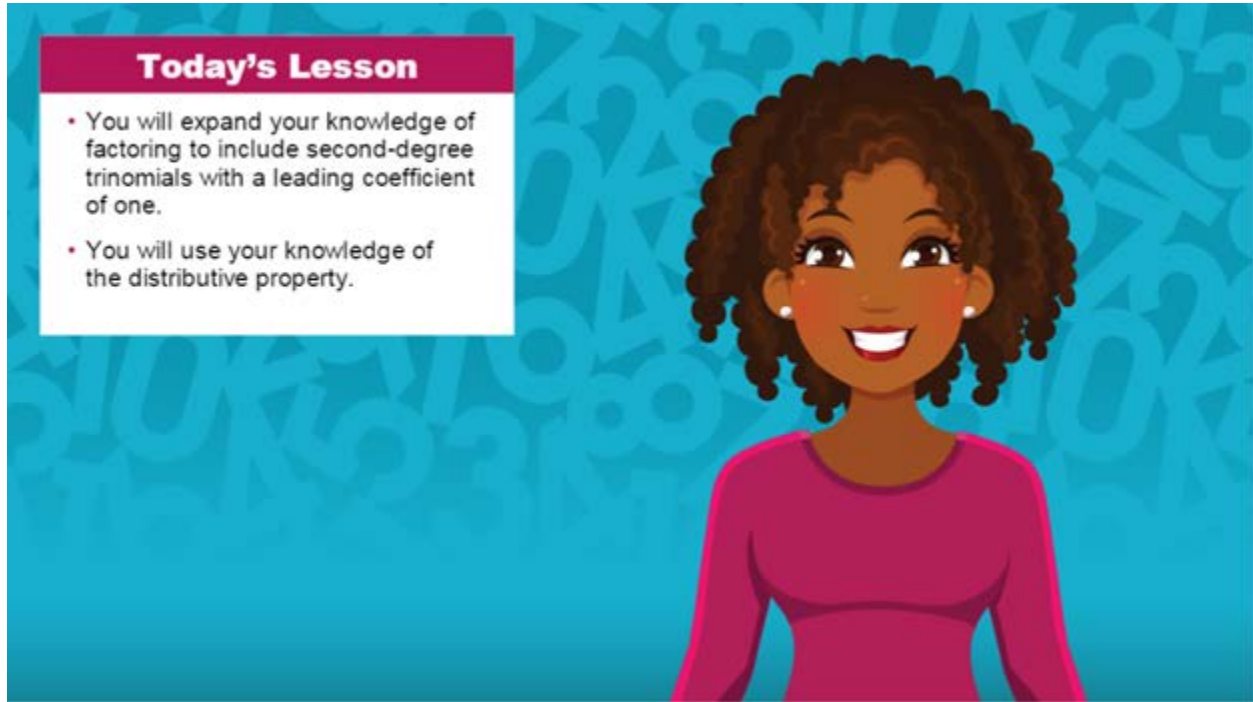


Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials

Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Introduction



Today's Lesson

- You will expand your knowledge of factoring to include second-degree trinomials with a leading coefficient of one.
- You will use your knowledge of the distributive property.

Hello and welcome! In your earlier math studies, you learned how to factor integers. In this lesson, you will expand your knowledge of factoring to include second-degree trinomials that have a leading coefficient of one. Your knowledge of the distributive property will be very helpful to you during this lesson.

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials

Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Anticipatory Set

Take for example, the product of the binomials $(x + 2)$ and $(x + 4)$. You have learned how to use the distributive property to evaluate a product like this one.

$$(x + 2)(x + 4) = x^2 + 4x + 2x + 8$$

After combining like terms, you find that the product is equal to $x^2 + 6x + 8$.

Now consider the terms of this trinomial.

The first term is the product of the first terms of the binomial factors.

$$x \cdot x = x^2$$

The middle term has a coefficient of 6, which is the sum of the second terms of the binomial factors.

$$2 + 4 = 6$$


The last term is the product of the second terms of the binomial factors.

$$2 \cdot 4 = 8$$

The trinomial $x^2 + 6x + 8$ is in the form $ax^2 + bx + c$, where the leading coefficient, a , is equal to 1. When factoring a trinomial in this form, the key is to determine two numbers that have a sum equal to the coefficient of the middle term and a product equal to the value of the last term.

