

## K – Polynomials, Lesson 5, Zeros of Polynomials (r. 2018)

# POLYNOMIALS

## Zeros of Polynomials

Common Core Standard	Next Generation Standard
<p><b>A-APR.3</b> Identify zeros of polynomials when suitable factorizations are available, <del>and use the zeros to construct a rough graph of the function defined by the polynomial.</del></p> <p>PARCC: Tasks are limited to quadratic and cubic polynomials in which linear and quadratic factors are available. <i>For example, find the zeros of <math>(x-2)(x^2-9)</math>.</i></p>	<p><b>AI-A.APR.3</b> Identify zeros of polynomial functions when suitable factorizations are available. (Shared standard with Algebra II)</p> <p>Note: Algebra I tasks will focus on identifying the zeros of quadratic and cubic polynomial functions. For tasks that involve finding the zeros of cubic polynomial functions, the linear and quadratic factors of the cubic polynomial function will be given (e.g., find the zeros of <math>P(x)=(x-2)(x^2-9)</math>).</p>

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- 1) Identify the zeros of a polynomial expression given its factors.
- 2) Identify the factors of a polynomial expression given its zeros.
- 3) Identify the zeros and factors of a polynomial expression given the graph of the expression.

### Overview of Lesson

Teacher Centered Introduction	Student Centered Activities
<p>Overview of Lesson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- activate students' prior knowledge</li> <li>- vocabulary</li> <li>- learning objective(s)</li> <li>- big ideas: direct instruction</li> <li>- modeling</li> </ul>	<p>guided practice ←Teacher: anticipates, monitors, selects, sequences, and connects student work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- developing essential skills</li> <li>- Regents exam questions</li> <li>- formative assessment assignment (exit slip, explain the math, or journal entry)</li> </ul>

### VOCABULARY

**Multiplication Property of Zero:** The **multiplication property of zero** says that if the product of two numbers or expressions is zero, then one or both of the numbers or expressions must equal zero. More simply, if  $x \cdot y = 0$ , then either  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ , or,  $x$  and  $y$  both equal zero.

**Factor:** A **factor** is:

- 1) a whole number that is a **divisor** of another number, or
- 2) an algebraic expression that is a **divisor** of another algebraic expression.

Examples:

- o 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 12 all divide the number 12, so 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 12 are all factors of 12.
- o  $(x-3)$  and  $(x+2)$  will divide the trinomial expression  $x^2 - x - 6$ ,

so  $(x-3)$  and  $(x+2)$  are both factors of the  $x^2 - x - 6$ .

**Zeros:** A **zero** of an equation is a **solution** or **root** of the equation. The words **zero**, **solution**, and **root** all mean the same thing. The zeros of a polynomial expression are found by finding the value of  $x$  when the value of  $y$  is 0. This done by making and solving an equation with the value of the polynomial expression equal to zero.

**Example:**

- o The **zeros** of the trinomial expression  $x^2 + 2x - 24$  can be found by writing and then factoring the equation:

$$x^2 + 2x - 24 = 0$$

$$(x + 6)(x - 4) = 0$$

After factoring the equation, use the **multiplication property of zero** to find the zeros, as follows:

$$(x + 6)(x - 4) = 0$$

$$\therefore x + 6 = 0 \text{ and/or } x - 4 = 0$$

$$\text{If } x + 6 = 0, \text{ then } x = -6$$

$$\text{If } x - 4 = 0, \text{ then } x = +4$$

The zeros of the expression  $x^2 + 2x - 24 = 0$  are -6 and +4.

Check: You can check this by substituting both -6 or +4 into the expression, as follows:

