

Polynomials

Question Paper, Set 07

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Maximum marks: 50

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

1. Answer all 20 questions. The marks for each question are shown in brackets.
2. Show your working for the 2, 3 and 5 mark questions.
3. The key sheet and worked solutions are at the end of this paper.

1. State whether $2\sqrt{x}y^3$ is a monomial. Give reason. [1 mark]
2. Find the degree of the polynomial $-2xy^5 - 5y^2 + 6x^5y^3 - 8$. [2 marks]
3. Write the coefficient of x in $p(x) = -2x + 3 + 3x^3$. [1 mark]
4. Write the general form of a cubic polynomial in y . [1 mark]
5. If $4x^{n-7} - 8x^{n-8} - 4x^{n-9}$ is a quadratic polynomial, where $n \in \mathbb{N}$, find the value of n . [2 marks]
6. Which of the following are quadratic equations? (i) $2\sqrt{5}x^2 - 7x - 7\sqrt{5} = 0$ (ii) $x^2 + \frac{5}{x^2} = 2$ (iii) $-8x^2 + 4x - 3 = 0$ [2 marks]
7. If $p(x) = 5x^2 - 8x + 11$, find $p(-1)$. [1 mark]
8. If $x = -2$ is a zero of the polynomial $2x^3 + ax^2 - 5x - 6$, find a . [2 marks]
9. Solve $3x^2 + 7x - 6 = 0$. [3 marks]
10. Find the discriminant of $3x^2 - x - 2 = 0$. [1 mark]
11. Find the quotient and remainder when $-2x^4 + 5x^3 + 6x^2 - 10x - 7$ is divided by $x^2 - 1$. [5 marks]
12. If the polynomials $ax^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + 7$ and $2x^3 + 4x + a$ leave the same remainder when divided by $x - 2$, find the value of a . [3 marks]
13. Show that $x - 2$ is a factor of $x^3 - 2x^2 + 7x - 14$. [2 marks]
14. Factorise $8\sqrt{3}x^2 + 37x - 5\sqrt{3}$. [2 marks]
15. Find the values of p and q so that $x - 1$ and $x - 2$ are factors of $x^4 + px^3 - 17x^2 + 22x + q$. [5 marks]
16. Factorise $x^3 - 3x^2 - 16x - 12$, given that $x + 1$ is a factor of it. [3 marks]
17. Factorise $3x^3 - 10x^2 - x + 12$ by trial and error. [5 marks]
18. Using synthetic division, find the quotient and remainder when $x^3 + 7x^2 - 4$ is divided by $x + 1$. [3 marks]

19. Is $x + 2$ a factor of $x^4 + 16$? Give reason. [1 mark]
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20. Find the quadratic polynomial $f(x)$ which leaves the remainders -8 , -8 and -2 when divided by $x + 3$, $x - 2$ and $x - 3$ respectively. [5 marks]
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Key sheet

Q	Answer
1	No, $\sqrt{x} = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, the power $\frac{1}{2}$ is not a whole number
2	8
3	-2
4	$ay^3 + by^2 + cy + d$, where $a \neq 0$
5	$n = 9$
6	(i) and (iii)
7	24
8	$a = 3$
9	$x = -3, \frac{2}{3}$
10	$\Delta = 25$
11	Quotient = $-2x^2 + 5x + 4$, Remainder = $-5x - 3$
12	$a = 1$
13	$f(2) = 0$, so $x - 2$ is a factor
14	$(\sqrt{3}x + 5)(8x - \sqrt{3})$
15	$p = 2, q = -8$
16	$(x + 1)(x + 2)(x - 6)$
17	$(x + 1)(3x - 4)(x - 3)$
18	Quotient = $x^2 + 6x - 6$, Remainder = 2
19	No, $f(-2) = 32$
20	$f(x) = x^2 + x - 14$

Solutions

1. State whether $2\sqrt{x}y^3$ is a monomial. Give reason. [1]

$\sqrt{x} = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, the power $\frac{1}{2}$ is not a whole number.

So $2\sqrt{x}y^3$ is not a monomial.

Ans: No, $\sqrt{x} = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, the power $\frac{1}{2}$ is not a whole number

2. Find the degree of the polynomial $-2xy^5 - 5y^2 + 6x^5y^3 - 8$. [2]

Degrees of the terms: 6, 2, 8, 0

Greatest among them = 8

So the degree of the polynomial is 8.

Ans: 8

3. Write the coefficient of x in $p(x) = -2x + 3 + 3x^3$. [1]

The term with x in $p(x)$ is $-2x$.

So the coefficient of x is -2 .

Ans: -2

4. Write the general form of a cubic polynomial in y . [1]

A cubic polynomial has degree 3.

General form: $ay^3 + by^2 + cy + d$, where $a \neq 0$

Ans: $ay^3 + by^2 + cy + d$, where $a \neq 0$

5. If $4x^{n-7} - 8x^{n-8} - 4x^{n-9}$ is a quadratic polynomial, where $n \in N$, find the value of n . [2]

The degree of a quadratic polynomial is 2.

