





### Graphs of Polynomial Functions NOTES

Finding the End Behavior of a function				
Degree	Leading Coefficient	Graph Comparison		End Behavior
Even	Positive	$y = x^2$ 	Rise right	As $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$
			Rise left	As $x \rightarrow -\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$
Even	Negative	$y = -x^2$ 	Fall right	As $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$
			Fall left	As $x \rightarrow -\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$
Odd	Positive	$y = x^3$ 	Rise right	As $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$
			Fall left	As $x \rightarrow -\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$
Odd	Negative	$y = -x^3$ 	Fall right	As $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$
			Rise left	As $x \rightarrow -\infty$ , $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$

#### Turning Points

A polynomial function has a degree of  $n$ .

Maximum Number of Turning Points =  $n - 1$

#### Steps for Graphing a Polynomial Function

1. Find the real zeros and y-intercept of the function.
2. Plot the x- and y-intercepts.
3. Make a table for several x-values that lie between the real zeros.
4. Plot the points from your table.
5. Determine the end behavior of the graph.
6. Sketch the graph.

### Multiplicity

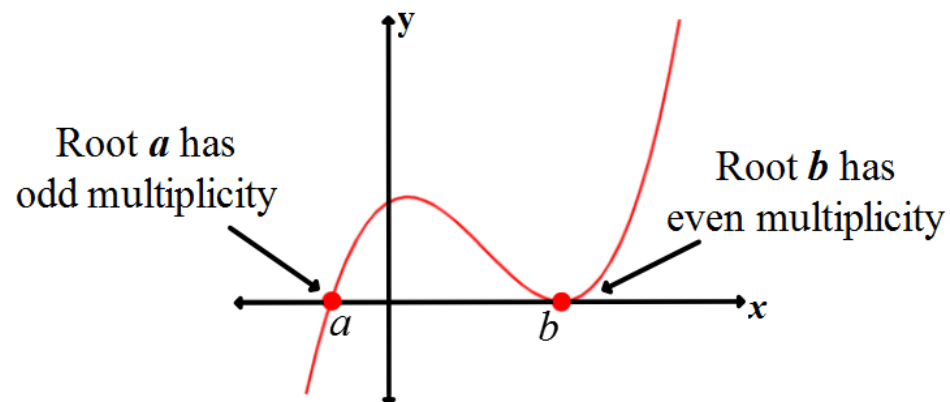
The **multiplicity** of root  $r$  is the number of times that  $x - r$  is a factor of  $P(x)$ .

#### Odd Multiplicity

The graph of  $P(x)$  crosses the x-axis.

#### Even Multiplicity

The graph of  $P(x)$  touches the x-axis, but does not cross it. (i.e. U-turn)

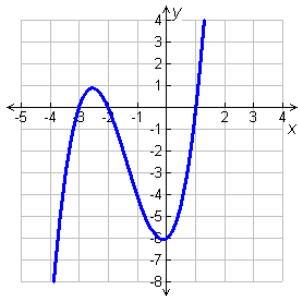


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Complete the table to identify the leading coefficient, degree, and end behavior of each polynomial.

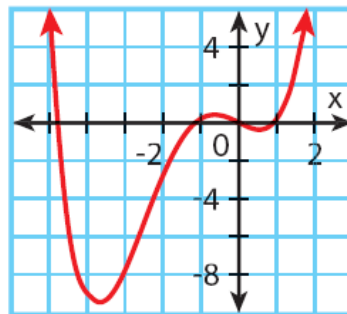
	Polynomial	Leading Coefficient	Degree	Graph Comparison	End Behavior
1.	$f(x) = 4x^7 + 5x^4 + 2$				
2.	$f(x) = -7x^6 + 2x^2 - 3x$				
3.	$f(x) = -2x^5 - x^3 + 6x$				

4. Identify whether each function graphed has an odd or even degree and a positive or negative leading coefficient.



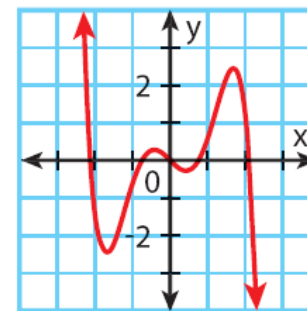
Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Leading Coefficient: \_\_\_\_\_



Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Leading Coefficient: \_\_\_\_\_



Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Leading Coefficient: \_\_\_\_\_

