

Zero of a polynomial

1) $p(x) = x - 3$

3 is the zero of the $p(x)$.

2) $p(x) = x^2 - 5x + 6$

$$p(x)|_{x=2} = p(2) = 2^2 - 5(2) + 6$$

$$= 4 - 10 + 6$$

$$= 10 - 10$$

$$= 0$$

2 is a zero of $p(x)$

zero of the polynomial

$$p(x)|_{x=3} = p(3)$$

$$= 3^2 - 5(3) + 6$$

$$= 9 - 15 + 6$$

$$= 15 - 15$$

$$= 0$$

3 is a zero of $p(x)$

value of a polynomial at $x=a$

$$p(a) = a - 3$$

value of the polynomial at $x=a$.

$$p(x)|_{x=a} = p(a) = a - 3$$

$$p(x)|_{x=2} = p(2) = 2 - 3 = -1$$

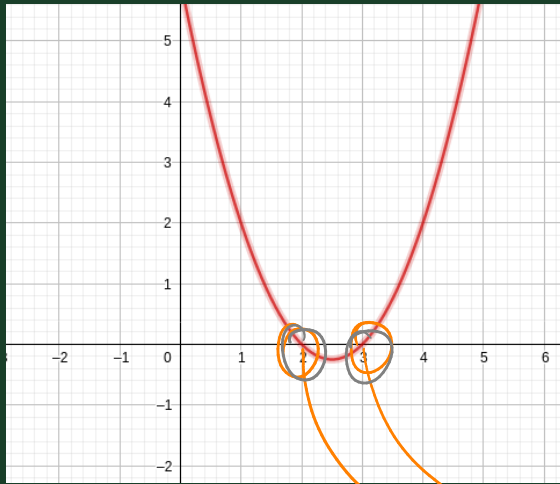
$$p(x)|_{x=3} = p(3) = 3 - 3 = 0$$

$$p(x)|_{x=4} = p(4) = 4 - 3 = 1$$

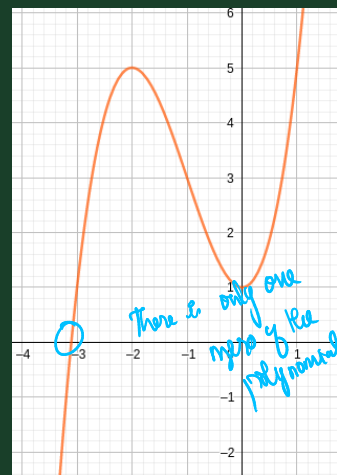
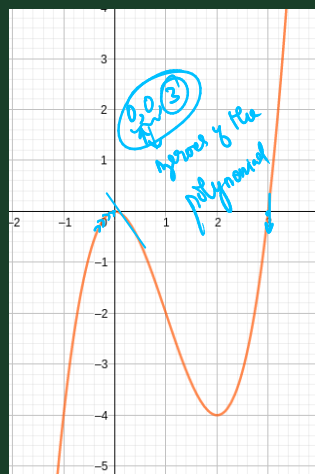
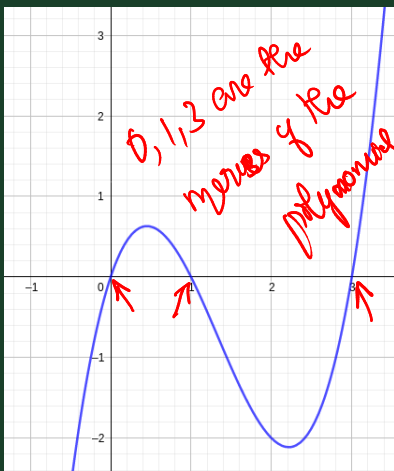
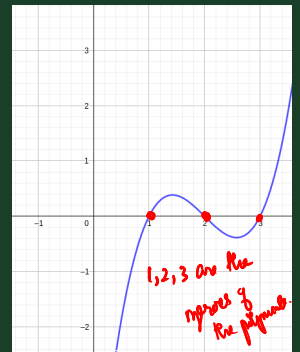
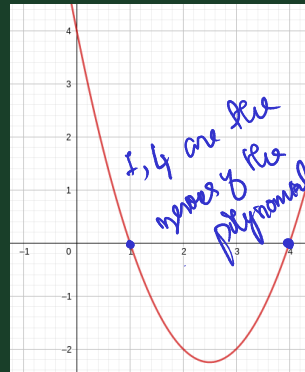
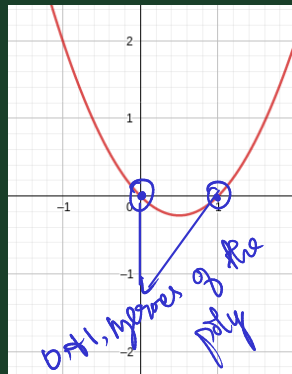
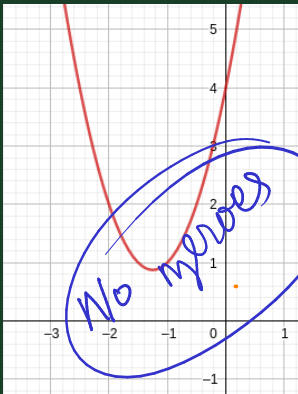
$$p(x)|_{x=6} = p(6) = 6 - 3 = 3$$

Geometry:

the point $x=a$, such that $p(x)$ intersects the x -axis is a zero of the polynomial $p(x)$.



zeros of the polynomial $p(x) = x^2 - 5x + 6$.



Number of zeroes of the polynomial:

Linear polynomial \rightarrow Exactly one zero.

Quadratic polynomial \rightarrow Atmost two zeros.

Cubic polynomial \rightarrow Atmost three zeros.
(Atleast one zero must be there)

Quartic polynomial \rightarrow Atmost Four zeros.

⋮

Result:

1) Any polynomial of even degree has no guarantee that it will a zero.

2) Any polynomial of odd degree, must have atleast one zero. (real)