

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  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$\frac{4}{5}, \frac{3}{2}, \text{ and } \frac{7}{4}$$

The solution is  $40x^3 - 162x^2 + 209x - 84$ , which is option B.

- A.  $a \in [38, 45], b \in [-98, -95], c \in [-1, 4],$  and  $d \in [76, 87]$

$40x^3 - 98x^2 + x + 84$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x + 4)(2x - 3)(4x - 7)$ .

- B.  $a \in [38, 45], b \in [-167, -157], c \in [204, 222],$  and  $d \in [-85, -78]$

\*  $40x^3 - 162x^2 + 209x - 84$ , which is the correct option.

- C.  $a \in [38, 45], b \in [22, 24], c \in [-118, -107],$  and  $d \in [-85, -78]$

$40x^3 + 22x^2 - 113x - 84$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x + 4)(2x + 3)(4x - 7)$ .

- D.  $a \in [38, 45], b \in [-167, -157], c \in [204, 222],$  and  $d \in [76, 87]$

$40x^3 - 162x^2 + 209x + 84$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

- E.  $a \in [38, 45], b \in [158, 163], c \in [204, 222],$  and  $d \in [76, 87]$

$40x^3 + 162x^2 + 209x + 84$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x + 4)(2x + 3)(4x + 7)$ .

**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(5x - 4)(2x - 3)(4x - 7)$

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

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

The solution is  $x^3 + 2x^2 - 16$ , which is option A.

- A.  $b \in [1.07, 2.48], c \in [-1.6, 0.7],$  and  $d \in [-21, -13]$

\*  $x^3 + 2x^2 - 16$ , which is the correct option.

- B.  $b \in [-3.13, -1.69], c \in [-1.6, 0.7],$  and  $d \in [13, 22]$

$x^3 - 2x^2 + 16$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (-2 + 2i))(x - (-2 - 2i))(x + 2)$ .

- C.  $b \in [0.96, 1.95], c \in [-5.5, -3.4],$  and  $d \in [4, 9]$

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

- D.  $b \in [0.96, 1.95], c \in [-1.6, 0.7],$  and  $d \in [-9, -3]$

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

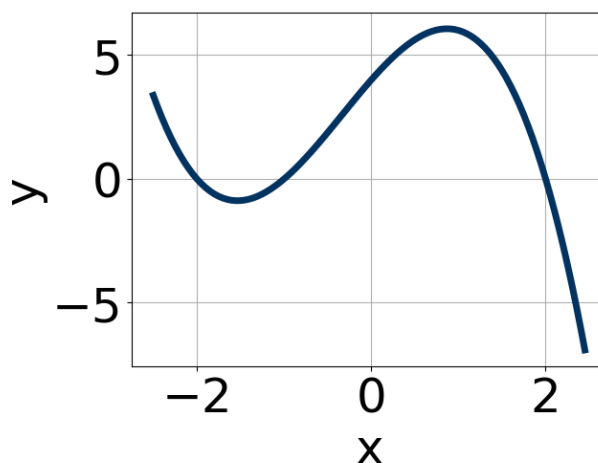
E. None of the above.

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  $(x - (-2 + 2i))(x - (-2 - 2i))(x - (2))$ .

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



The solution is  $-14(x + 1)^{11}(x - 2)^9(x + 2)^7$ , which is option B.

A.  $15(x + 1)^9(x - 2)^5(x + 2)^7$

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

B.  $-14(x + 1)^{11}(x - 2)^9(x + 2)^7$

\* This is the correct option.

C.  $19(x + 1)^6(x - 2)^5(x + 2)^9$

The factor  $(x + 1)$  should have an odd power and the leading coefficient should be the opposite sign.

D.  $-13(x + 1)^{10}(x - 2)^{10}(x + 2)^{11}$

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

E.  $-8(x + 1)^{10}(x - 2)^7(x + 2)^9$

The factor  $-1$  should have been an odd power.

