

This key should allow you to understand why you choose the option you did (beyond just getting a question right or wrong). More instructions on how to use this key can be found [here](#).

If you have a suggestion to make the keys better, please fill out the short survey [here](#).

*Note: This key is auto-generated and may contain issues and/or errors. The keys are reviewed after each exam to ensure grading is done accurately. If there are issues (like duplicate options), they are noted in the offline gradebook. The keys are a work-in-progress to give students as many resources to improve as possible.*

1. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$-3, \frac{-3}{4}, \text{ and } \frac{7}{3}$$

The solution is  $12x^3 + 17x^2 - 78x - 63$ , which is option D.

- A.  $a \in [12, 13], b \in [14, 21], c \in [-78, -75],$  and  $d \in [61, 66]$

$12x^3 + 17x^2 - 78x + 63$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

- B.  $a \in [12, 13], b \in [-57, -54], c \in [22, 39],$  and  $d \in [61, 66]$

$12x^3 - 55x^2 + 36x + 63$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 3)(4x + 3)(3x - 7)$ .

- C.  $a \in [12, 13], b \in [-23, -13], c \in [-78, -75],$  and  $d \in [61, 66]$

$12x^3 - 17x^2 - 78x + 63$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 3)(4x - 3)(3x + 7)$ .

- D.  $a \in [12, 13], b \in [14, 21], c \in [-78, -75],$  and  $d \in [-63, -57]$

\*  $12x^3 + 17x^2 - 78x - 63$ , which is the correct option.

- E.  $a \in [12, 13], b \in [-78, -63], c \in [131, 136],$  and  $d \in [-63, -57]$

$12x^3 - 73x^2 + 132x - 63$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 3)(4x - 3)(3x - 7)$ .

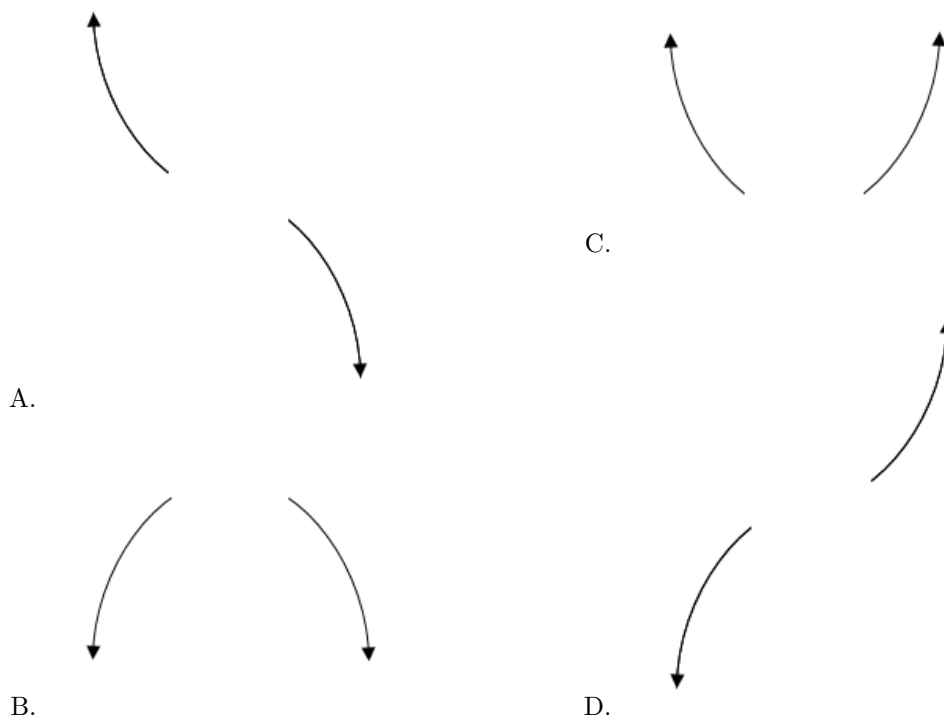
**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(x + 3)(4x + 3)(3x - 7)$

2. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = 3(x - 9)^5(x + 9)^6(x - 3)^3(x + 3)^4$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option C.