Check for -6

$$x^2 + 2x - 24$$

$$(-6)^2 + 2(-6) - 24$$

$$36 - 12 - 24$$

$$0$$

Check for +4

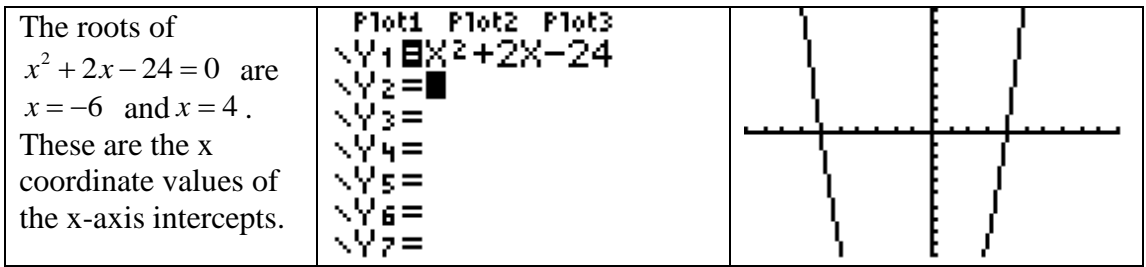
$$x^2 + 2x - 24$$

$$(4)^2 + 2(4) - 24$$

$$16 + 8 - 24$$

$$0$$

**x-axis intercepts:** The zeros of an expression can also be understood as the **x-axis intercepts** of the graph of the equation when  $f(x) = 0$ . This is because the coordinates of the x-axis intercepts, by definition, have y-values equal to zero, and is the same as writing an equation where the expression is equal to zero.



### BIG IDEA #1

#### Starting with Factors and Finding Zeros

Remember that the **factors** of an expression are *related to* the **zeros** of the expression by the **multiplication property of zero**. Thus, if you know the **factors**, it is easy to find the **zeros**.

Example: The factors of an expression are  $(2x + 2)$ ,  $(x + 3)$  and  $(x - 1)$ .

The zeros are found as follows using the multiplication property of zero:

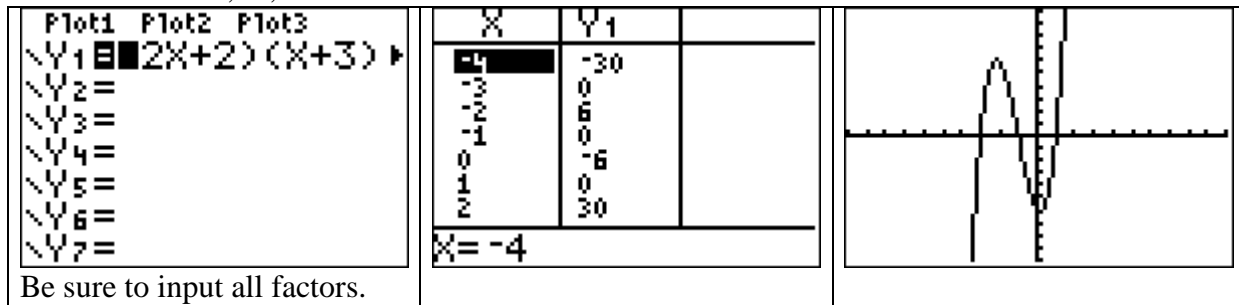
$$(2x + 2)(x + 3)(x - 1) = 0$$

$$\therefore 2x + 2 = 0 \text{ and } x = -1$$

$$\text{and/or } x + 3 = 0 \text{ and } x = -3$$

$$\text{and/or } x - 1 = 0 \text{ and } x = 1$$

The zeros are -3, -1, and +1.



### BIG IDEA #2

#### Starting with Zeros and Finding Factors

If you know the **zeros** of an expression, you can work backwards using the **multiplication property of zero** to find the **factors** of the expression. For example, if you inspect the graph of an equation and find that it has **x-intercepts** at  $x = 3$  and  $x = -2$ , you can write:

$$x = 3$$

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

*and*

$$x = -2$$

$$\therefore (x + 2) = 0$$

The equation of the graph has **factors** of  $(x - 3)$  and  $(x + 2)$ , so you can write the equation:

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

which simplifies to

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

$$x^2 - x - 6 = f(x)$$

With practice, you can probably move back and forth between the **zeros** of an expression and the **factors** of an expression with ease.