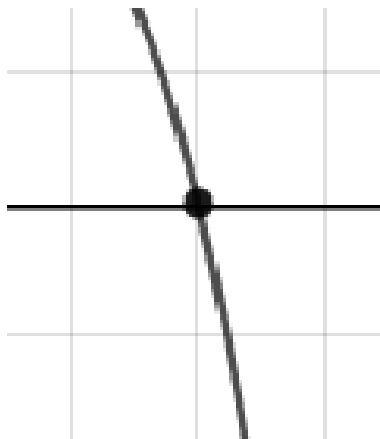
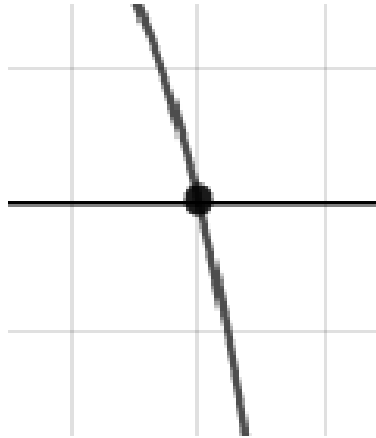
**General Comment:** General Comments: Draw the x-axis to determine which zeros are touching (and so have even multiplicity) or cross (and have odd multiplicity).

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4. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = 9$  of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -2(x + 9)^2(x - 9)^7(x - 4)^5(x + 4)^9$$

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



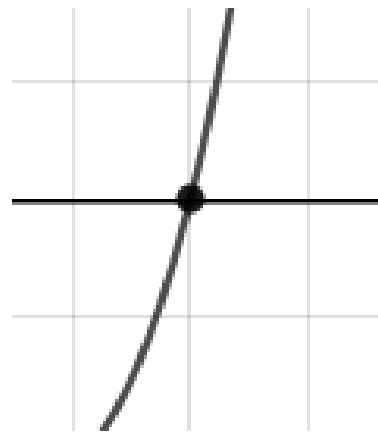
A.



C.



B.



D.

E. None of the above.

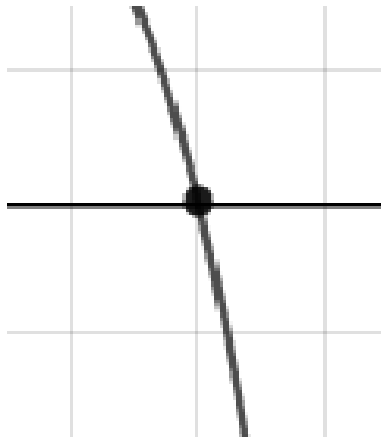
**General Comment:** You will need to sketch the entire graph, then zoom in on the zero the question asks about.

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5. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = 6$  of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -7(x + 2)^4(x - 2)^2(x + 6)^5(x - 6)^4$$

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



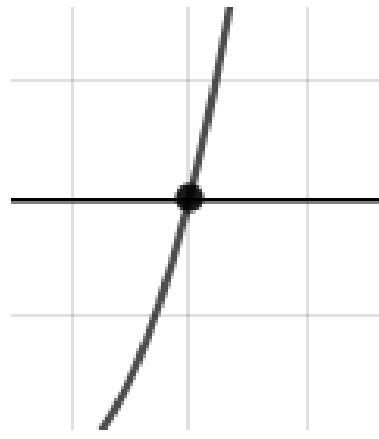
A.



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

$$-5 - 2i \text{ and } 2$$

The solution is  $x^3 + 8x^2 + 9x - 58$ , which is option D.

A.  $b \in [-12, -4]$ ,  $c \in [4.8, 9.5]$ , and  $d \in [58, 60]$

$x^3 - 8x^2 + 9x + 58$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (-5 - 2i))(x - (-5 + 2i))(x + 2)$ .

