

**College Algebra**  
**Sections 5.1-5.5, 6.1, 6.3, 6.5 Practice Test**

**I. Solve the problem.**

1. One method to determine the time since an animal died is to estimate the percentage of carbon-14 remaining in its bones. The percent  $P$  in decimal form of carbon-14 remaining  $x$  years is given by  $P(x) = e^{-0.000121x}$ . Approximate (to the nearest whole year) the age of a fossil if there is 41% of carbon-14 remaining. (hint  $P(x)=0.41$ )
2. Suppose the number of Quickie hamburgers (in millions) served yearly from 1987 to 2000 can be modeled by  $f(x) = 39.8e^{0.12x}$ . In this formula  $x=0$  corresponds to 1987 and  $x=13$  corresponds to 2000.
  - a) Approximate how many million (rounded to the nearest million) Quickie hamburgers will be sold in 2000.
  - b) In what year (to the nearest year) did Quickie serve 117.2 million hamburgers?
3. Find the amount of money in an account after 10 years if \$4200 is deposited at 6% annual interest compounded semiannually.
4. What will be the amount in an account with initial principal of \$9000 if interest is compounded continuously at an annual rate of 3.25% for 7 years?
5. \$9000 is invested at 8% compounded quarterly. In how many years will the account have grown to \$14,500? Round your answer to the nearest tenth of a year.
6. Noriko invested \$10,000 at 7% compounded semiannually. In how many years will Noriko's investment have quadrupled? Round your answer to the nearest tenth of a year.
7. Under ideal conditions, a population of rabbits has an exponential growth rate of 11.5% per day. Consider an initial population of 900 rabbits.
  - a) Find the exponential growth function. (Do not use  $e$  in the function)
  - b) How many rabbits will you have in 5.5 days? (to the nearest rabbit)
  - c) How many days will it take to have 7621 rabbits?
8. A colony of bacteria decreases in size every 6 hours by half of its previous amount when an antibiotic is given. The original amount was estimated at 15000.
  - a) Find the exponential decay function. (Do not use  $e$  in the function)
  - b) How many bacteria are left after 3 hours?
  - c) How many hours will it take till the colony is down to 1052 bacteria? (to the nearest hour)

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9. Using the data in the table: round all coefficients and r values to three decimal places.

Years after 1995	Number of Widgets Produced (in millions)
1	1.9
2	3.0
3	4.6
4	6.3
5	8.6

- Find an exponential function to model the data and its r value.
- Find a natural logarithmic function to model the data and its r value.
- Which model is the better fit and why?
- Use the best fit model, how many widgets (in millions) are produced in 2002?

**II. Solve the equation, algebraically. Round to three decimal places.**

- $e^{0.386x} = 21$
- $e^{\ln x} = 11$
- $\log_5(x + 9) + \log_5(x - 9) = 1$
- $4^{(x-3)} = 15$
- $\ln x - \ln(x - 4) = \ln 2$

**III. Use the change of base formula to approximate to four decimal places.**

- $\log_{5.2} 178$
- $\log_3 0.435$

**IV. Expand the expression without using exponents.**

- $\log_a(7x^3yz^4)$

**V. Write the expression as one logarithm using exponents.**

- $(5 \log_b x + 7 \log_b y) - 3 \log_b z$

**VI. Write the logarithmic equation in exponential form.**

- $\log_5 125 = 3$
- $\ln x = -9$

**VII. Write in logarithmic form.**

- $p = 14^t$
- $16^{5/4} = 32$

**VIII. Use the equation of the polynomial function to**

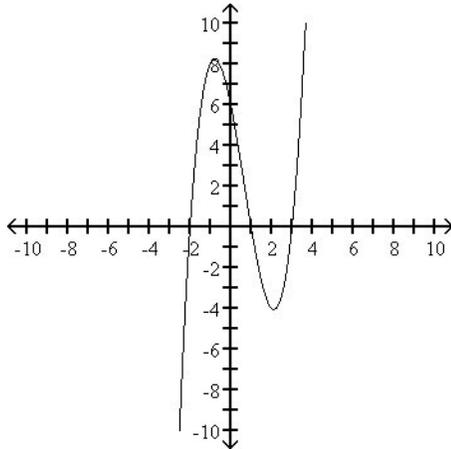
- State the degree
- State the leading coefficient
- Describe the end behavior of the graph of the function