### DEVELOPING ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Identify the factors, zeros, and x-axis intercepts of the following polynomials:

Polynomial	Factors	Zeros	x-axis Intercepts
$x^2 - x - 6 = 0$			
$x^2 + 7x + 6 = 0$			
$x^2 - 5x - 6 = 0$			
$x^2 - 2x - 15 = 0$			
$x^2 - 3x - 10 = 0$			
$x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$			
$6x^2 + 5x - 6 = 0$			
$6x^2 - 15x - 36 = 0$			

### ANSWERS

Identify the factors, zeros, and x-axis intercepts of the following polynomials:

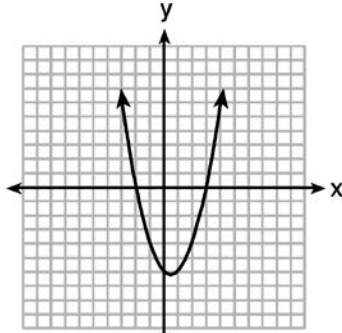
Polynomial	Factors	Zeros	x-axis Intercepts
$x^2 - x - 6 = 0$	$(x + 2)(x - 3)$	$x = \{-2, 3\}$	$x = \{-2, 3\}$
$x^2 + 7x + 6 = 0$	$(x + 1)(x + 6)$	$x = \{-6, 1\}$	$x = \{-6, 1\}$
$x^2 - 5x - 6 = 0$	$(x - 6)(x + 1)$	$x = \{-1, 6\}$	$x = \{-1, 6\}$
$x^2 - 2x - 15 = 0$	$(x - 5)(x + 3)$	$x = \{3, 5\}$	$x = \{3, 5\}$
$x^2 - 3x - 10 = 0$	$(x - 5)(x + 2)$	$x = \{2, 5\}$	$x = \{2, 5\}$
$x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$	$(x - 4)(x + 2)$	$x = \{-2, 4\}$	$x = \{-2, 4\}$
$6x^2 + 5x - 6 = 0$	$(2x + 3)(3x - 2)$	$x = \left\{-\frac{3}{2}, \frac{2}{3}\right\}$	$x = \left\{-\frac{3}{2}, \frac{2}{3}\right\}$
$6x^2 - 15x - 36 = 0$	$-3(x - 4)(2x + 3)$	$x = \left\{-\frac{3}{2}, 4\right\}$	$x = \left\{-\frac{3}{2}, 4\right\}$

**REGENTS EXAM QUESTIONS (through June 2018)**

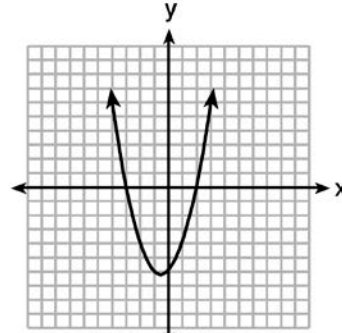
## A.APR.B.3: Zeros of Polynomials

356) The graphs below represent functions defined by polynomials. For which function are the zeros of the polynomials 2 and  $-3$ ?

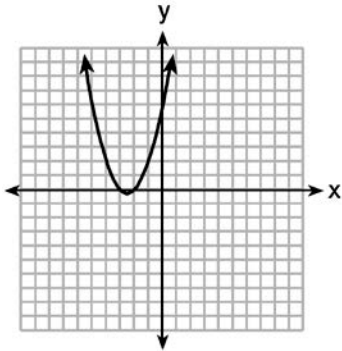
1)



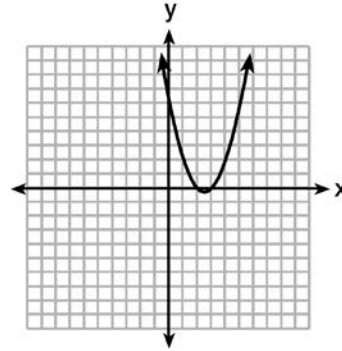
3)



2)



4)

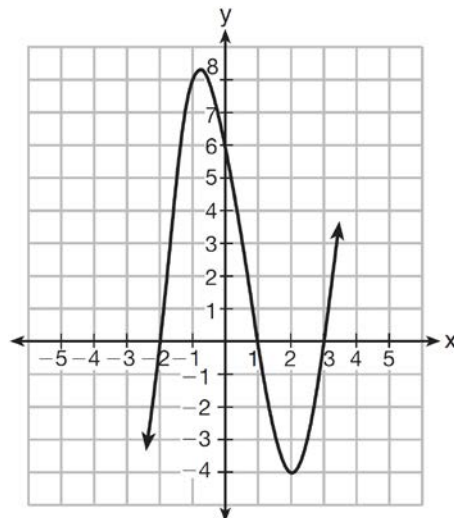


357) Which equation(s) represent the graph below?