B.  $b \in [1, 4]$ ,  $c \in [-7.7, 1.2]$ , and  $d \in [-5, 3]$

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

C.  $b \in [1, 4]$ ,  $c \in [2.7, 3.6]$ , and  $d \in [-11, -8]$

$x^3 + x^2 + 3x - 10$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 5)(x - 2)$ .

D.  $b \in [3, 14]$ ,  $c \in [4.8, 9.5]$ , and  $d \in [-63, -54]$

\*  $x^3 + 8x^2 + 9x - 58$ , 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  $(x - (-5 - 2i))(x - (-5 + 2i))(x - (2))$ .

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

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

The solution is  $15x^3 - 98x^2 + 159x - 28$ , which is option D.

A.  $a \in [11, 20]$ ,  $b \in [13, 26]$ ,  $c \in [-145, -141]$ , and  $d \in [21, 36]$

$15x^3 + 22x^2 - 145x + 28$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 4)(3x - 7)(5x - 1)$ .

B.  $a \in [11, 20]$ ,  $b \in [98, 105]$ ,  $c \in [158, 162]$ , and  $d \in [21, 36]$

$15x^3 + 98x^2 + 159x + 28$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 4)(3x + 7)(5x + 1)$ .

C.  $a \in [11, 20]$ ,  $b \in [-101, -96]$ ,  $c \in [158, 162]$ , and  $d \in [21, 36]$

$15x^3 - 98x^2 + 159x + 28$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

D.  $a \in [11, 20]$ ,  $b \in [-101, -96]$ ,  $c \in [158, 162]$ , and  $d \in [-31, -27]$

\*  $15x^3 - 98x^2 + 159x - 28$ , which is the correct option.

E.  $a \in [11, 20]$ ,  $b \in [89, 93]$ ,  $c \in [115, 123]$ , and  $d \in [-31, -27]$

$15x^3 + 92x^2 + 121x - 28$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 4)(3x + 7)(5x - 1)$ .

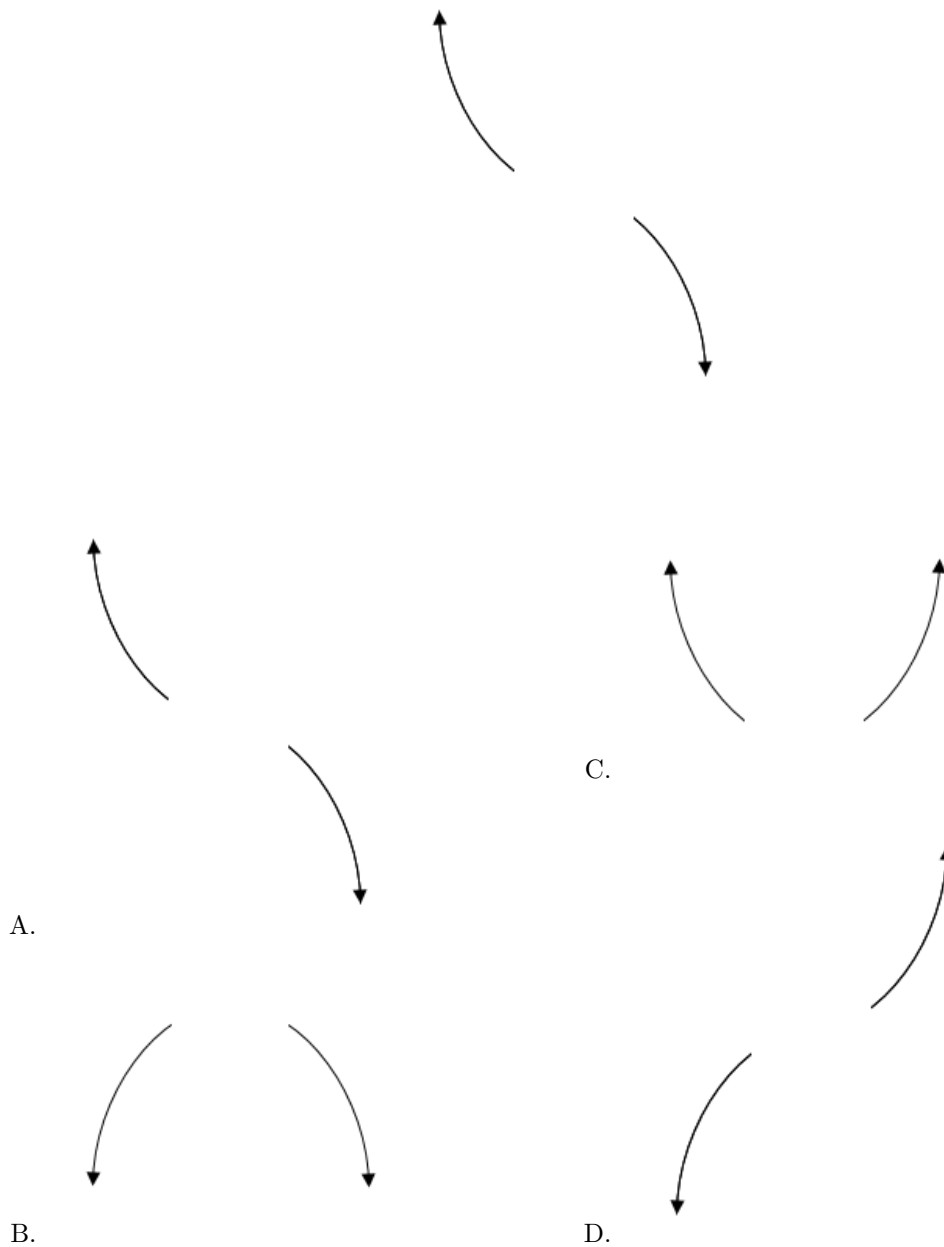
**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(x - 4)(3x - 7)(5x - 1)$

