

Classifying Polynomials

Polynomials can be classified (named) by the **number of terms**.

Polynomial	Number of terms	Name
$3x^2$	1 term	<i>monomial</i>
$5x - 8$	2 terms	<i>binomial</i>
$4x^2 - 9x - 10$	3 terms	<i>trinomial</i>

Polynomials can also be classified by the **degree** (largest exponent of the variable).

Polynomial	Degree	Name
-24	0 degree (no power of x)	<i>constant</i>
$2x - 8$	1 st degree (x to the 1 st power)	<i>linear</i>
$3x^2 - 7$	2 nd degree (x^2)	<i>quadratic</i>
$12x^3 + 10$	3 rd degree (x^3)	<i>cubic</i>

DIRECTIONS: Complete the table below.

#	Polynomial	Standard Form	Degree	Number of Terms	Name
1.	$3 - 7x - 9x^2$	$-9x^2 - 7x + 3$	2 nd	3	<i>quadratic trinomial</i>
2.	$5 - 6x^3$	$-6x^3 - 5$	3 rd	2	<i>cubic binomial</i>
3.	-4	-4	0	1	<i>constant monomial</i>
4.	$-10 + 5x$	$5x - 10$	1 st	2	<i>linear binomial</i>
5.	$8x - 2 - 6x^3$	$-6x^3 + 8x - 2$	3 rd	3	<i>cubic trinomial</i>

DIRECTIONS: Add the polynomials. Write the answer in standard form.

6. $(5x^2 + 8x - 10) + (-12 - x + 3x^2)$
 $8x^2 + 7x - 22$

7. $(8x^3 - x^3 + 4 - 9x^2) + (7x^3 + 9x^2 - 10 - 8x)$
 $6x^3 - 6$

Classifying Polynomials

Classifying by degree:

degree of 0 – constant

degree of 1 – linear

degree of 2 – quadratic

degree of 3 – cubic

degree of 4 – quartic

degree of 5 – quintic

Classifying by terms:

1 term – monomial

2 terms – binomial

3 terms – trinomial

4 or more terms – polynomial

Classify the polynomial by degree and the number of terms.

1. $4x - 5$

linear binomial

2. $5x^4 - 3x^2 + 2x - 3$

quartic polynomial

3. $7x - 5x^2 - x^5$

quintic trinomial

4. 8

constant monomial

5. $6x^3$

cubic monomial

6. $-3 + 4x^5 - 7x + x^3 + 8x^2$

quintic polynomial

7. $8x^2yz - 7xyz + 3x^2y^3$

cubic trinomial

8. $6a^2bc + 4abc$

quadratic binomial