I  $y = (x + 2)(x^2 - 4x - 12)$

II  $y = (x - 3)(x^2 + x - 2)$

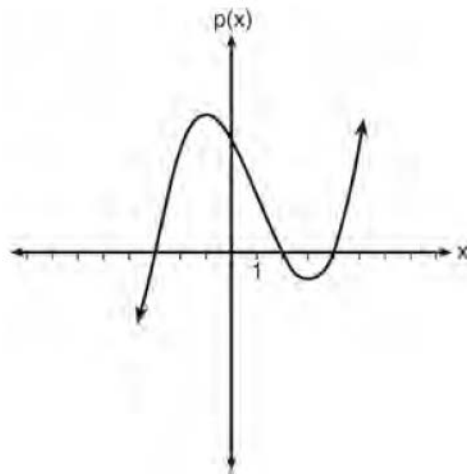
III  $y = (x - 1)(x^2 - 5x - 6)$



- 1) I, only  
2) II, only

- 3) I and II  
4) II and III





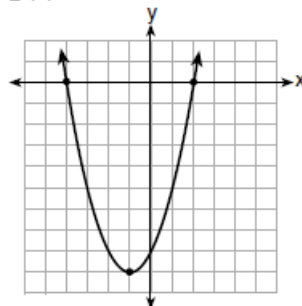
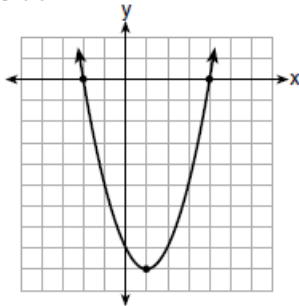
- 1)  $(x+3)(x-2)(x-4)$
- 2)  $(x-3)(x+2)(x+4)$

- 3)  $(x+3)(x-5)(x-2)(x-4)$
- 4)  $(x-3)(x+5)(x+2)(x+4)$

365) Which function has zeros of -4 and 2?

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

- 3)  $g(x) = x^2 - 7x - 8$
- 4)



366) Which polynomial function has zeros at -3, 0, and 4?

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

- 3)  $f(x) = x(x+3)(x-4)$
- 4)  $f(x) = x(x-3)(x+4)$

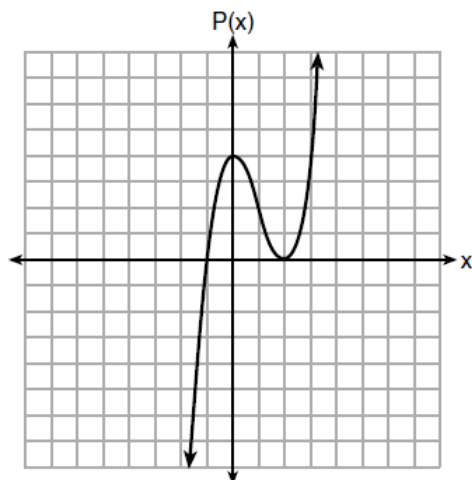
367) The zeros of the function  $f(x) = 2x^3 + 12x - 10x^2$  are

- 1)  $\{2, 3\}$
- 2)  $\{-1, 6\}$

- 3)  $\{0, 2, 3\}$
- 4)  $\{0, -1, 6\}$

368) Determine all the zeros of  $m(x) = x^2 - 4x + 3$ , algebraically.

369) Wenona sketched the polynomial  $P(x)$  as shown on the axes below.



Which equation could represent  $P(x)$ ?

1)  $P(x) = (x + 1)(x - 2)^2$

3)  $P(x) = (x + 1)(x - 2)$

2)  $P(x) = (x - 1)(x + 2)^2$

4)  $P(x) = (x - 1)(x + 2)$

370) The zeros of the function  $p(x) = x^2 - 2x - 24$  are

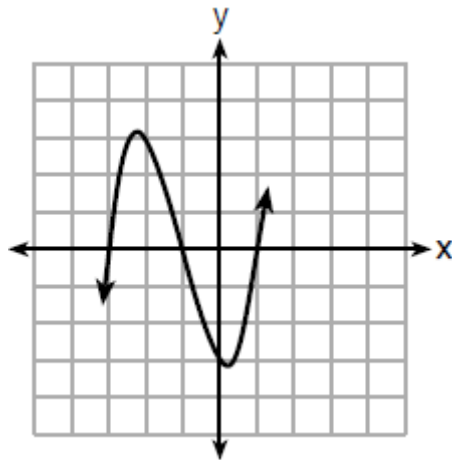
1)  $-8$  and  $3$

3)  $-4$  and  $6$

2)  $-6$  and  $4$

4)  $-3$  and  $8$

371) A cubic function is graphed on the set of axes below.



