Name: _____   Date: _____

Factoring Completely Task

Sasha and Pedro were asked to factor the polynomial $9x^2 - 9$ completely and explain their process. Their work is shown below. Has either student factored the polynomial completely? Explain. If not, give a complete factorization.

Sasha's Work
$9x^2 - 9 = (3x + 3)(3x - 3)$
I used the fact that $9x^2 - 9$ is a difference of two squares.

Pedro's Work
$9x^2 - 9 = 9(x^2 - 1)$
I factored out the GCF.