

Solving Quadratics by Factorising

Starter

1. **(Review of last lesson)** Factorise $25p^2 - 16q^2$.

Working: $25p^2 - 16q^2 = (5p)^2 - (4q)^2 = (5p - 4q)(5p + 4q)$

2. **(Review of last lesson)** Without a calculator, find the value of $83^2 - 17^2$.

Working: $83^2 - 17^2 = (83 - 17)(83 + 17) = 66 \times 100 = 6600$

3. **(Review of Y8 material)**

Solve: (a) $x + 4 = 0$ (b) $x - 7 = 0$ (c) $2x - 5 = 0$

Working: (a) $x = -4$

(b) $x = 7$

(c) $2x - 5 = 0 \Rightarrow 2x = 5 \Rightarrow x = 2.5$

4. **(Review of Y10 material)**

Factorise: (a) $x^2 + 18x - 19$ (b) $3y^2 + 17y - 6$

Working: (a) $1 \times -19 = -19 \Rightarrow$ Multiply: $-19 = 19 \times -1$
Add: $18 = 19 + -1$

Split 18x into 19x - x: $x^2 + 18x - 19 = x^2 + 19x - x - 19$

N.B. The -19 remains the same.

Factorise by grouping: $x^2 + 18x - 19 = x(x + 19) - 1(x + 19)$
 $= (x + 19)(x - 1)$

N.B. $18x$ could also be split into $-x + 19x$.

(b) $3 \times -16 = -18 \Rightarrow$ Multiply: $-18 = 18 \times -1$
Add: $17 = 18 + -1$

Split 17y into 18y - y: $3y^2 + 17y - 6 = 3y^2 + 18y - y - 6$

N.B. The -6 remains the same.

Factorise by grouping: $3y^2 + 17y - 6 = 3y(y + 6) - 1(y + 6)$
 $= (y + 6)(3y - 1)$

N.B. $17y$ could also be split into $-y + 18y$.

5. Two numbers, A and B, multiply together to give zero i.e. $A \times B = 0$. What can we say about the two numbers?

Working: At least one of them must equal zero.

E.g. 1 Solve $x^2 + 3x + 2 = 0$.

Working: Firstly, factorise $x^2 + 3x + 2$.
 $1 \times 2 = 2 \Rightarrow$ Multiply: $2 = 1 \times 2$
Add: $3 = 1 + 2$
 $x^2 + 3x + 2 = 0$
 $x^2 + 2x + x + 2 = 0$ *split up 3x into 2x + x*
 $x(x + 2) + 1(x + 2) = 0$ *factorise by grouping (same brackets)*
 $(x + 2)(x + 1) = 0$
 $\therefore x + 2 = 0$ or $x + 1 = 0$ *put the brackets = 0*
So $x = -2$ or $x = -1$

E.g. 2 Solve $3y^2 + 17y - 6 = 0$.

N.B. Use 4(b) from the starter.

Working: $3y^2 + 17y - 6 = 0$
 $(y + 6)(3y - 1) = 0$
 $\therefore y + 6 = 0$ or $3y - 1 = 0$ *put the brackets = 0*
So $y = -6$ or $y = \frac{1}{3}$.

E.g. 3 Solve $x^2 - 81 = 0$.

Working: $x^2 - 81 = 0$ this is the difference of 2 squares
 $(x + 9)(x - 9) = 0$
 $\therefore x + 9 = 0$ or $x - 9 = 0$ *put the brackets = 0*
So $x = -9$ or $x = 9$
Alternatively: $x^2 - 81 = 0$
 $x^2 = 81$
 $x = \pm \sqrt{81} = \pm 9$

E.g. 4 Solve $x^2 + 7x = 0$.

Hint: When factorise the expression, do you need 2 brackets?

Working: $x^2 + 7x = 0$
Factorise: $x(x + 7) = 0$
 $\therefore x = 0$ or $x + 7 = 0$ *put the brackets = 0*
So $x = 0$ or $x = -7$

Video: [Solving quadratics by factorising](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

Exercise

9-1 class textbook: p115 M4.10 Qu 1-24 odd
A*-G class textbook: p104 E4.4 Qu 1-24 odd
9-1 homework book: p41 M4.10 Qu 1-14
A*-G homework book: p30 E4.4 Qu 1-14

[Homework book answers \(only available during a lockdown\)](#)