Which function could represent this graph?

1)  $f(x) = (x - 3)(x - 1)(x + 1)$

3)  $h(x) = (x - 3)(x - 1)(x + 3)$

2)  $g(x) = (x + 3)(x + 1)(x - 1)$

4)  $k(x) = (x + 3)(x + 1)(x - 3)$

### SOLUTIONS

356) ANS: 3

Strategy: Look for the coordinates of the x-intercepts (where the graph crosses the x-axis). The zeros are the x-values of those coordinates.

Answer c is the correct choice. The coordinates of the x-intercepts of the graph are  $(2, 0)$  and  $(-3, 0)$ . The zeros of the polynomial are 2 and -3.



PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

KEY: bimodalgraph

357) ANS: 2

Strategy: Factor the trinomials in each equation, then convert the factors into zeros and select the equations that have zeros at -2, 1, and 3.

STEP 1.

I	II	III
$y = (x + 2)(x^2 - 4x - 12)$	$y = (x - 3)(x^2 + x - 2)$	$y = (x - 1)(x^2 - 5x - 6)$
$y = (x + 2)(x - 6)(x + 2)$	$y = (x - 3)(x + 2)(x - 1)$	$y = (x - 1)(x - 6)(x + 1)$
Zeros at -2, 6, and -2	Zeros at 3, -2, and 1	Zeros at 1, 6, and -1
(Wrong Choice)	(Correct Choice)	(Wrong Choice)

The correct answer choice is *b*.

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

358) ANS: 2

Strategy: Input each function in a graphing calculator and look at the table views to find the values of *x* when *y* equals zero.

Plot1 Plot2 Plot3	X	Y1	Y2	X	Y3	Y4
$\sqrt{Y_1} \ominus X^2 - 10X - 24$	-6	72	0	-6	-48	120
$\sqrt{Y_2} \ominus X^2 + 10X + 24$	-5	51	-1	-5	-49	99
$\sqrt{Y_3} \ominus X^2 + 10X - 24$	-4	32	0	-4	-48	80
$\sqrt{Y_4} \ominus X^2 - 10X + 24$	-3	15	3	-3	-45	63
$\sqrt{Y_5} =$	-2	0	8	-2	-40	48
	-1	-13	15	-1	-33	35
	0	-24	24	0	-24	24
	$Y_2 = 0$			$Y_4 = 35$		

Answer choice *b*, entered as  $Y_2$ , has zeros at  $x = -4$  and  $x = -6$ .

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

359) ANS: 4

Strategy: Use root operations to solve  $f(x) = (x + 2)^2 - 25$  for  $f(x) = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= (x + 2)^2 - 25 \\
 0 &= (x + 2)^2 - 25 \\
 25 &= (x + 2)^2 \\
 \sqrt{25} &= \sqrt{(x + 2)^2} \\
 \pm 5 &= x + 2 \\
 -2 \pm 5 &= x \\
 -7 \text{ and } 3 &= x
 \end{aligned}$$

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.C.8 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

360) ANS: 1

Strategy:

STEP 1. Identify the zeros and convert them into factors.

The graph has zeros at -4, -2, and 1. Convert these zeros of the function into the following factors:

$(x + 4)(x + 2)(x - 1)$ . The function rule is  $f(x) = (x + 4)(x + 2)(x - 1)$

STEP 2. Eliminate wrong answers. Choices b and d can be eliminated because  $(x-2)$  is not a factor.

b. $f(x) = (x-2)(x^2 + 3x - 4)$ $(x-2)$ is not a factor. (Wrong Choice)	d. $f(x) = (x-2)(x^2 + 3x + 4)$ $(x-2)$ is not a factor. (Wrong Choice)
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STEP 3. Choose between remaining choices by factoring the trinomials.

a. $f(x) = (x+2)(x^2 + 3x - 4)$ $f(x) = (x+2)(x+4)(x-1)$ Contains all three factors. (Correct Choice)	c. $f(x) = (x+2)(x^2 + 3x + 4)$ $(x^2 + 3x + 4)$ cannot be factored into $(x+4)(x-1)$ (Wrong Choice)
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PTS: 2                      NAT: A.APR.B.3      TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

361) ANS: 1

Strategy 1. Convert the factors to zeros, then find the graph(s) with the corresponding zeros.

