

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

$$-7, \frac{7}{2}, \text{ and } \frac{1}{2}$$

The solution is  $4x^3 + 12x^2 - 105x + 49$ , which is option D.

- A.  $a \in [-3, 6], b \in [-47, -42], c \in [117, 124]$ , and  $d \in [-51, -39]$

$4x^3 - 44x^2 + 119x - 49$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 7)(2x - 7)(2x - 1)$ .

- B.  $a \in [-3, 6], b \in [-18, -15], c \in [-100, -89]$ , and  $d \in [48, 54]$

$4x^3 - 16x^2 - 91x + 49$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 7)(2x + 7)(2x - 1)$ .

- C.  $a \in [-3, 6], b \in [-15, -8], c \in [-109, -101]$ , and  $d \in [-51, -39]$

$4x^3 - 12x^2 - 105x - 49$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 7)(2x + 7)(2x + 1)$ .

- D.  $a \in [-3, 6], b \in [12, 17], c \in [-109, -101]$ , and  $d \in [48, 54]$

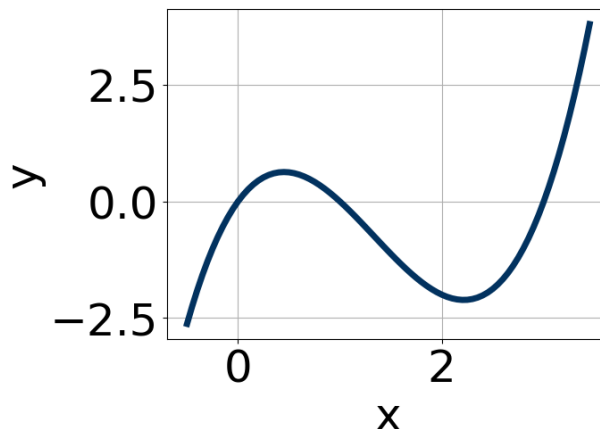
\*  $4x^3 + 12x^2 - 105x + 49$ , which is the correct option.

- E.  $a \in [-3, 6], b \in [12, 17], c \in [-109, -101]$ , and  $d \in [-51, -39]$

$4x^3 + 12x^2 - 105x - 49$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(x + 7)(2x - 7)(2x - 1)$

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



The solution is  $13x^7(x - 1)^7(x - 3)^{11}$ , which is option A.

A.  $13x^7(x-1)^7(x-3)^{11}$

\* This is the correct option.

B.  $-18x^9(x-1)^{10}(x-3)^9$

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

C.  $-15x^5(x-1)^{11}(x-3)^{11}$

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

D.  $8x^9(x-1)^8(x-3)^5$

The factor 1 should have been an odd power.

E.  $3x^7(x-1)^4(x-3)^{10}$

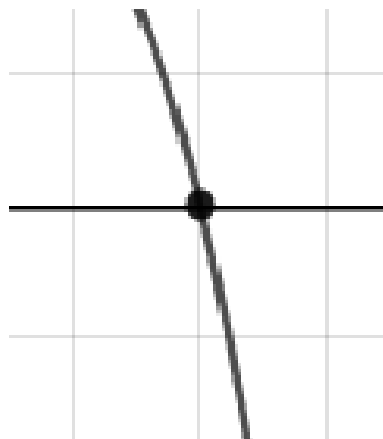
The factors 1 and 3 have have been odd power.

**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).

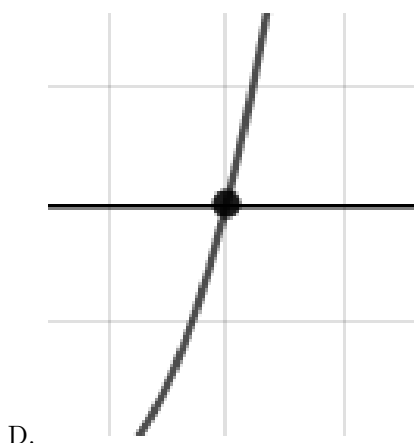
3. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = -9$  of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = 8(x-9)^5(x+9)^8(x-8)^6(x+8)^8$$

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



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.

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

$$-2 - 3i \text{ and } -3$$

The solution is  $x^3 + 7x^2 + 25x + 39$ , which is option D.

- A.  $b \in [1, 4]$ ,  $c \in [5.44, 8.1]$ , and  $d \in [8.6, 9.7]$

$x^3 + x^2 + 6x + 9$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 3)(x + 3)$ .

