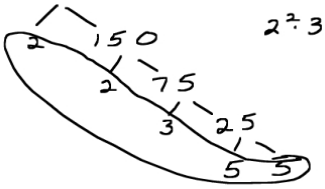
A Composite number is an integer greater than 1 that is not prime.

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