

Multiplicity and Graphing Polynomials

SWBAT apply the multiplicity of roots; graph polynomial functions

Warm up

- Describe the right-hand and left-hand behavior of the graph of the polynomial function.

$$f(x) = -2x^5 - 5x^4 + 3x^3$$

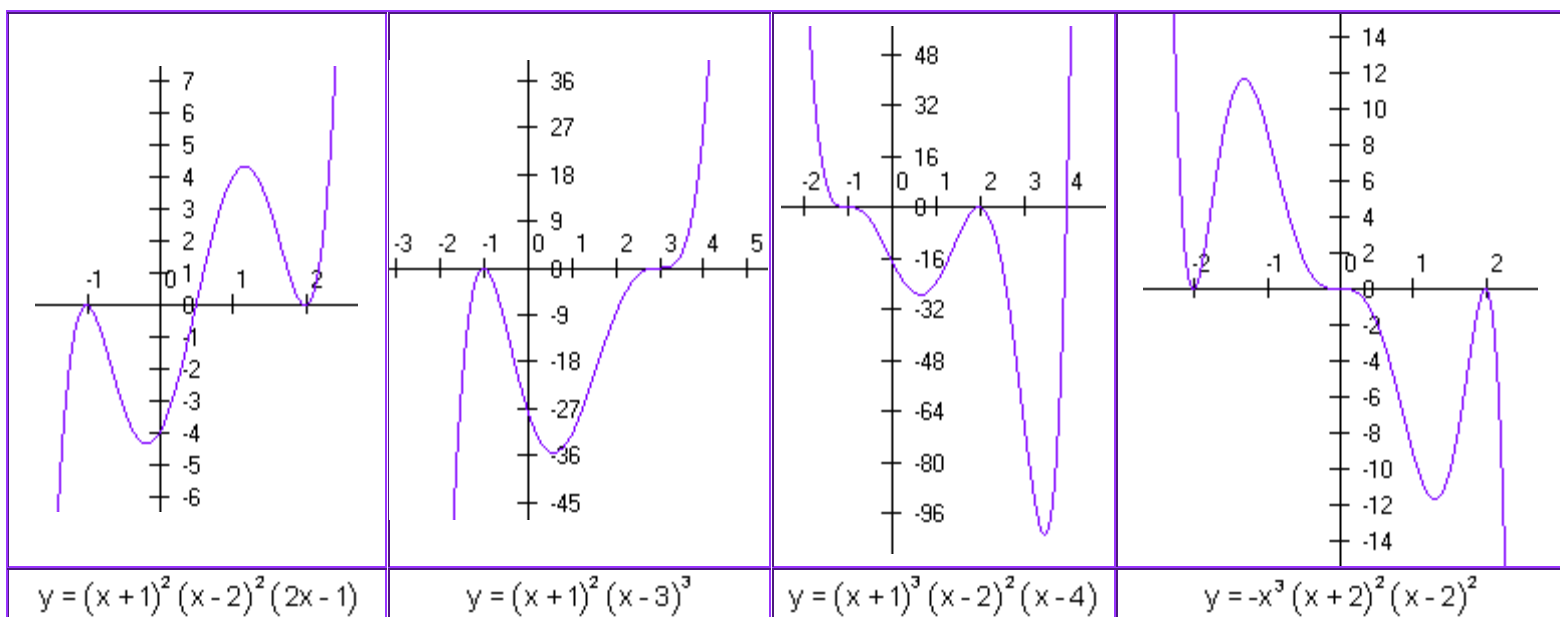
$$f(x) = x^4 - 29x^2 + 100$$

2) LESSON EXPLORATION



$y = -(x-1)(x+5)$	$y = -(x-1)(x-3)(x+2)$	$y = (x+1)(x-2)^2(x-4)$	$y = -(x+2)^2(x-3)^2$
Degree of Polynomial:	Degree of Polynomial:	Degree of Polynomial:	Degree of Polynomial:
Number of Turning Points:	Number of Turning Points:	Number of Turning Points:	Number of Turning Points:

- Do you see a relationship between the degree of the polynomial and the number of turning points that the graph can have?



