Problem 2

2a) We have chosen the array representation of a polynomial: RatNum[] coeffs, where coeffs[i] stores the coefficient of the term of exponent i. An alternative data representation is the list-of-terms representation: List<Term> terms, where each Term object stores the term's RatNum coefficient and integer exponent. The beauty of the ADT methodology is that we can switch from one representation to the other without affecting the clients of our RatPoly. Briefly list the advantages and disadvantages of the array representation versus the list-of-terms representation.

When using an array to represent data, the exponent is adjusted based on the indexes, resulting in less manual data storage and updates. On the other hand, using a list of terms makes it easier to modify the size of the list and change the number of stored values.

2b) Where did you include calls to checkRep in RatPoly (at the beginning of methods, the end of methods, the beginning of constructors, the end of constructors, some combination)? Why?

I added calls to the constructors' ends since it's necessary to inspect RatPolys for issues after every creation. Another point to note is that altering a RatPoly only involves either multiplying it by a scalar (which doesn't cause any change) or resetting it to 0 (which, in any case, invokes a constructor).