So the highest power: $n - 7 = 2$

$\Rightarrow n = 9$

Ans: $n = 9$

6. Which of the following are quadratic equations? (i) $2\sqrt{5}x^2 - 7x - 7\sqrt{5} = 0$ (ii) $x^2 + \frac{5}{x^2} = 2$ (iii) $-8x^2 + 4x - 3 = 0$ [2]

(i) It has the form $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ with $a \neq 0$.

(ii) $\frac{5}{x^2} = 5x^{-2}$ has a negative power, so it is not a quadratic equation.

(iii) It has the form $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ with $a \neq 0$.

Ans: (i) and (iii)

7. If $p(x) = 5x^2 - 8x + 11$, find $p(-1)$. [1]

$p(-1) = 5(-1)^2 - 8(-1) + 11$

$= 5 + 8 + 11$

$= 24$

Ans: 24

8. If $x = -2$ is a zero of the polynomial $2x^3 + ax^2 - 5x - 6$, find a . [2]

$$\begin{aligned} p(-2) &= 2(-2)^3 + a(-2)^2 - 5(-2) - 6 \\ &= -16 + 4a + 10 - 6 \\ &= 4a - 12 \end{aligned}$$

Given $p(-2) = 0$:

$$4a - 12 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4a = 12$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 3$$

Ans: $a = 3$

9. Solve $3x^2 + 7x - 6 = 0$. [3]

$$3 \times (-6) = -18 = (-2) \times 9 \text{ and } (-2) + 9 = 7$$

$$3x^2 + 7x - 6 = 3x^2 - 2x + 9x - 6$$

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

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

$$\Rightarrow 3x - 2 = 0 \text{ (or) } x + 3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -3, \frac{2}{3}$$

Ans: $x = -3, \frac{2}{3}$

10. Find the discriminant of $3x^2 - x - 2 = 0$. [1]

$$a = 3, b = -1, c = -2$$

$$\Delta = b^2 - 4ac = (-1)^2 - 4(3)(-2)$$

$$= 1 + 24 = 25$$

Ans: $\Delta = 25$

11. Find the quotient and remainder when $-2x^4 + 5x^3 + 6x^2 - 10x - 7$ is divided by $x^2 - 1$. [5]

$$-2x^4 \div x^2 = -2x^2; (-2x^2) \times (x^2 - 1) = -2x^4 + 2x^2; \text{ subtract: } 5x^3 + 4x^2 - 10x - 7$$

$$5x^3 \div x^2 = 5x; 5x \times (x^2 - 1) = 5x^3 - 5x; \text{ subtract: } 4x^2 - 5x - 7$$

$$4x^2 \div x^2 = 4; 4 \times (x^2 - 1) = 4x^2 - 4; \text{ subtract: } -5x - 3$$

$$\text{Quotient} = -2x^2 + 5x + 4, \text{ Remainder} = -5x - 3$$

Ans: **Quotient** $= -2x^2 + 5x + 4$, **Remainder** $= -5x - 3$

12. If the polynomials $ax^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + 7$ and $2x^3 + 4x + a$ leave the same remainder when divided by $x - 2$, find the value of a . [3]

Let $f(x) = ax^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + 7$ and $g(x) = 2x^3 + 4x + a$.

Given $f(2) = g(2)$

$$f(2) = a(2)^3 + 4(2)^2 - 3(2) + 7$$

$$= 8a + 16 - 6 + 7$$

$$= 8a + 17$$

$$g(2) = 2(2)^3 + 4(2) + a$$

$$= 16 + 8 + a$$

$$= a + 24$$

$$8a + 17 = a + 24$$

$$\Rightarrow 7a = 7$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 1$$

Ans: $a = 1$

13. Show that $x - 2$ is a factor of $x^3 - 2x^2 + 7x - 14$. [2]

Let $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + 7x - 14$; $x - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2$

$$f(2) = (2)^3 - 2(2)^2 + 7(2) - 14$$

$$= 8 - 8 + 14 - 14$$

$$= 0$$

$\Rightarrow x - 2$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Ans: $f(2) = 0$, so $x - 2$ is a factor

14. Factorise $8\sqrt{3}x^2 + 37x - 5\sqrt{3}$. [2]

$8\sqrt{3} \times (-5\sqrt{3}) = -120$; split $37x$ as $-3x$ and $40x$

$$8\sqrt{3}x^2 + 37x - 5\sqrt{3} = 8\sqrt{3}x^2 - 3x + 40x - 5\sqrt{3}$$

$$= \sqrt{3}x(8x - \sqrt{3}) + 5(8x - \sqrt{3})$$

$$= (\sqrt{3}x + 5)(8x - \sqrt{3})$$

Ans: $(\sqrt{3}x + 5)(8x - \sqrt{3})$

15. Find the values of p and q so that $x - 1$ and $x - 2$ are factors of $x^4 + px^3 - 17x^2 + 22x + q$. [5]

Let $f(x) = x^4 + px^3 - 17x^2 + 22x + q$; $x - 1$ and $x - 2$ are factors.