STEP 1. Convert the factors to zeros.

A factor of  $x - 0$  equates to a zero of the polynomial at  $x=0$ .

A factor of  $x - 2$  equates to a zero of the polynomial at  $x=2$ .

A factor of  $x + 5$  equates to a zero of the polynomial at  $x=-5$ .

STEP 2. Find the zeros of the graphs.

Graph I has zeros at -5, 0, and 2.

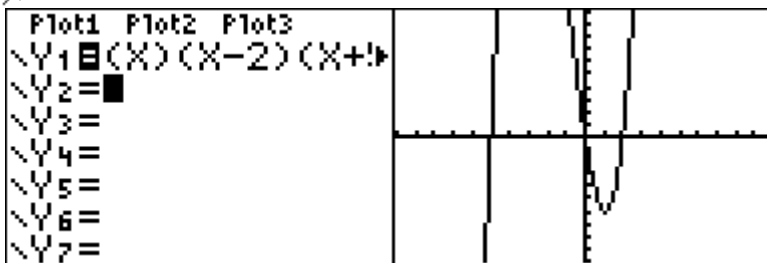
Graph II has zeros at -5 and 2.

Graph III has zeros at -2, 0, and 5.

Answer choice *a* is correct.

Strategy 2: Input the factors into a graphing calculator and view the graph of the function

$y = (x)(x-2)(x+5)$ .



Note: This graph has the same zeros as graph I, but the end behaviors of the graph are reversed. This graph is a reflection in the  $x$ -axis of graph I and the reversal is caused by a change in the sign of the leading coefficient in the expansion of  $y = (x)(x-2)(x+5)$ . It makes no difference in answering this problem. The zeros are the same and the correct answer choice is answer choice *a*.

PTS: 2                      NAT: A.APR.B.3      TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

362) ANS: 4

Strategy: Find the factors of  $f(x) = x^2 - 13x - 30$ , then convert the factors to zeros.

STEP 1. Find the factors of  $f(x) = x^2 - 13x - 30$ .

$$f(x) = x^2 - 13x - 30$$

$$f(x) = (x - \underline{\quad})(x + \underline{\quad})$$

The factors of 30 are

1 and 30

2 and 15 (*use these*)

$$f(x) = (x - 15)(x + 2)$$

STEP 2. Convert the factors to zeros.

If the factors are  $(x - 15)$  and  $(x + 2)$ ,

then the zeros are at  $x = 15$  and  $x = -2$ .

DIMS? Does It Make Sense? Yes. Check by inputting  $f(x) = x^2 - 13x - 30$  into a graphing calculator and verify that there are zeros when  $x = 15$  and  $x = -2$ .

Plot1	Plot2	Plot3	X	Y1	X	Y1
$\sqrt{Y_1} = X^2 - 13X - 30$			-3	18	14	-16
$\sqrt{Y_2} =$			-2	0	15	0
$\sqrt{Y_3} =$			-1	-16	16	18
$\sqrt{Y_4} =$			0	-30	17	38
$\sqrt{Y_5} =$			1	-42	18	60
$\sqrt{Y_6} =$			2	-52	19	84
			3	-60	20	110
			X = -2		X = 15	

PTS: 2

NAT: A.SSE.B.3

TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

363) ANS: 1

Step 1. Understand that the zeros of a function are the  $x$  values when  $f(x) = 0$ .

Step 2. Strategy: Solve for  $x$  when  $f(x) = 0$ .

