

Answer Key - Part 1

1) $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 12$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 12, \pm 6, \pm 4, \pm 3, \pm 2, \pm 1$

$f(x) = + + - - \rightarrow$ one sign change means one positive zero

$f(-x) = - + + - \rightarrow$ two sign changes means two or zero negative zeros.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 1 & 3 & -4 & -12 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & 1 & 4 & 0 & \\ \hline & 1 & 4 & 0 & -12 \end{array}$$

$$x^2 + 5x + 6 = 0$$

$$(x+2)(x+3) = 0$$

$$x = -2$$

$$x = -3$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 1 & 3 & -4 & -12 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & 1 & 5 & 6 & 0 \\ \hline & 1 & 5 & 6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$x = 2$$

points on graph

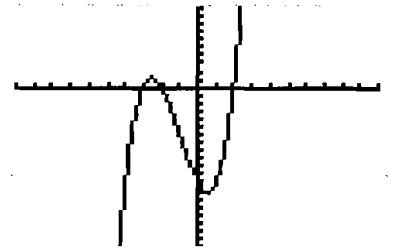
$$(2, 0)$$

$$(-2, 0)$$

$$(-3, 0)$$

$$(0, -12)$$

$$(1, -12)$$



Factored Form: $(x - 2)(x + 2)(x + 3)$

Zeros: $x = 2, x = -2, x = -3$

End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty$, $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty$, $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$.

2) $g(x) = 2x^3 - 7x^2 - 5x + 4$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 4, \pm 2, \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}$

$f(x) = + - - + \rightarrow$ two sign changes means two or zero positive zeros

$f(-x) = - - - + \rightarrow$ one sign change means one negative zero

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 2 & -7 & -5 & 4 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & 2 & -5 & -10 & -6 \\ \hline & 2 & -5 & -10 & -6 \end{array}$$

$$2x^2 - 9x + 4 = 0$$

$$(x-4)(2x-1) = 0$$

$$x = 4$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 2 & -7 & -5 & 4 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & 2 & -9 & 4 & 0 \\ \hline & 2 & -9 & 4 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$x = -1$$

points on graph

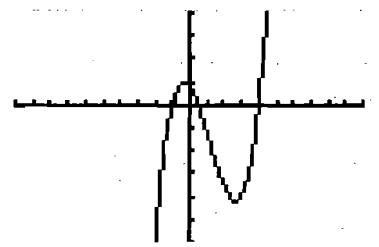
$$(-1, 0)$$

$$(4, 0)$$

$$(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$$

$$(0, 4)$$

$$(1, -6)$$



y-axis count by 5

Factored Form: $(x - 4)(x + 1)(2x - 1)$

Zeros: $x = 4, x = -1, x = \frac{1}{2}$

End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty$, $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty$, $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$.

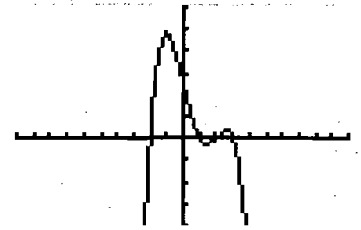
Answer Key - Part 1

3) $h(x) = -x^4 + 4x^3 + x^2 - 16x + 12$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 12, \pm 6, \pm 4, \pm 3, \pm 2, \pm 1$

$f(x) = - + + - + \rightarrow$ three sign change means three or one positive zero

$f(-x) = - - + + + \rightarrow$ one sign changes means one negative zero.



y-axis count by 5
points on graph

$(1, 0)$

$(2, 0)$

$(-2, 0)$

$(3, 0)$

$(0, 12)$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 1 & -1 & 4 & 1 & -16 & 12 \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ \hline & -1 & 3 & 4 & -12 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & -1 & 3 & 4 & -12 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & -1 & 1 & 6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & -1 & 3 & 4 & -12 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & -1 & 4 & 0 & -12 \end{array}$$

$-x^2 + x + 6 = 0$

$x^2 - x - 6 = 0$

$(x-3)(x+2) = 0$

$x = 3$

$x = -2$

Factored Form: $-(x-3)(x-2)(x-1)(x+2)$

Zeros: $x = -2, x = 3, x = 2, x = 1$

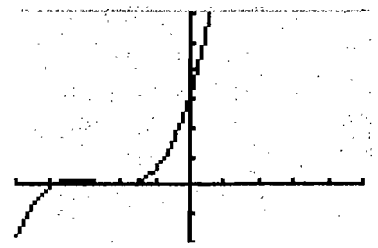
End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty, f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty, f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$.

