

1. Factor:  $6y - 6x^2y^7$  (Hint: factor out the GCF first)

$$= 6y(1 - x^2y^6)$$

$\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$   
 $A=1$                        $B=xy^3$

$$= \boxed{6y(1 + xy^3)(1 - xy^3)}$$

2. Factor completely:  $81x^4 - 16$  (Note: you'll need to factor more than once, so keep going!)

$$A=9x^2 \quad B=4$$

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

$\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$   
 $A=3x$                        $B=2$

$$= \boxed{(9x^2 + 4)(3x + 2)(3x - 2)}$$

3. Factor completely:  $x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 28$

(Hint: first factor by grouping, then factor again via the  $A^2 - B^2 = (A + B)(A - B)$  formula)

$$= x^2(x + 7) - 4(x + 7)$$

$$= (x + 7)(x^2 - 4)$$

$$= \boxed{(x + 7)(x + 2)(x - 2)}$$

4. Factor:  $a^2 - b^2 + 4b - 4$

(Hint: first factor out a “-1” from the last three terms)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= a^2 - (b^2 - 4b + 4) \\
 &= a^2 - (b-2)^2 \\
 &= (a + (b-2))(a - (b-2)) \\
 &= \boxed{(a+b-2)(a-b+2)}
 \end{aligned}$$

5. Factor:  $x^3 - 8$

$$\begin{array}{cc}
 \uparrow & \uparrow \\
 A=x & B=2
 \end{array}$$

$$= \boxed{(x-2)(x^2+2x+4)}$$

6. Factor:  $1 + 27x^3y^3$

$$\begin{array}{cc}
 \uparrow & \uparrow \\
 A=1 & B=3xy
 \end{array}$$

$$= \boxed{(1+3xy)(1-3xy+9x^2y^2)}$$

Q: What is it the more you take away the larger it becomes?