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One



The image shows a digital interface for learning about factoring trinomials. At the top, a blue rounded rectangle contains the title "FACTORING TRINOMIALS WITH A LEADING COEFFICIENT OF ONE" in white, bold, uppercase letters. Below this, a yellow text prompt says "Click the Examples Below to Learn More". There are four pink rounded rectangular buttons arranged in a 2x2 grid: "Example One" (top-left), "Example Three" (top-right), "Example Two" (bottom-left), and "Self-Check" (bottom-right). The background is a dark chalkboard with faint white chalk drawings of circles and arrows, and a white eraser is visible in the bottom right corner.

Click the examples below to learn more.

- Example One
- Example Two
- Example Three
- Self-Check

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 1

EXAMPLE 1

Factor completely: $x^2 + 8x + 15$

$$x^2 + 8x + 15 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$$

F OI L

When factoring a trinomial in which the first term is x^2 ,
the first term in each binomial factor will always be x .

Factor completely:

$$x^2 + 8x + 15.$$

The trinomial is in the form $ax^2 + bx + c$. So you know that it can be represented as the product of two binomials.

Recall that the first term of the trinomial is generated by multiplying the first terms of the binomial factors.

Because x^2 is the first term of the trinomial, the first term of each of its factors must be x . When factoring a trinomial in which the first term is x^2 , the first term in each binomial factor will always be x .

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 1 (continued)

Factors of 15

1 15
-1 -15
3 5
-3 -5

Click each pair factors to reveal the sum

Now it's time to determine the second term in each binomial factor. To accomplish this, you will need to consider the last term of the trinomial, 15, and the coefficient of the middle term, 8.

You must find the factors of 15, whose sum is equal to 8.

What pairs of numbers will multiply to equal 15?

- $1 \cdot 15 = 15$
- $-1 \cdot -15 = 15$
- $3 \cdot 5 = 15$
- $-3 \cdot -5 = 15$

Now, which pair of factors has a sum of 8?

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 1 (continued)

Factors of 15

$$1 + 15 = 16$$
$$-1 + (-15) = -16$$
$$3 + 5 = 8$$
$$-3 + (-5) = -8$$

$$3 + 5 = 8$$

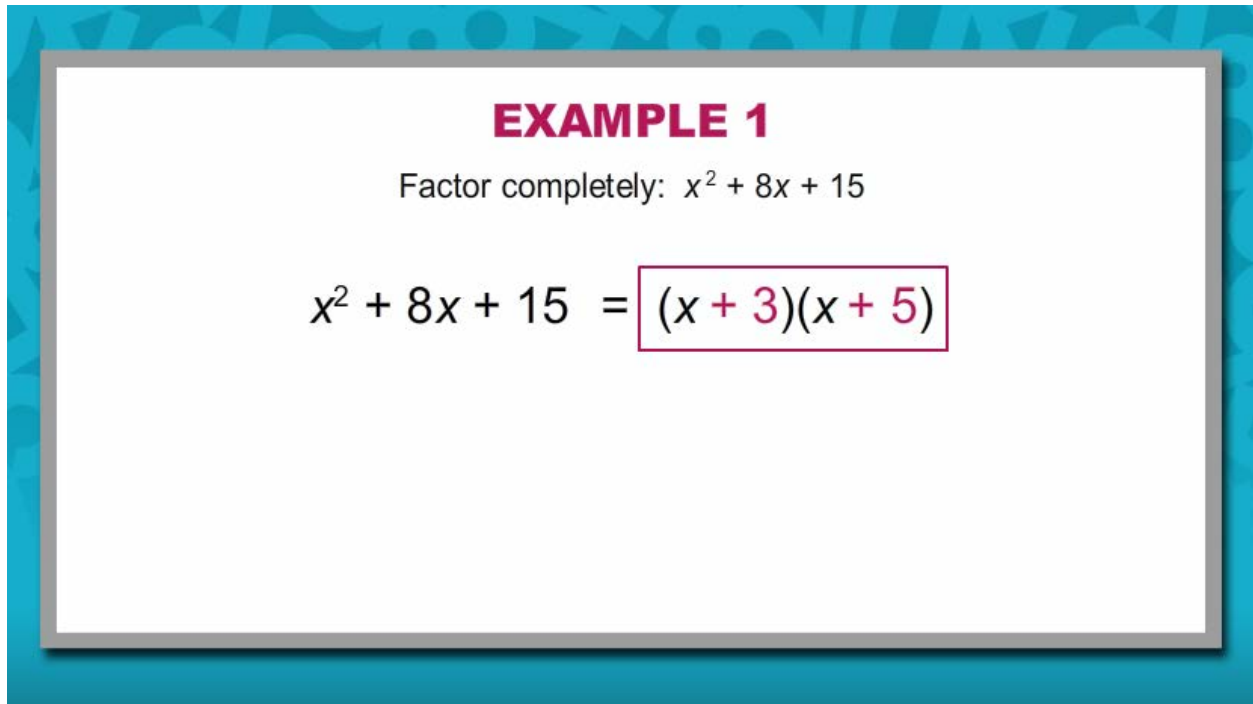
These are the necessary factors

The necessary factors are 3 and 5.

