

TERM = A NUMBER, A VARIABLE(S),  
OR A NUMBER TIMES A VARIABLE(S)

EX: 7

$3x$

$x^2$

$4x^2y^5$

COEFFICIENT: NUMBER IN FRONT  
OF TERM

MONOMIAL = 1 TERM

BINOMIAL = 2 TERMS

TRINOMIAL = 3 TERMS

POLYNOMIAL = 1 OR MORE TERMS

DEGREE = LARGEST POWER OF X

STANDARD FORM: POLYNOMIAL IS  
WRITTEN FROM LARGEST  
POWER TO SMALLEST

POLYNOMIALS CANNOT HAVE:

1. NEGATIVE EXPONENTS
2. FRACTIONAL EXPONENTS
3.  $x$ 'S IN DENOMINATOR

GRAPHWISE, POLYNOMIALS CANNOT  
HAVE:

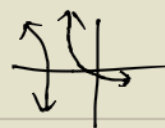
1. SHARP CORNERS



2. HOLES



3. GAPS

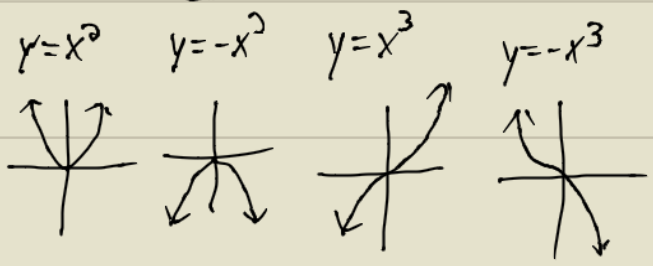


$$f(x) = 5x^7 - 3x^4 - 5x + 2$$

Annotations: An arrow points to the 7 in  $x^7$  with the label "DEGREE". A bracket underlines  $5x^7$  with the label "LEADING TERM". An arrow points to the 5 in  $5x^7$  with the label "COEFF.".

LEADING COEFFICIENT TEST

	EVEN DEGREE	ODD DEGREE
POSITIVE COEFF.	UP TO LEFT UP TO RIGHT	DOWN TO LEFT UP TO RIGHT
NEGATIVE COEFF.	DOWN TO LEFT DOWN TO RIGHT	UP TO LEFT DOWN TO RIGHT



#9 UP TO LEFT  
DOWN TO RIGHT