4) $j(x) = x^3 + 8x^2 + 20x + 16$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 16, \pm 8, \pm 4, \pm 2, \pm 1$

$f(x) = + + + + \rightarrow$ zero sign changes means zero positive zeros

$f(-x) = - + - + \rightarrow$ two sign changes means two or zero negative zeros



y-axis count by 5
points on graph

$(1, 45)$

$(-1, 3)$

$(-2, 0)$

$(-4, 0)$

$(0, 16)$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 1 & 8 & 20 & 16 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 1 & 9 & 29 & 45 \end{array}$$

← oops, I shouldn't have tried +1 anyway because of Descartes' Rule of Signs.

← upper bound

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 1 & 8 & 20 & 16 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 1 & 7 & 13 & 3 \end{array}$$

$x^2 + 6x + 8 = 0$

$(x+2)(x+4) = 0$

$x = -2$

$x = -4$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -2 & 1 & 8 & 20 & 16 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 1 & 6 & 8 & 0 \end{array}$$

Factored Form: $(x+2)(x+2)(x+4)$

Zeros: $x = -2$ (even multiplicity), $x = -4$

End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty, f(x) \rightarrow \infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty, f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$.

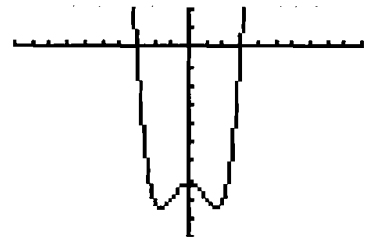
Answer Key - Part 1

5) $r(x) = x^4 - 5x^2 - 36$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 36, \pm 18, \pm 12, \pm 9, \pm 6, \pm 4, \pm 3, \pm 2, \pm 1$

$f(x) = + - - - \rightarrow$ one sign change means one positive zero

$f(-x) = + - - - \rightarrow$ one sign changes means one negative zero.



y-axis count by 5

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 1 & 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 & -36 \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ & 1 & & & -4 & -4 \\ \hline & 1 & 1 & -4 & -4 & -40 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 12 \\ & \downarrow & -1 & -2 & -2 \\ & 1 & 2 & 2 & 10 \end{array}$$

points

$(1, -40)$

$(2, -40)$

$(3, 0)$

$(-3, 0)$

$(0, -36)$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 2 & 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 & -36 \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ & 1 & & & -2 & -4 \\ \hline & 1 & 2 & -1 & -2 & -40 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -2 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 12 \\ & \downarrow & -2 & -2 & -4 \\ & 1 & 1 & 2 & 8 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 3 & 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 & -36 \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & 4 & 12 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -3 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 12 \\ & \downarrow & -3 & 0 & -12 \\ & 1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \end{array}$$

$x^2 + 4 = 0$

$x^2 = -4$

$x = \pm 2i$

Factored Form: $(x - 3)(x + 3)(x - 2i)(x + 2i)$

Zeros: $x = 3, x = -3, x = 2i, x = -2i$

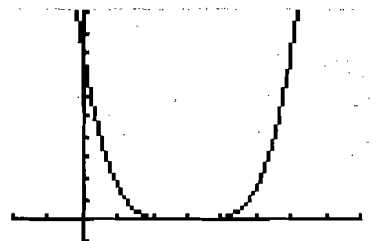
End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty, f(x) \rightarrow \infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty, f(x) \rightarrow \infty$.

6) $p(x) = x^4 - 12x^3 + 54x^2 - 108x + 81$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 81, \pm 27, \pm 9, \pm 3, \pm 1$

$f(x) = + - + - + \rightarrow$ four sign changes means 4, 2, or 0 positive zeros

$f(-x) = + + + + + \rightarrow$ zero sign change means no negative zeros



y-axis count by 10

points

$(1, 16)$

$(2, 1)$

$(3, 0)$

$(0, 81)$

$x = 3$ ✓
✓
✓

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 1 & 1 & -12 & 54 & -108 & 81 \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & \\ \hline & 1 & -11 & 43 & -65 & 16 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 3 & 1 & -9 & 27 & -27 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ \hline & 1 & -6 & 9 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 2 & 1 & -12 & 54 & -108 & 81 \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & \\ \hline & 1 & -10 & 34 & -40 & 1 \end{array}$$

$x^2 - 6x + 9 = 0$

$(x - 3)(x - 3) = 0$

$x = 3 \quad x = 3$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 3 & 1 & -12 & 54 & -108 & 81 \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & \\ \hline & 1 & -9 & 27 & -27 & 0 \end{array}$$

Factored Form: $(x - 3)(x - 3)(x - 3)(x - 3)$

Zeros: $x = 3$ (even multiplicity)

End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty, f(x) \rightarrow \infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty, f(x) \rightarrow \infty$.