- B.  $b \in [-13, -5]$ ,  $c \in [23.8, 26.58]$ , and  $d \in [-41.4, -37.8]$

$x^3 - 7x^2 + 25x - 39$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (-2 - 3i))(x - (-2 + 3i))(x - 3)$ .

- C.  $b \in [1, 4]$ ,  $c \in [3.4, 5.01]$ , and  $d \in [5.2, 6.9]$

$x^3 + x^2 + 5x + 6$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 2)(x + 3)$ .

- D.  $b \in [2, 15]$ ,  $c \in [23.8, 26.58]$ , and  $d \in [37.2, 41.1]$

\*  $x^3 + 7x^2 + 25x + 39$ , 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  $(x - (-2 - 3i))(x - (-2 + 3i))(x - (-3))$ .

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

$-5, -2$ , and  $3$

The solution is  $x^3 + 4x^2 - 11x - 30$ , which is option E.

A.  $a \in [-5, 6], b \in [-4.3, -3.7], c \in [-13, -6]$ , and  $d \in [25, 37]$

$x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 5)(x - 2)(x + 3)$ .

B.  $a \in [-5, 6], b \in [1.6, 4.9], c \in [-13, -6]$ , and  $d \in [25, 37]$

$x^3 + 4x^2 - 11x + 30$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

C.  $a \in [-5, 6], b \in [-6.1, -5.4], c \in [-9, 1]$ , and  $d \in [25, 37]$

$x^3 - 6x^2 - x + 30$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 5)(x + 2)(x - 3)$ .

D.  $a \in [-5, 6], b \in [-10.9, -9.5], c \in [29, 36]$ , and  $d \in [-30, -23]$

$x^3 - 10x^2 + 31x - 30$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 5)(x - 2)(x - 3)$ .

E.  $a \in [-5, 6], b \in [1.6, 4.9], c \in [-13, -6]$ , and  $d \in [-30, -23]$

\*  $x^3 + 4x^2 - 11x - 30$ , which is the correct option.

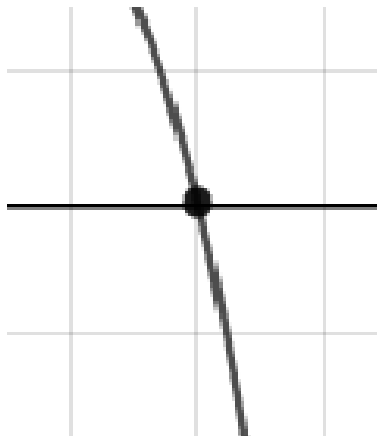
**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(x + 5)(x + 2)(x - 3)$

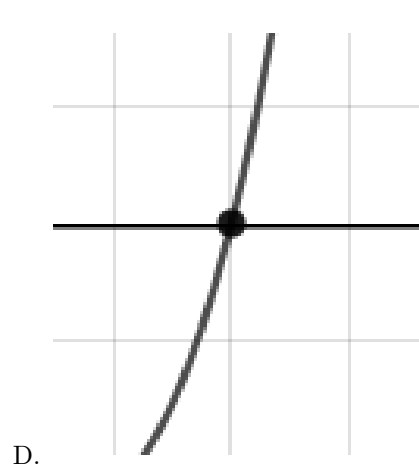
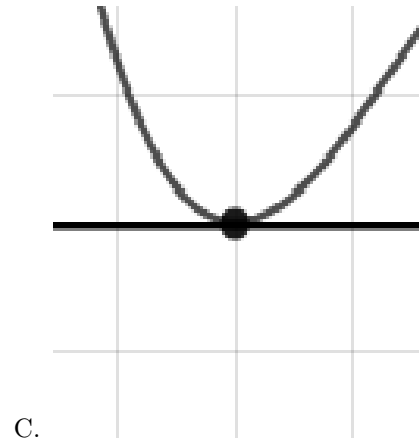
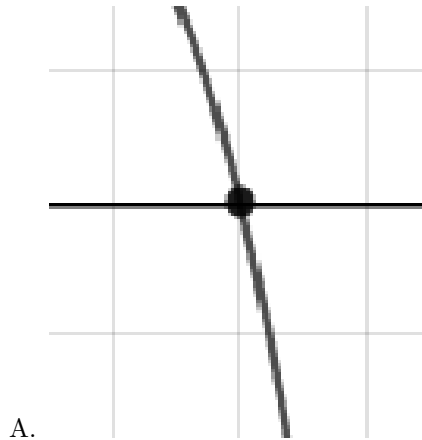
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6. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = 4$  of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = 8(x - 4)^5(x + 4)^8(x - 8)^3(x + 8)^5$$