E. None of the above.

**General Comment:** Remember that end behavior is determined by the leading coefficient AND whether the **sum** of the multiplicities is positive or negative.

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3. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $x^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$-2 - 4i \text{ and } 2$$

The solution is  $x^3 + 2x^2 + 12x - 40$ , which is option D.

A.  $b \in [0.5, 1.3]$ ,  $c \in [-0.75, 0.06]$ , and  $d \in [-6.3, -3.5]$

$x^3 + x^2 - 4$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 2)(x - 2)$ .

B.  $b \in [0.5, 1.3]$ ,  $c \in [1.85, 3.06]$ , and  $d \in [-10.4, -7.1]$

$x^3 + x^2 + 2x - 8$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 4)(x - 2)$ .

C.  $b \in [-2.2, 0.7]$ ,  $c \in [11.7, 12.65]$ , and  $d \in [39.5, 42.6]$

$x^3 - 2x^2 + 12x + 40$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (-2 - 4i))(x - (-2 + 4i))(x + 2)$ .

D.  $b \in [1.5, 2.9]$ ,  $c \in [11.7, 12.65]$ , and  $d \in [-41.8, -38.7]$

\*  $x^3 + 2x^2 + 12x - 40$ , which is the correct option.

E. None of the above.

This corresponds to making an unanticipated error or not understanding how to use nonreal complex numbers to create the lowest-degree polynomial. If you chose this and are not sure what you did wrong, please contact the coordinator for help.

**General Comment:** Remember that the conjugate of  $a + bi$  is  $a - bi$ . Since these zeros always come in pairs, we need to multiply out  $(x - (-2 - 4i))(x - (-2 + 4i))(x - (2))$ .

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4. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$\frac{7}{3}, \frac{-1}{4}, \text{ and } \frac{6}{5}$$

The solution is  $60x^3 - 197x^2 + 115x + 42$ , which is option D.

- A.  $a \in [57, 65], b \in [73, 89], c \in [-153, -150],$  and  $d \in [-43, -39]$

$60x^3 + 83x^2 - 151x - 42$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(3x + 7)(4x + 1)(5x - 6)$ .

- B.  $a \in [57, 65], b \in [-199, -195], c \in [108, 120],$  and  $d \in [-43, -39]$

$60x^3 - 197x^2 + 115x - 42$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

- C.  $a \in [57, 65], b \in [196, 200], c \in [108, 120],$  and  $d \in [-43, -39]$

$60x^3 + 197x^2 + 115x - 42$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(3x + 7)(4x - 1)(5x + 6)$ .

- D.  $a \in [57, 65], b \in [-199, -195], c \in [108, 120],$  and  $d \in [33, 43]$

\*  $60x^3 - 197x^2 + 115x + 42$ , which is the correct option.

- E.  $a \in [57, 65], b \in [47, 60], c \in [-185, -182],$  and  $d \in [33, 43]$

$60x^3 + 53x^2 - 185x + 42$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(3x + 7)(4x - 1)(5x - 6)$ .

**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(3x - 7)(4x + 1)(5x - 6)$

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5. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $x^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$5 - 4i \text{ and } -1$$

The solution is  $x^3 - 9x^2 + 31x + 41$ , which is option B.

- A.  $b \in [-7, 7], c \in [-10, 4],$  and  $d \in [-13, -4]$

$x^3 + x^2 - 4x - 5$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 5)(x + 1)$ .

- B.  $b \in [-9, -4], c \in [29, 36],$  and  $d \in [37, 44]$

\*  $x^3 - 9x^2 + 31x + 41$ , which is the correct option.

- C.  $b \in [4, 12], c \in [29, 36],$  and  $d \in [-43, -39]$

$x^3 + 9x^2 + 31x - 41$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (5 - 4i))(x - (5 + 4i))(x - 1)$ .