- 2) Look at the roots of each graph. Sometimes the graph crosses the x-axis and sometimes the graph “bounces off” the x-axis. Can you come with a generalization as to why this happens?

Real Zeros of Polynomial Functions

It can be shown that for a polynomial function f of degree n , the following statements are true.

- 1) The function f has, at most, n real zeros.
- 2) The graph of f has, at most $n - 1$ turning points. (Turning points, also called relative minima or relative maxima, are points which the graph changes from increasing to decreasing or vice versa.)

If f is a polynomial function and a is a real number, the following statements are equivalent.

- 1) $x = a$ is a real zero of the function f .
- 2) $x = a$ is a solution of the polynomial equation $f(x) = 0$
- 3) $(x - a)$ is a factor of the polynomial $f(x)$.
- 4) $(a, 0)$ is an x-intercept of the graph of f .

Repeated Zeros

Definition: A factor $(x - a)^k$, $k > 1$, yields a **repeated zero** $x = a$ of **multiplicity** k .

- 1) If k is odd, the graph crosses the x -axis at $x = a$.
- 2) If k is even, the graph touches the x -axis (but does not cross the x -axis) at $x = a$.

Sketching Polynomials using zeros, end behavior, and the leading coefficient test.

To sketch the graph of a polynomial:

STEP 1: (a) Find the x -intercepts, if any, by solving the equation $f(x)=0$.

(b) Find the y -intercept by letting $x=0$ and finding the value of $f(0)$.

STEP 2: Determine whether the graph of f crosses or touches the x -axis at each x -intercept.

STEP 3: Determine the end behavior:

STEP 4: Determine the maximum number of turning points on the graph of f .

STEP 5: Use the x -intercept(s) to find the intervals on which the graph of f is above the x -axis and the intervals on which the graph is below the x -axis.

STEP 6: Plot the points obtained in Steps 1 and 5, and use the remaining information to connect them with a smooth, continuous curve.

For each of the following:

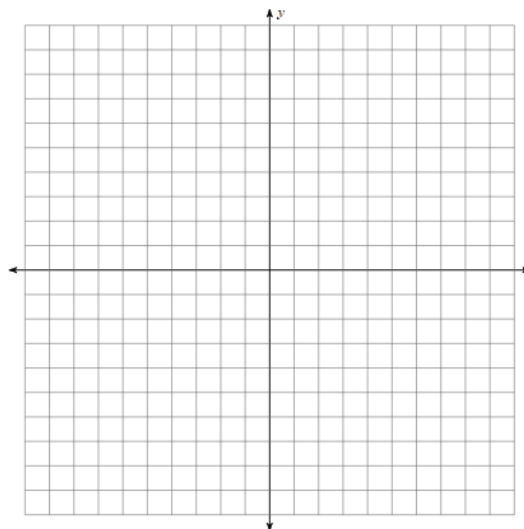
- a) Describe the end behavior of the function.
- b) Find all real zeros of the polynomial functions.
- c) Determine the multiplicity of each zero and the number of turning points of the graph of the function.
- d) Sketch the graph. Be sure to find the x and y intercepts

1) $f(x) = x^2 + 10x + 25$

a)

b)

c)

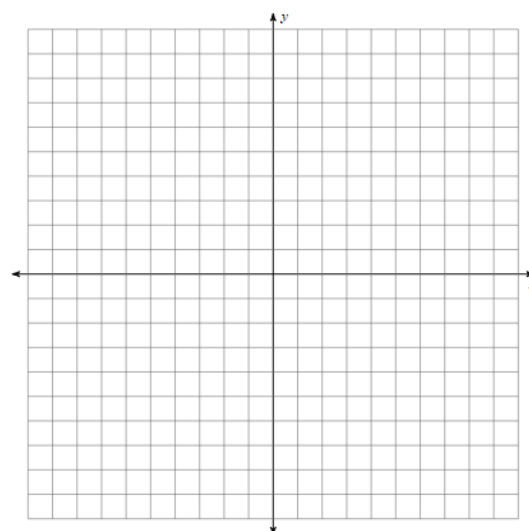


2) $f(x) = x^4 - x^3 - 20x^2$

a)

b)

c)