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8. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -3(x + 2)^5(x - 2)^6(x + 6)^4(x - 6)^6$$

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

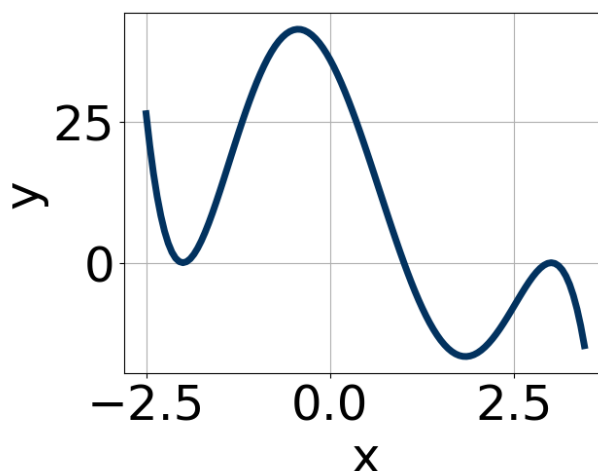


E. None of the above.

**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  $-17(x - 3)^8(x + 2)^4(x - 1)^{11}$ , which is option D.

A.  $-5(x - 3)^4(x + 2)^5(x - 1)^4$

The factor  $(x + 2)$  should have an even power and the factor  $(x - 1)$  should have an odd power.

B.  $-8(x - 3)^{10}(x + 2)^5(x - 1)^9$

The factor  $(x + 2)$  should have an even power.

C.  $4(x - 3)^{10}(x + 2)^8(x - 1)^7$

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

D.  $-17(x - 3)^8(x + 2)^4(x - 1)^{11}$

\* This is the correct option.

E.  $20(x - 3)^{10}(x + 2)^6(x - 1)^6$

The factor  $(x - 1)$  should have an odd power and the leading coefficient should be the opposite sign.