Step 3. Execute the strategy

$$f(x) = x^2 - 5x - 6$$

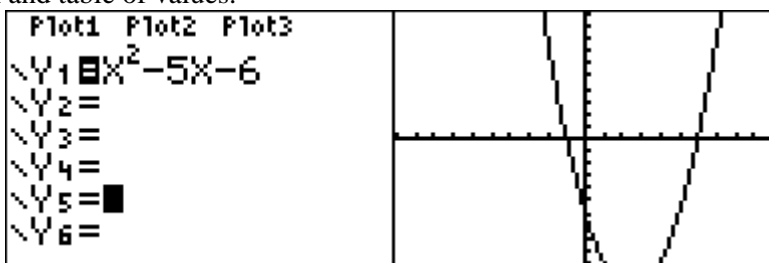
$$0 = x^2 - 5x - 6$$

$$0 = (x + 1)(x - 6)$$

$$x = -1$$

$$x = 6$$

Step 4. Does it make sense? Yes. Check by inputting the function in a graphing calculator and inspecting the graph and table of values.



X	Y <sub>1</sub>		X	Y <sub>1</sub>	
0	0		0	-6	
1	-6		1	-10	
2	-10		2	-12	
3	-12		3	-12	
4	-10		4	-10	
5	-6		5	-6	
			6	0	
X = -1			X = 6		

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

364) ANS: 1

Strategy: Convert the zeros of the function to factors.

Zeros occur at	Factors are:
(-3, 0)	(x+3)
(2, 0)	(x-2)
(4, 0)	(x-4)

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3

365) ANS: 4

The zeros of a function are the x values when  $y = 0$ .

Strategy: Eliminate wrong answers.

a) Solve for  $0 = x^2 + 7x - 8$  Eliminate this choice.

$$0 = (x + 8)(x - 1)$$

$$x = -8 \text{ and } x = 1$$

b) Solve for  $0 = x^2 - 7x - 8$  Eliminate this choice.

$$0 = (x - 8)(x + 1)$$

$$x = 8 \text{ and } x = -1$$

c) The graph shows x-axis intercepts at  $(-2, 0)$  and at  $(4, 0)$ , so the zeros are -2 and 4. Eliminate this choice.

d) The graph shows x-axis intercepts at  $(-4, 0)$  and at  $(2, 0)$ , so the zeros are -4 and 2. This is the correct choice.

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

366) ANS: 3

The zeros of a function are the x-values when  $y = 0$ .

Strategy: Convert the zeros to factors, then combine the factors to write the function.

Zeros	Factors
$x = -3$	$(x + 3)$
$x = 0$	$(x)$
$x = 4$	$(x - 4)$

$$f(x) = (x + 3)(x)(x - 4)$$

Check by inputting the function in a graphing calculator and inspecting the zeros

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

367) ANS: 3

Strategy #1. Find the factors and use the multiplication property of zero to find the zeros.

$$2x^3 + 12x - 10x^2 = 0$$

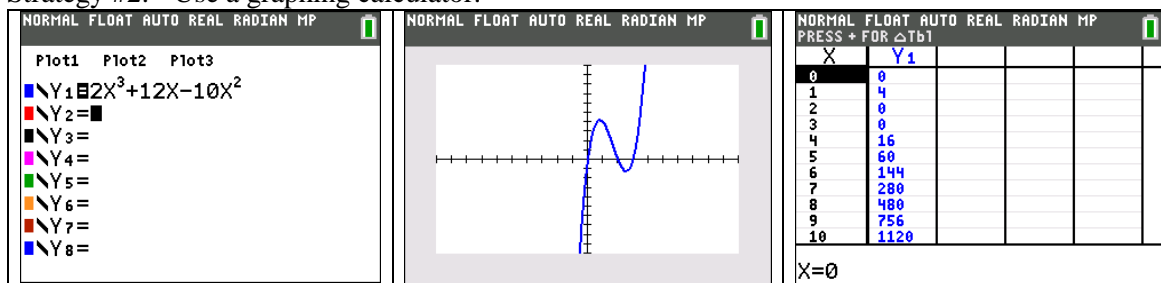
$$2x^3 - 10x^2 + 12x = 0$$

$$2x(x^2 - 5x + 6) = 0$$

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

If the factors are  $2x$ ,  $x-3$ , and  $x-2$ , the zeros are 0, 2, and 3.

Strategy #2: Use a graphing calculator.



PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

368) ANS:

Strategy 1: Use factoring.

$$x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$$

$$(x-3)(x-1) = 0$$

$$x = \{1, 3\}$$

Strategy 2: Use the quadratic formula

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(3)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 12}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm 2}{2}$$

$$x = 2 \pm 1$$

$$x = \{1, 3\}$$

Strategy 3. Complete the square

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^2 - 4x + 3 &= 0 \\
 x^2 - 4x &= -3 \\
 (x-2)^2 &= -3 + (-2)^2 \\
 (x-2)^2 &= -3 + 4 \\
 (x-2)^2 &= 1 \\
 \sqrt{(x-2)^2} &= \sqrt{1} \\
 x-2 &= \pm 1 \\
 x &= 2 \pm 1 \\
 x &= \{1, 3\}
 \end{aligned}$$

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

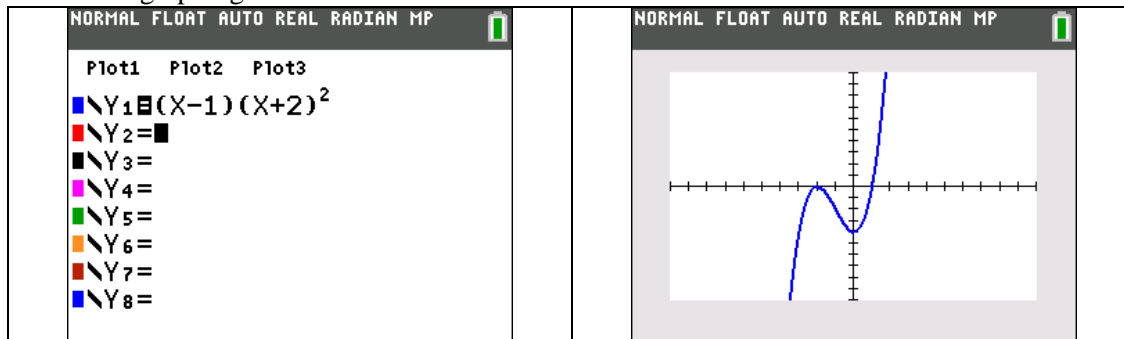
369) ANS: 1

Note that the zeros (x-intercepts) occur at -1 and +2. This means that the factors of the equation are (x+1) and (x-2). Eliminate  $P(x) = (x-1)(x+2)^2$  and  $P(x) = (x-1)(x+2)$  because they have the wrong factors.

The choice is between  $P(x) = (x+1)(x-2)^2$  and  $P(x) = (x+1)(x-2)$ .  $P(x) = (x+1)(x-2)^2$  is a third degree equation and  $P(x) = (x+1)(x-2)$  is a second degree (quadratic) equation.

The graph is definitely not a parabola, so it cannot be the graph of a quadratic function. Eliminate  $P(x) = (x+1)(x-2)$ . The correct answer is  $P(x) = (x+1)(x-2)^2$ .

Check in a graphing calculator.



PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

KEY: AI

370) ANS: 3

Strategy: Let  $p(x) = 0$  and solve the quadratic.

Notes	Left Expression	Sign	Right Expression
Given	$p(x)$	=	$x^2 - 2x - 24$
Let $p(x) = 0$	0	=	$x^2 - 2x - 24$
Factor	0	=	$(x-6)(x+4)$

By the zero property of multiplication: If  $0 = (x-6)$ , then  $x = 6$ .

By the zero property of multiplication: If  $0 = (x+4)$ , then  $x = -4$ .

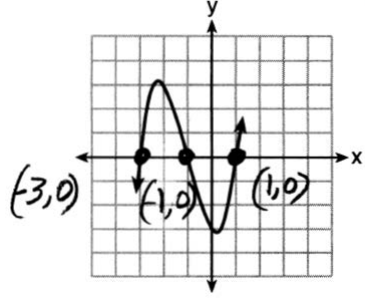
NOTE: The zero property of multiplication says that if the product of two numbers is zero, then one or both of those numbers must be zero.

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials

371) ANS: 2

Strategy: Find the zeros of the cubic function, then convert the zeros to factors.

STEP 1

	Zeros	Conversions to Factors	Factors
	$x = -3$	$x + 3 = 0$	$(x + 3)$
	$x = -1$	$x + 1 = 0$	$(x + 1)$
	$x = 1$	$x - 1 = 0$	$(x - 3)$

STEP 2: Combine all factors into one expression.

$$(x + 3)(x + 1)(x - 1)$$

The correct answer choice is  $g(x) = (x + 3)(x + 1)(x - 1)$

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.B.3 TOP: Zeros of Polynomials