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





E. None of the above.

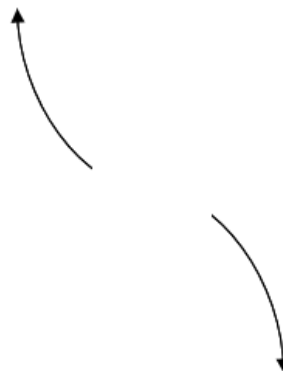
**General Comment:** You will need to sketch the entire graph, then zoom in on the zero the question asks about.

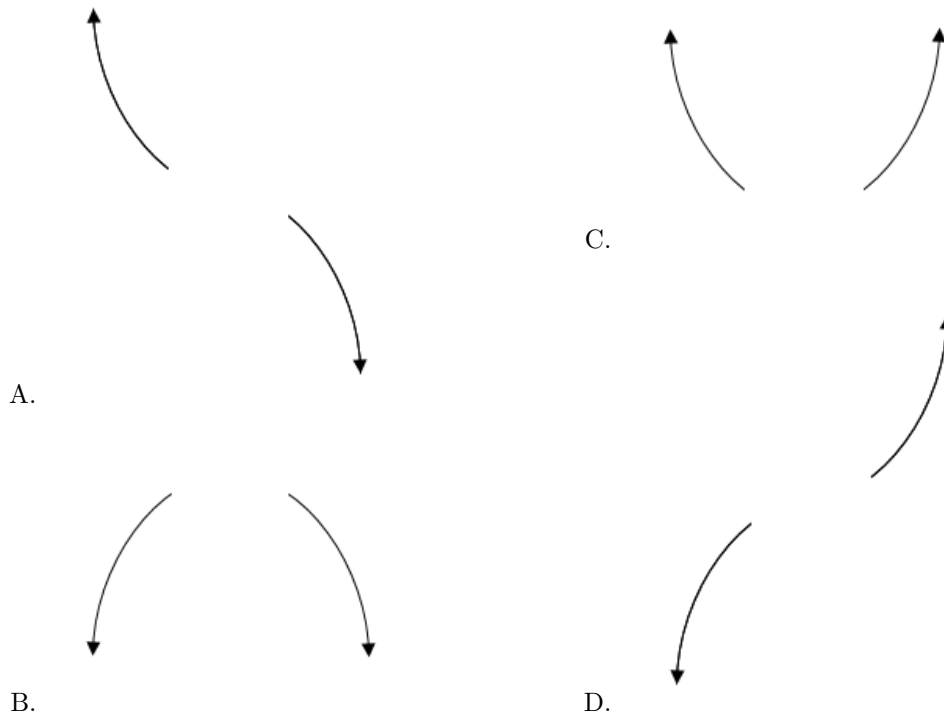
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7. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -7(x+2)^3(x-2)^6(x-3)^5(x+3)^7$$

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





E. None of the above.

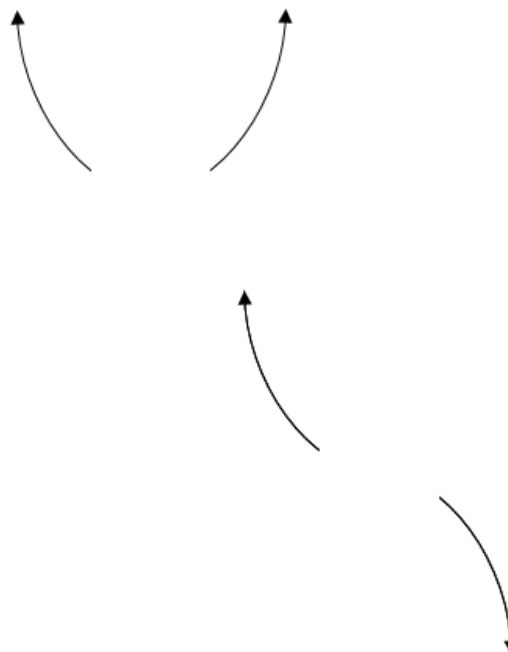
**General Comment:** Remember that end behavior is determined by the leading coefficient AND whether the **sum** of the multiplicities is positive or negative.