Equation	Solution (zeros)	$x$ -int.	Multiplicity for each zero	Graph at $x$ -axis (Use <b>BOX 1</b> )	End Behavior	Maximum number of turning points
#5 $P(x) = (x-1)^2(x-3)$					Degree = _____ Leading Coefficient = _____ Graph Comparison (circle one) $y = x^2$ / $y = -x^2$ / $y = x^3$ / $y = -x^3$ End Behavior (Use <b>BOX 2</b> ): _____	
#6 $P(x) = \frac{1}{12}(x+2)^2(x-3)^2$					Degree = _____ Leading Coefficient = _____ Graph Comparison (circle one) $y = x^2$ / $y = -x^2$ / $y = x^3$ / $y = -x^3$ End Behavior (Use <b>BOX 2</b> ): _____	
#7 $P(x) = x(x-3)(x+2)$					Degree = _____ Leading Coefficient = _____ Graph Comparison (circle one) $y = x^2$ / $y = -x^2$ / $y = x^3$ / $y = -x^3$ End Behavior (Use <b>BOX 2</b> ): _____	

**BOX 1** Determine if the graphs do one of the following at the given  $x$ -intercepts.

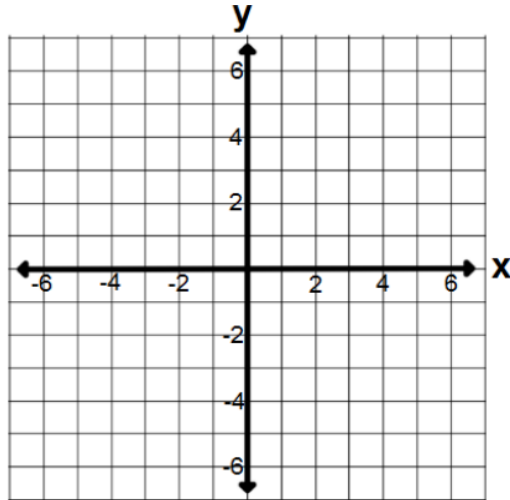
A: The graph crosses the  $x$ -axis at the  $x$ -intercept. (ODD MULTIPLICITY)  
B: The graph touches the  $x$ -axis and turns around at the  $x$ -intercept. (EVEN MULTIPLICITY)

**BOX 2** End Behavior

C: As  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$  (Rises Right)      E: As  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$  (Falls Right)  
D: As  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$  (Rises Left)      F: As  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$  (Falls Left)

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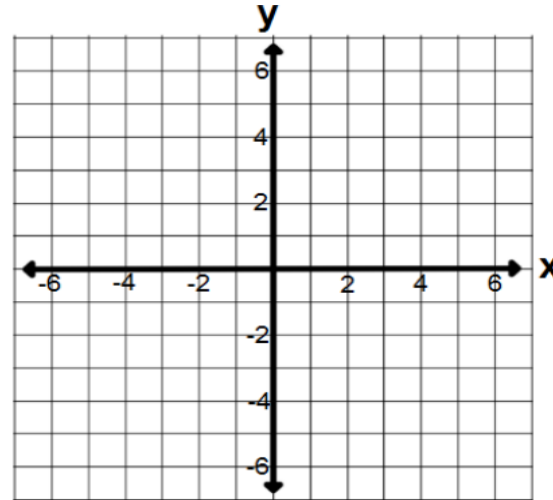
#5 Graph  $P(x) = (x - 1)^2(x - 3)$



y-intercept

Additional Points

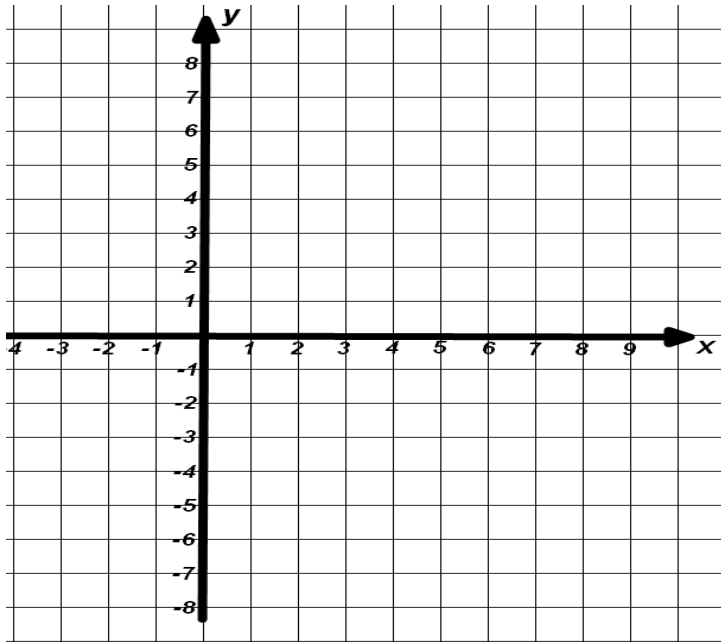
#6 Graph  $P(x) = \frac{1}{12}(x + 2)^2(x - 3)^2$



y-intercept

Additional Points

#7 Graph  $P(x) = x(x - 3)(x + 2)$



y-intercept

Additional Points