$$f(1) = 0:$$

$$f(1) = (1)^4 + p(1)^3 - 17(1)^2 + 22(1) + q$$

$$= 1 + p - 17 + 22 + q$$

$$= p + q + 6$$

$$\Rightarrow p + q = -6 \dots (1)$$

$$f(2) = 0:$$

$$f(2) = (2)^4 + p(2)^3 - 17(2)^2 + 22(2) + q$$

$$= 16 + 8p - 68 + 44 + q$$

$$= 8p + q - 8$$

$$\Rightarrow 8p + q = 8 \dots (2)$$

$$(1) - (2): -7p = -14$$

$$\Rightarrow p = 2$$

$$\text{Put } p = 2 \text{ in (1): } 2 + q = -6 \Rightarrow q = -8$$

$$\text{Ans: } p = 2, q = -8$$

16. Factorise $x^3 - 3x^2 - 16x - 12$, given that $x + 1$ is a factor of it. [3]

Divide $x^3 - 3x^2 - 16x - 12$ by $x + 1$:

$$x^3 \div x = x^2; x^2 \times (x + 1) = x^3 + x^2; \text{ subtract: } -4x^2 - 16x - 12$$

$$-4x^2 \div x = -4x; (-4x) \times (x + 1) = -4x^2 - 4x; \text{ subtract: } -12x - 12$$

$$-12x \div x = -12; (-12) \times (x + 1) = -12x - 12; \text{ subtract: } 0$$

$$\therefore x^3 - 3x^2 - 16x - 12 = (x + 1)(x^2 - 4x - 12)$$

$$x^2 - 4x - 12 = x^2 + 2x - 6x - 12$$

$$= x(x + 2) - 6(x + 2)$$

$$= (x + 2)(x - 6)$$

$$\therefore x^3 - 3x^2 - 16x - 12 = (x + 1)(x + 2)(x - 6)$$

$$\text{Ans: } (x + 1)(x + 2)(x - 6)$$

17. Factorise $3x^3 - 10x^2 - x + 12$ by trial and error. [5]

Let $f(x) = 3x^3 - 10x^2 - x + 12$. By trial and error:

$$f(1) = 3 - 10 - 1 + 12 \neq 0$$

$$f(-1) = -3 - 10 + 1 + 12 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x + 1 \text{ is a factor of } f(x)$$

$$3x^3 \div x = 3x^2; 3x^2 \times (x + 1) = 3x^3 + 3x^2; \text{ subtract: } -13x^2 - x + 12$$

$$-13x^2 \div x = -13x; (-13x) \times (x + 1) = -13x^2 - 13x; \text{ subtract: } 12x + 12$$

$$12x \div x = 12; 12 \times (x + 1) = 12x + 12; \text{ subtract: } 0$$

$$\therefore f(x) = (x + 1)(3x^2 - 13x + 12)$$

$$3x^2 - 13x + 12 = 3x^2 - 4x - 9x + 12$$

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

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

$$\therefore f(x) = (x + 1)(3x - 4)(x - 3)$$

$$\text{Ans: } (x + 1)(3x - 4)(x - 3)$$

18. Using synthetic division, find the quotient and remainder when $x^3 + 7x^2 - 4$ is divided by $x + 1$. [3]

$$x + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -1$$

The missing power of x gets the coefficient 0.

Write the coefficients and -1 on the left: $-1 \mid 1 \quad 7 \quad 0 \quad -4$

Bring down the first number; multiply by -1 and add, each time.

Second row: $0 \quad -1 \quad -6 \quad 6$

Bottom row: $1 \quad 6 \quad -6 \mid 2$

Quotient = $x^2 + 6x - 6$, Remainder = 2

Ans: Quotient = $x^2 + 6x - 6$, **Remainder** = 2

19. Is $x + 2$ a factor of $x^4 + 16$? Give reason. [1]

$$x^4 + 16 = x^4 + 2^4$$

$$f(-2) = (-2)^4 + 16 = 32$$

So $x + 2$ is not a factor.

Ans: No, $f(-2) = 32$

20. Find the quadratic polynomial $f(x)$ which leaves the remainders -8 , -8 and -2 when divided by $x + 3$, $x - 2$ and $x - 3$ respectively. [5]

Let $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$. The remainder on dividing by $x - k$ is $f(k)$.

$$f(-3) = -8 \Rightarrow 9a - 3b + c = -8 \dots (1)$$

$$f(2) = -8 \Rightarrow 4a + 2b + c = -8 \dots (2)$$

$$f(3) = -2 \Rightarrow 9a + 3b + c = -2 \dots (3)$$

$$(2) - (1), \text{ divide by } 5: -a + b = 0 \dots (4)$$

$$(3) - (2): 5a + b = 6 \dots (5)$$

$$(5) - (4): 6a = 6 \Rightarrow a = 1$$

From (4): $b = 1$; from (1): $c = -14$

$$\therefore f(x) = x^2 + x - 14$$

Ans: $f(x) = x^2 + x - 14$