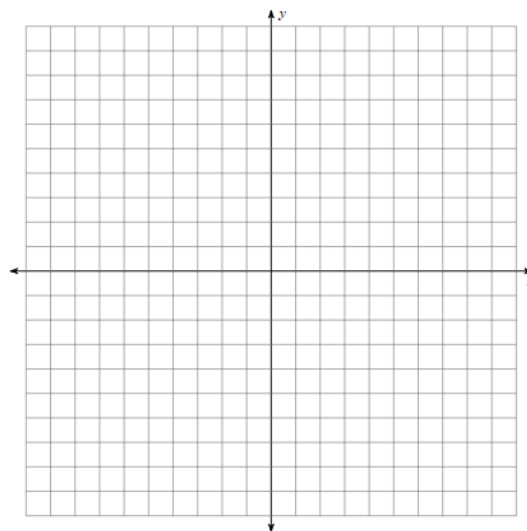
3)

$f(x) = -x^4 + 4x^3 - 4x^2$

a)

b)

c)



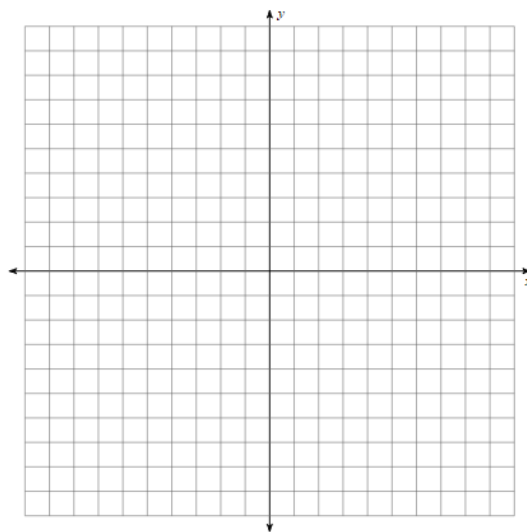
4)

$$f(x) = x^3 - 4x^2 - 25x + 100$$

a)

b)

c)

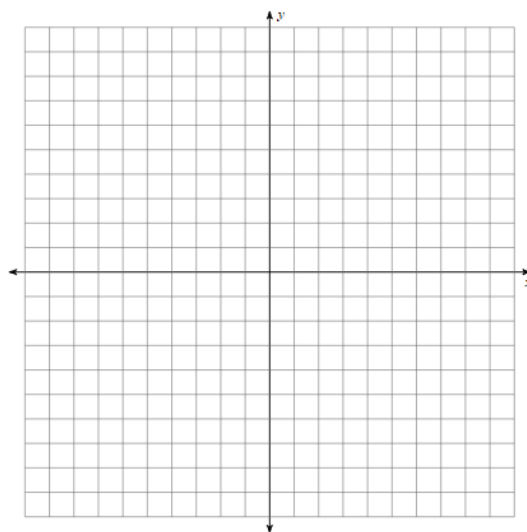


5) $f(x) = -(x+3)^3(x-2)^2$

a)

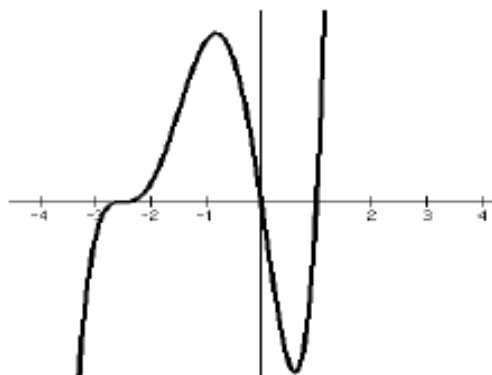
b)

c)



6) Refer to the graph below.

Write a possible equation for this polynomial in factored form.



7) Refer to the graph below.

Write a possible equation for this polynomial in factored form.

