

Chapter #5 Introduction to Polynomials

October 7, 2015 12:16 PM

5.1 Language of Mathematics

Algebra a branch of math that uses symbols to represent unknown numbers/quantities

Algebraic EQUATIONS

- phrases with an equal sign

Algebraic EXPRESSIONS

- phrases that do not have an equal sign
- can have different # of terms

terms - a number, variable (letter) or a product of numbers and variables
- are separated by addition or subtraction

Ex #1 How many terms?

$$\frac{y+7}{2 \text{ terms}}$$

$$\frac{x^2 - 2x + 3}{3 \text{ terms}}$$

$$\frac{-1}{1 \text{ term}}$$

$$\frac{2t - 9 + t^3 - t^2}{4 \text{ terms}}$$

$$\frac{2x^2y^5z^7}{1 \text{ term}}$$

monomial a 1 term expression
binomial a 2 term expression
trinomial a 3 term expression
polynomial - an expression with 2 or more terms

- connected by addition or subtraction

Ex#2 Classify each expression

$\frac{x-2y}{\text{binomial}}$
polynomial

$\frac{-17x^2y^2z^2}{\text{monomial}}$

$\frac{4x}{\text{monomial}}$

$\frac{2x^2-5+16xy}{\text{trinomial}}$
polynomial

$\frac{x+y-2+5z}{\text{polynomial}}$

Degree of a Term sum of the exponents

* the degree of a monomial is the sum of the exponents of its variables (letters)

Ex#3

$2x^1$
degree 1

add'
 $-3x^2y^3z^1$
degree 6

-7 no variables
 \therefore degree = 0

* the degree of a polynomial is the highest exponent of the variable in any 1 term

Ex.#4

$\frac{4x^2}{\downarrow 2} - \frac{3x^1}{\downarrow 1} + \frac{5}{\downarrow 0}$
degree: 2

$\frac{3y^1}{\downarrow 1} - \frac{2y^3}{\downarrow 3} + \frac{2y^2}{\downarrow 2}$
degree 3

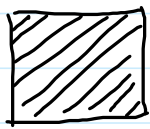
add''
 $\frac{4x^6}{\downarrow 6} + \frac{2x^3y^4}{\downarrow 7}$
degree 7

$\frac{25x^3y^1}{\downarrow 4} + \frac{36x^2y^1}{\downarrow 3}$
degree: 4

degree 7

degree: 4

Algebra Tiles



x^2



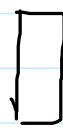
x



1



$-x^2$



$-x$

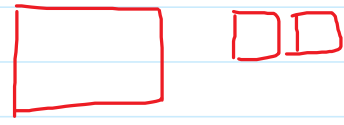


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Ex #5 Model each polynomial using algebra tiles

(a) $x^2 - 2x + 3$

(b) $-x^2 - 2$



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