$$3 + 5 = 8$$

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 1 (continued)



EXAMPLE 1

Factor completely: $x^2 + 8x + 15$

$$x^2 + 8x + 15 = (x + 3)(x + 5)$$

Now that you have identified the factors of 15 that have a sum of 8, you can insert them into the parentheses.

$$x^2 + 8x + 15 = (x + 3)(x + 5)$$

Your work is complete. The trinomial factors completely to the binomials $(x + 3)(x + 5)$. It is important to note that you can also represent the binomial factors in reverse.

$$x^2 + 8x + 15 = (x + 5)(x + 3)$$

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 2

EXAMPLE 2

Factor completely: $x^2 - 9x + 20$

$x^2 - 9x + 20 = (\square \quad)(\square \quad)$

F O I L

What is the first term in each binomial?
Enter your answers above and click **SUBMIT**.

Submit

Factor completely: $x^2 - 9x + 20$.

The trinomial can be represented as the product of two binomials.

Recall that the first term of the trinomial is generated by multiplying the first terms of the binomial factors.

What is the first term in each binomial?

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 2 (continued)

EXAMPLE 2

Factor completely: $x^2 - 9x + 20$

$$x^2 - 9x + 20 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$$

F O I L

The first term in the trinomial is x^2 .
This term is generated by multiplying x and x .

Next

The first term in the trinomial is x^2 . This term is generated by multiplying x and x .

$$x^2 - 9x + 20 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$$

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 2 (continued)

EXAMPLE 2

Factor completely: $x^2 - 9x + 20$

$$x^2 - 9x + 20 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$$

F OI L

To determine the second term of each binomial, you must find the factors of 20 that have a sum of -9 . In other words, you must find two numbers that multiply to equal 20 and add to equal -9 .

Begin by listing the factors of 20.

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 2 (continued)

Factors of 20

Your list of factors should resemble the following

1	20
-1	-20
2	10
-2	-10
4	5
-4	-5

Next

Your list of factors should resemble the following:

Factors of 20	
1	20
-1	-20
2	10
-2	-10
4	5
-4	-5

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 2 (continued)

Factors of 20

*The factors must add to equal -9,
therefore the factors must be negative*

~~1 20~~

~~-1 -20~~

~~2 10~~

~~-2 -10~~

~~4 5~~

~~-4 -5~~

*Click the pair of factors above
that has a sum of -9*

Because the necessary factors of 20 must also add to equal -9 , this means that the factors must be negative. You can focus your attention on the negative factors of 20.

Factors of 20	
1	20
-1	-20
2	10
-2	-10
4	5
-4	-5

Which pair of factors has a sum of -9 ?

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 2 (continued)

Factors of 20

The factors must add to equal -9,
therefore the factors must be negative

~~1~~ ~~20~~
 $-1 + (-20) = -21$

~~2~~ ~~10~~
 $-2 + (-10) = -12$

~~4~~ ~~5~~
 $-4 + (-5) = -9$

These are the necessary factors

Next

The necessary factors are -4 and -5 .

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 2 (continued)

EXAMPLE 2

Factor completely: $x^2 - 9x + 20$

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 - 9x + 20 &= (x - 4)(x - 5) \\ &= (x - 5)(x - 4)\end{aligned}$$

Remember that you can represent the binomial factors as $(x - 4)(x - 5)$ or $(x - 5)(x - 4)$.

Menu

Now that you have identified the necessary factors, you can insert them into the parentheses.

$$x^2 - 9x + 20 = (x - 4)(x - 5)$$

Remember that you can represent the binomial factors as $(x - 4)(x - 5)$ or $(x - 5)(x - 4)$.

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 3

EXAMPLE 3

Factor completely: $x^2 - 5x - 14$

$x^2 - 5x - 14 = (\square \quad)(\square \quad)$

What is the first term of each binomial factor?
Enter your answers above and click **SUBMIT**.

Submit

Factor completely: $x^2 - 5x - 14$.

What is the first term of each binomial factor?