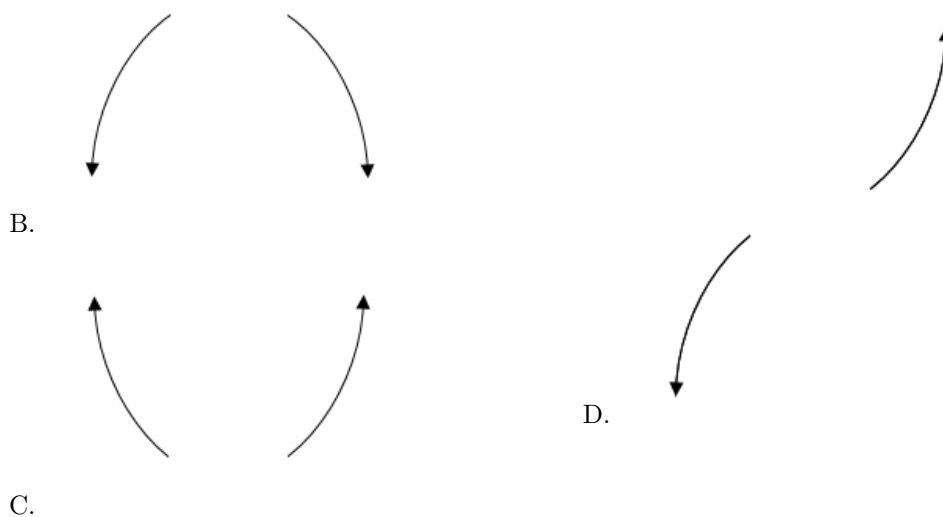
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8. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = 9(x - 6)^3(x + 6)^8(x - 7)^3(x + 7)^4$$

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



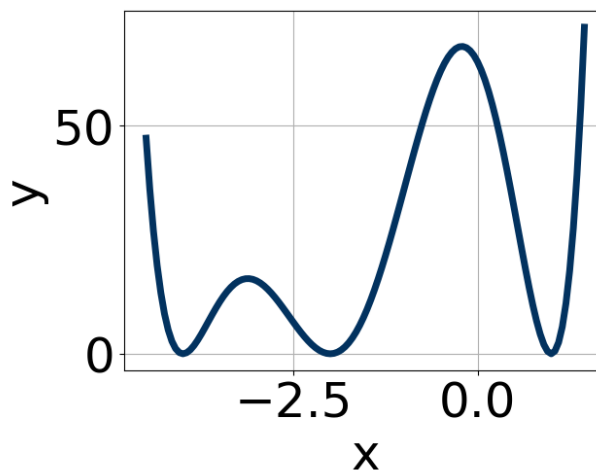


E. None of the above.

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



The solution is  $20(x + 4)^{10}(x + 2)^8(x - 1)^8$ , which is option E.

A.  $-8(x + 4)^{10}(x + 2)^{10}(x - 1)^8$

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

B.  $-15(x + 4)^4(x + 2)^{10}(x - 1)^7$

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

C.  $16(x + 4)^{10}(x + 2)^8(x - 1)^9$

The factor  $(x - 1)$  should have an even power.

D.  $3(x + 4)^4(x + 2)^5(x - 1)^7$

The factors  $(x + 2)$  and  $(x - 1)$  should both have even powers.

E.  $20(x + 4)^{10}(x + 2)^8(x - 1)^8$

\* This is the correct option.

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

$$2 - 4i \text{ and } -3$$

The solution is  $x^3 - 1x^2 + 8x + 60$ , which is option B.

A.  $b \in [-0.9, 1.3]$ ,  $c \in [7.04, 8.22]$ , and  $d \in [-63, -58]$

$x^3 + x^2 + 8x - 60$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (2 - 4i))(x - (2 + 4i))(x - 3)$ .

B.  $b \in [-1.3, 0.3]$ ,  $c \in [7.04, 8.22]$ , and  $d \in [58, 61]$

\*  $x^3 - 1x^2 + 8x + 60$ , which is the correct option.

C.  $b \in [-0.9, 1.3]$ ,  $c \in [0.36, 1.21]$ , and  $d \in [-9, -1]$

$x^3 + x^2 + x - 6$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 2)(x + 3)$ .

D.  $b \in [-0.9, 1.3]$ ,  $c \in [6.7, 7.73]$ , and  $d \in [9, 17]$

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

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  $(x - (2 - 4i))(x - (2 + 4i))(x - (-3))$ .

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