- D.  $b \in [-7, 7], c \in [3, 13],$  and  $d \in [0, 8]$

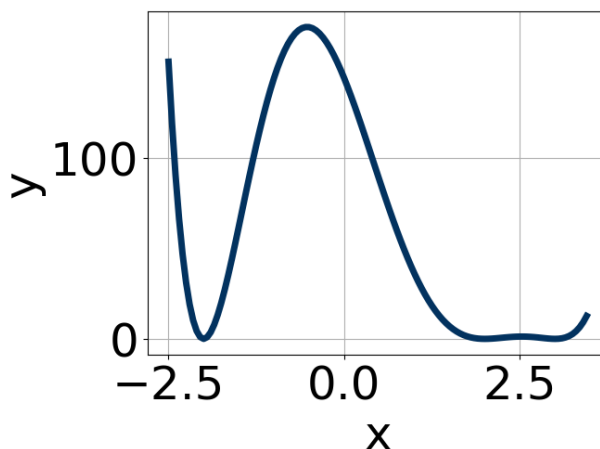
$x^3 + x^2 + 5x + 4$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 4)(x + 1)$ .

- E. None of the above.

This corresponds to making an unanticipated error or not understanding how to use nonreal complex numbers to create the lowest-degree polynomial. If you chose this and are not sure what you did wrong, please contact the coordinator for help.

**General Comment:** Remember that the conjugate of  $a + bi$  is  $a - bi$ . Since these zeros always come in pairs, we need to multiply out  $(x - (5 - 4i))(x - (5 + 4i))(x - (-1))$ .

6. Which of the following equations *could* be of the graph presented below?



The solution is  $16(x - 2)^4(x + 2)^4(x - 3)^8$ , which is option D.

A.  $5(x - 2)^6(x + 2)^{11}(x - 3)^7$

The factors  $(x + 2)$  and  $(x - 3)$  should both have even powers.

B.  $17(x - 2)^6(x + 2)^{10}(x - 3)^7$

The factor  $(x - 3)$  should have an even power.

C.  $-5(x - 2)^4(x + 2)^{10}(x - 3)^4$

This corresponds to the leading coefficient being the opposite value than it should be.

D.  $16(x - 2)^4(x + 2)^4(x - 3)^8$

\* This is the correct option.

E.  $-18(x - 2)^8(x + 2)^4(x - 3)^7$

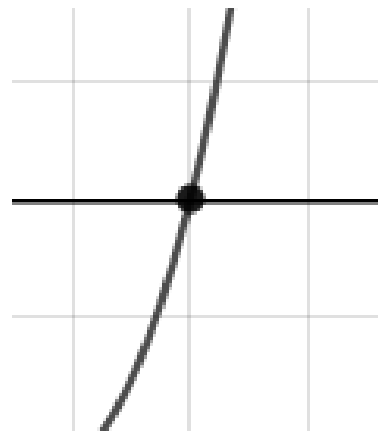
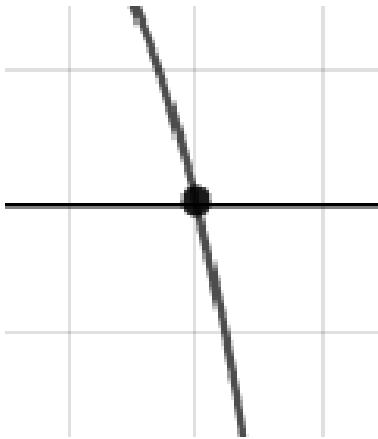
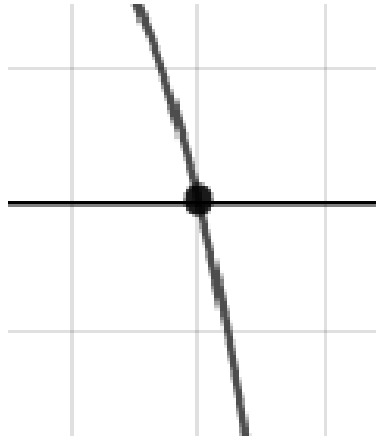
The factor  $(x - 3)$  should have an even power and the leading coefficient should be the opposite sign.

**General Comment:** General Comments: Draw the x-axis to determine which zeros are touching (and so have even multiplicity) or cross (and have odd multiplicity).

7. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = -3$  of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -2(x - 3)^2(x + 3)^3(x - 4)^4(x + 4)^7$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option A.



E. None of the above.

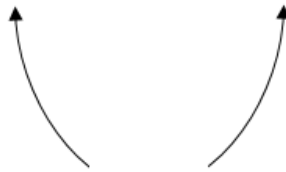
**General Comment:** You will need to sketch the entire graph, then zoom in on the zero the question asks about.