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 3 (continued)

EXAMPLE 3

Factor completely: $x^2 - 5x - 14$

$$x^2 - 5x - 14 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$$

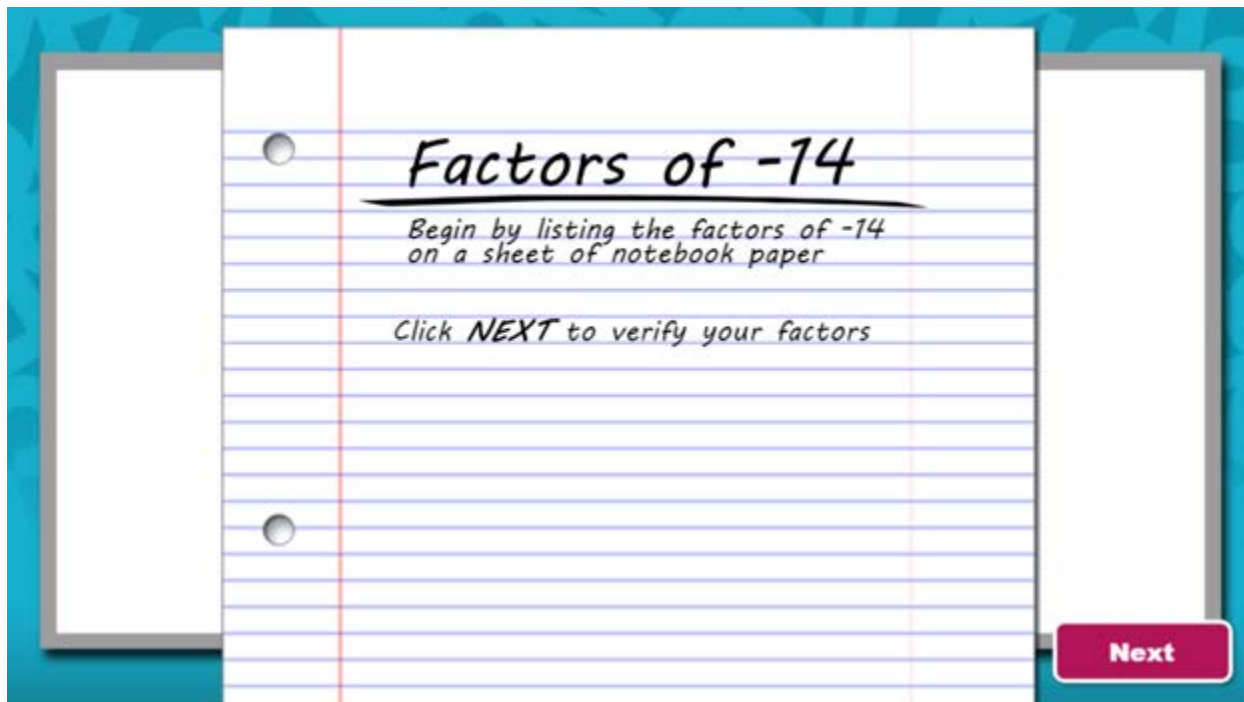
The first term in the trinomial is x^2 .
This term is generated by multiplying x and x .

Next

The first term in the trinomial is x^2 . This term is generated by multiplying x and x .

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 3 (continued)



Factors of -14

*Begin by listing the factors of -14
on a sheet of notebook paper*

*Click **NEXT** to verify your factors*

Next

Now you must determine the factors of -14 , that have a sum of -5 .

List the factors of -14 .

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 3 (continued)

Factors of -14

Which pair of factors has a sum of -5?

1	-14
-1	14
2	-7
-2	7

Click the pair of factors above that has a sum of -5

Your list of factors should resemble the following.

Factors of -14	
1	-14
-1	14
2	-7
-2	7

Which pair of factors has a sum of -5?

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 3 (continued)

Factors of -14

Which pair of factors has a sum of -5?

$$1 + (-14) = -13$$
$$-1 + (14) = 13$$
$$2 + (-7) = -5$$
$$-2 + (7) = 5$$

$2 + (-7) = -5$
These are the necessary factors

Next

The necessary factors are 2 and -7 .

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Example 3 (continued)

EXAMPLE 3

Factor completely: $x^2 - 5x - 14$

$$x^2 - 5x - 14 = (x + 2)(x - 7)$$
$$= (x - 7)(x + 2)$$

Remember that you can represent the binomial factors as $(x + 2)(x - 7)$ or $(x - 7)(x + 2)$.