Answer Key - Part 1

7) $n(x) = -3x^3 + 20x^2 - 36x + 16$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 16, \pm 8, \pm 4, \pm 2, \pm 1, \pm \frac{16}{3}, \pm \frac{8}{3}, \pm \frac{4}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{3}$

$f(x) = - + - + \rightarrow$ three sign changes means three or one positive zero
 $f(-x) = + + + + \rightarrow$ no sign changes means no negative zeros.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & -3 & 20 & -36 & 16 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & -3 & 17 & -19 & -3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & -3 & 20 & -36 & 16 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & -3 & 14 & -8 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$-3x^2 + 14x - 8 = 0$$

$$\frac{-14 \pm \sqrt{196 - 4(-3)(-8)}}{-6}$$

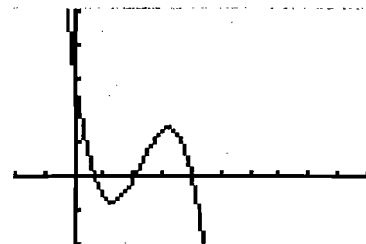
$$\frac{-14 \pm \sqrt{196 - 96}}{-6} = \frac{-14 \pm \sqrt{100}}{-6} = \frac{-14 \pm 10}{-6}$$

$$\frac{-14 + 10}{-6} = \frac{2}{3} \quad \frac{-14 - 10}{-6} = 4$$

Factored Form: $-(x - 4)(x - 2)(3x - 2)$

Zeros: $x = 4, x = 2, x = 2/3$

End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty, f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty, f(x) \rightarrow \infty$.



y-axis count by 5

points
 $(1, -3)$ $(2/3, 0)$
 $(2, 0)$ $(4, 0)$

8) $m(x) = 12x^3 + 8x^2 - 23x - 12$

Possible Zeros: $\pm 12, \pm 6, \pm 4, \pm 3, \pm 2, \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm \frac{1}{6}, \pm \frac{1}{12}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{3}{4}, \pm \frac{4}{3}, \pm \frac{3}{2}$

$f(x) = + + - - \rightarrow$ one sign change means one positive zero.
 $f(-x) = - - + - \rightarrow$ two sign change means two or one negative zeros

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 12 & 8 & -23 & -12 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 12 & 20 & -3 & -15 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 12 & 8 & -23 & -12 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 12 & 32 & 41 & 70 \end{array} \leftarrow \text{upper bound}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} \frac{4}{3} & 12 & 8 & -23 & -12 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 12 & 24 & 9 & 0 \end{array}$$

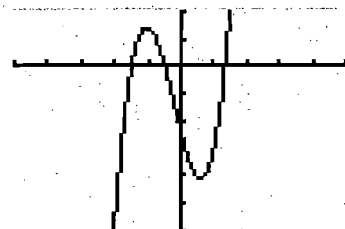
$$12x^2 + 24x + 9 = 0$$

$$3(4x^2 + 8x + 3) = 0$$

$$3(2x+1)(2x+3) = 0$$

$$2x+1=0 \quad x = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$2x+3=0 \quad x = -\frac{3}{2}$$



y-axis count by 5

points
 $(1, -15)$
 $(2, 70)$
 $(\frac{4}{3}, 0)$
 $(-\frac{1}{2}, 0)$
 $(-\frac{3}{2}, 0)$

Factored Form: $(2x + 1)(2x + 3)(3x - 4)$

Zeros: $x = -\frac{1}{2}, x = -\frac{3}{2}, x = 4/3$

End Behavior: As $x \rightarrow \infty, f(x) \rightarrow \infty$. As $x \rightarrow -\infty, f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$.

$\frac{12 \cdot 4}{1 \cdot 3}$
 $\frac{4 \cdot 24}{3 \cdot 1}$
 $\frac{4 \cdot 9}{3 \cdot 1}$

Answer Key - Part 2

1) $(x + 3)(x - 2)(2x - 1) = 2x^3 + x^2 - 13x + 6$

2) $(x - 4 - i)(x - 4 + i)(x - 2) = x^3 - 10x^2 + 33x - 34$

3) $(x - 4)(x - 3i)(x + 3i) = x^3 - 4x^2 + 9x - 36$

4) $(x + 5)(x + 5) = x^2 + 10x + 25$

5) $(x + 2)(x + 2)(x + 2) = x^3 + 6x^2 + 12x + 8$

The graph crosses at $x = -2$.

6) $(x + 4)(x + 4)(x - 2)(x - 2) = x^4 + 4x^3 - 12x^2 - 32x + 64$

The graph touches at both $x = 2$ and $x = 4$.

7) $(x - 1)(x + 3)(x + 3) = x^3 + 5x^2 + 3x - 9$