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8. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = 9(x - 7)^4(x + 7)^5(x + 6)^3(x - 6)^4$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option C.



A.



B.



C.



D.

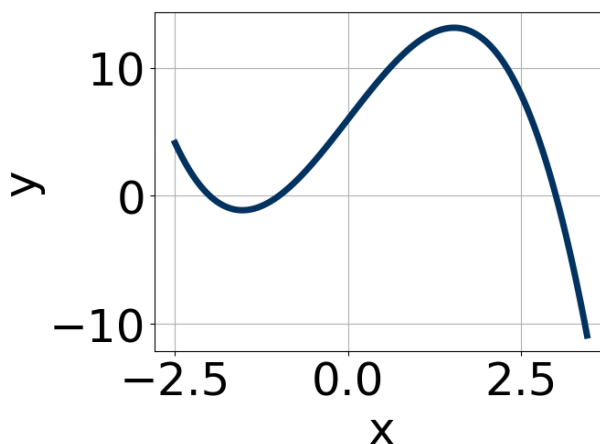


E. None of the above.

**General Comment:** Remember that end behavior is determined by the leading coefficient AND whether the **sum** of the multiplicities is positive or negative.

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9. Which of the following equations *could* be of the graph presented below?



The solution is  $-12(x+2)^{11}(x+1)^5(x-3)^9$ , which is option D.

A.  $-3(x+2)^{10}(x+1)^{10}(x-3)^9$

The factors  $-2$  and  $-1$  have have been odd power.

B.  $20(x+2)^7(x+1)^{11}(x-3)^7$

This corresponds to the leading coefficient being the opposite value than it should be.

C.  $-2(x+2)^8(x+1)^9(x-3)^7$

The factor  $-2$  should have been an odd power.

D.  $-12(x+2)^{11}(x+1)^5(x-3)^9$

\* This is the correct option.

E.  $10(x+2)^6(x+1)^7(x-3)^{11}$

The factor  $(x+2)$  should have an odd power and the leading coefficient should be the opposite sign.

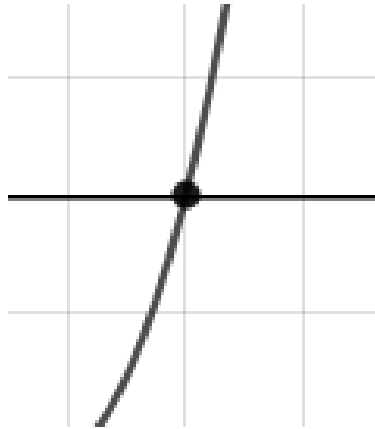
**General Comment:** General Comments: Draw the x-axis to determine which zeros are touching (and so have even multiplicity) or cross (and have odd multiplicity).

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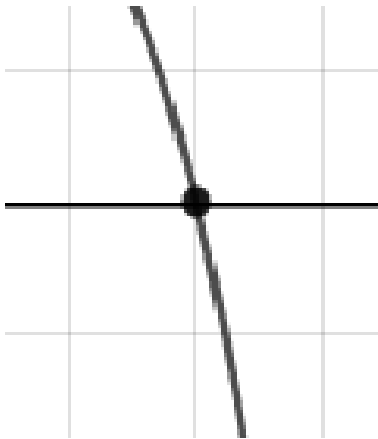
10. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = -3$  of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = 3(x-3)^4(x+3)^5(x-9)^8(x+9)^{10}$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option D.



A.



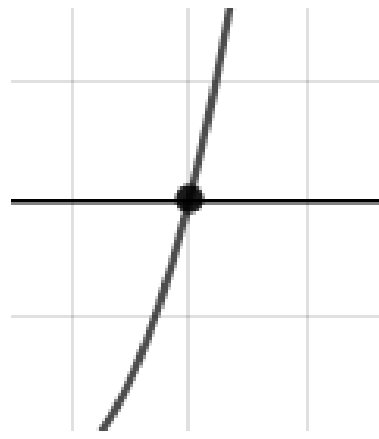
C.



B.



D.



E. None of the above.

**General Comment:** You will need to sketch the entire graph, then zoom in on the zero the question asks about.

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