Menu

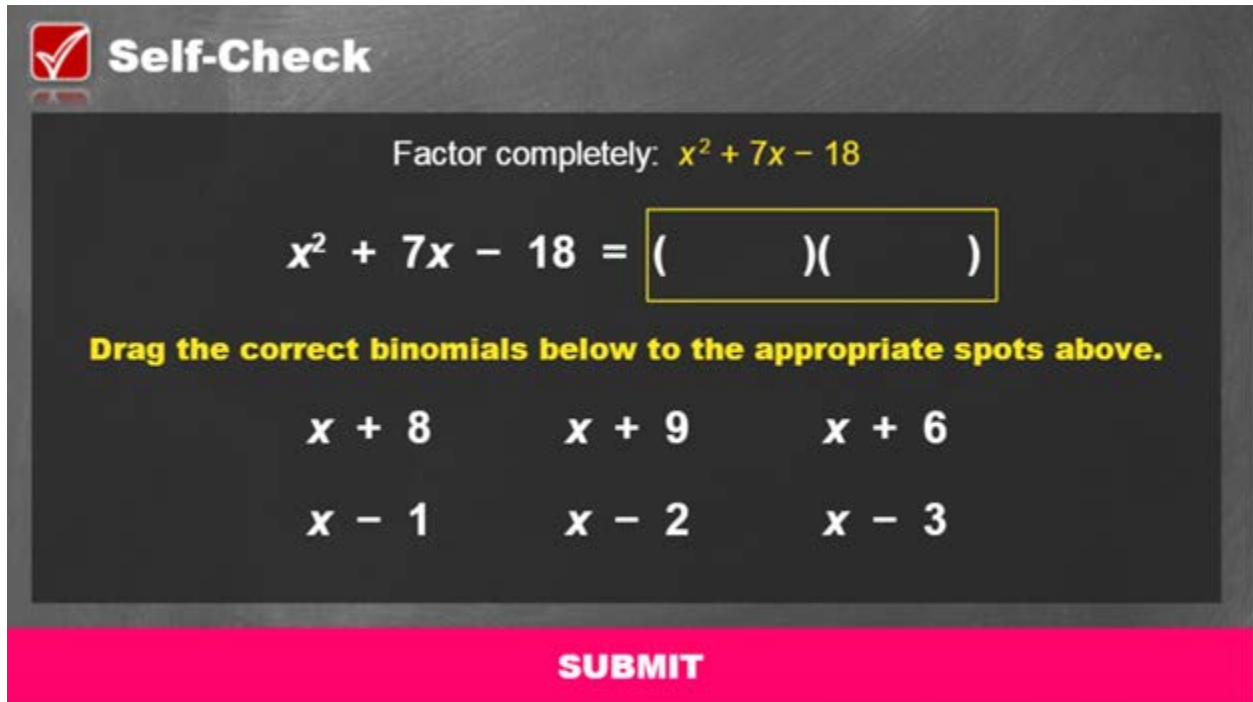
Now that you have identified the factors of -14 that have a sum of -5 , you can insert them into the parentheses.

$$x^2 - 9x + 20 = (x + 2)(x - 7)$$

Remember that you can represent the binomial factors as $(x + 2)(x - 7)$ or $(x - 7)(x + 2)$.

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Self-Check



Self-Check

Factor completely: $x^2 + 7x - 18$

$x^2 + 7x - 18 = (\quad) (\quad)$

Drag the correct binomials below to the appropriate spots above.

$x + 8$ $x + 9$ $x + 6$

$x - 1$ $x - 2$ $x - 3$

SUBMIT

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Self-Check Answer

Correct

That's correct! The first term in the trinomial is x^2 . This term is generated by multiplying x and x . So, x is the first term in each binomials factor.

$$x^2 + 7x - 18 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$$

Now, determine the factors of -18 that have a sum of 7 .

Factors of -18	
1	18
-1	-18
2	9
-2	9

Which pair of factors has a sum equal to 7 ?

$$1 + (-18) = -17$$
$$-1 + 18 = 17$$
$$2 + (-9) = -7$$
$$-2 + 9 = 7 \quad \checkmark$$

The correct factors are:

$$(x - 2)(x + 9)$$

Continue

SUBMIT

Module 3: Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
Topic 3 Content: Factoring Trinomials With a Leading Coefficient of One

Conclusion



The image shows a digital interface for a lesson conclusion. On the right side, there is a cartoon illustration of a young woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a pink long-sleeved shirt, smiling. The background is a light blue pattern of mathematical symbols like pi, infinity, and numbers. On the left side, there is a white box with a pink header that says "Today's Lesson". Below the header, there is a checkmark icon followed by the text "Used the distributive property to factor second-degree trinomials with a leading coefficient of one". At the bottom of the white box, there are two pink buttons: "Exit Lesson" and "Restart Lesson".

Congratulations! You have reached the conclusion of this lesson in Algebra I. In this lesson you applied your knowledge of the distributive property to factor second-degree trinomials that have a leading coefficient of one.