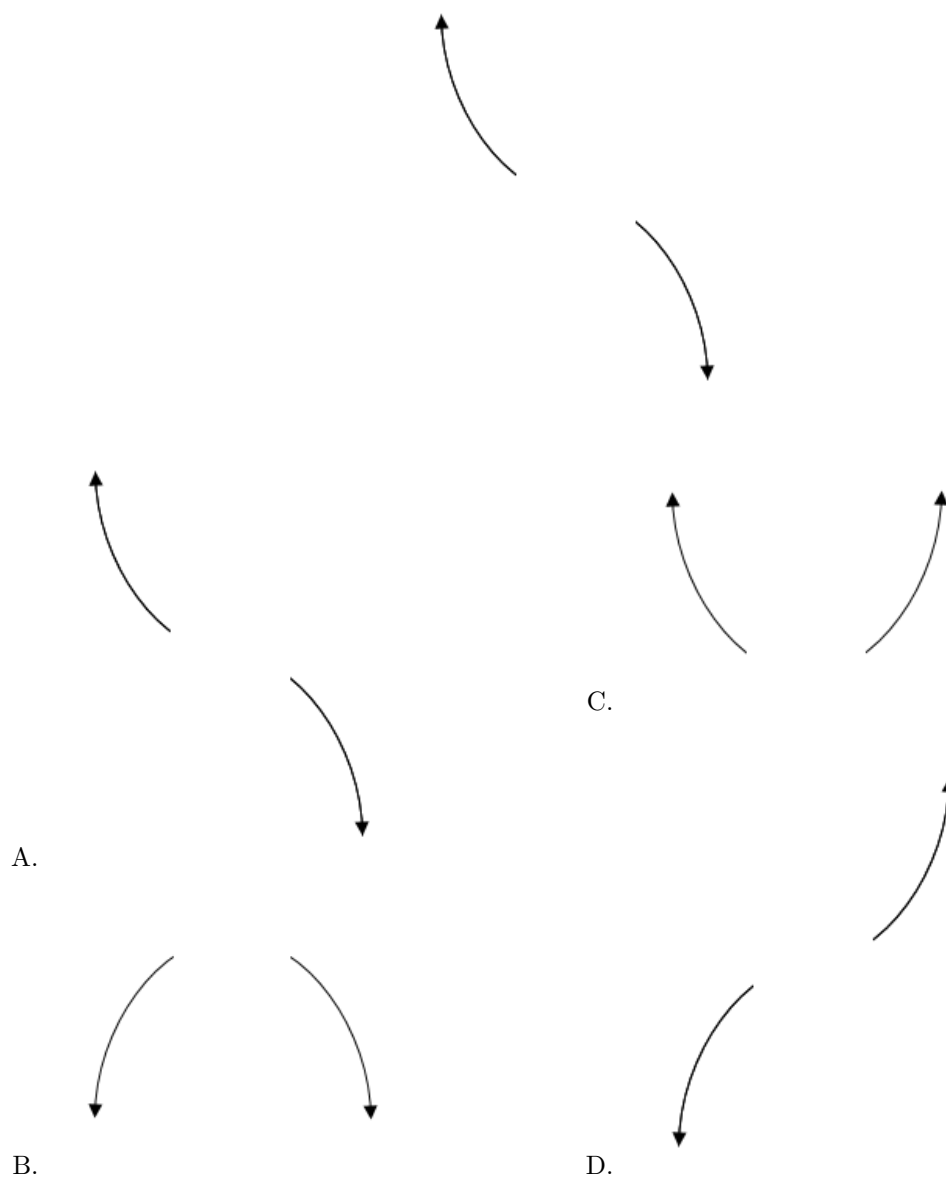
**General Comment:** General Comments: Draw the x-axis to determine which zeros are touching (and so have even multiplicity) or cross (and have odd multiplicity).

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10. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -8(x + 2)^2(x - 2)^7(x - 8)^2(x + 8)^2$$

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



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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