- $f(x) = -20x^3 + 6x - 7$
- $f(x) = -8(x + 2)(x^5 - 2)$
- $f(x) = 12x^4 - 3x^3 + 9$

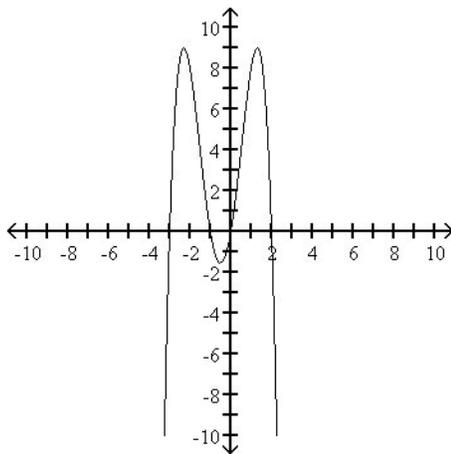
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- IX. Use the given graph of the polynomial function to
- Estimate the x-intercept(s)
  - State whether the leading coefficient is positive or negative
  - Determine whether the polynomial function is cubic or quartic

26.



27.



- X. Use the graph of the function to find the local maximum and local minimum, round to the nearest hundredth.

28.  $y = x^3 - x^2 - 3x + 2$

29.  $y = 3x^3 - 4x^2 - 6x + 2$

- XI. Solve the polynomial equation.

30.  $(2x - 7)(x + 5)(x - 5) = 0$

31.  $x^3 - 5x^2 + 6x = 0$

32.  $4x^3 - 24x^2 - x + 6 = 0$

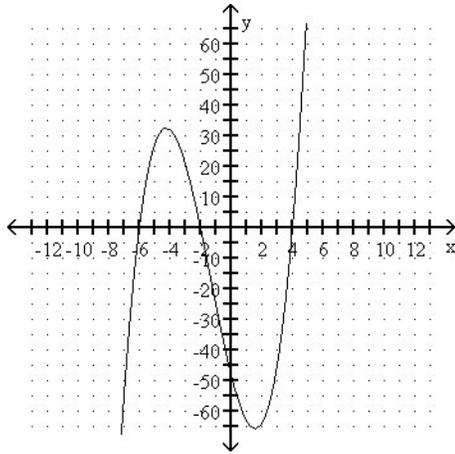
33.  $x^4 - 6x^2 + 8 = 0$

34.  $\frac{1}{7}x^3 + 49 = 0$

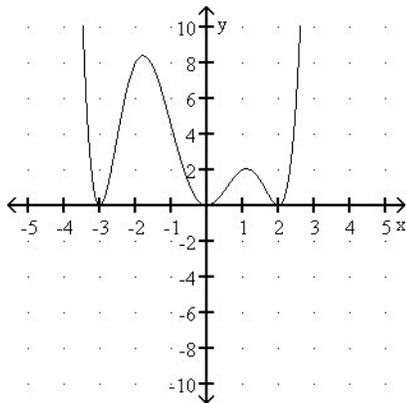
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- XII. Use the graph of the polynomial function  $f(x)$**   
 a) to solve  $f(x) = 0$   
 b) find the factorization of  $f(x)$

35.



36.



**XIII. Solve the problem.**

37. The future value of \$7000 invested for 5 years at rate  $r$ , compounded annually, is given by  $S = 7000(1 + r)^5$ . Find the rate  $r$ , as a percent, that gives a future value of \$9817.86. Round to the nearest whole percent.
38. A rectangular piece of cardboard measuring 17 inches by 43 inches is to be made into a box with an open top by cutting equal size squares from each corner and folding up the sides. Let  $x$  represent the length of a side of each such square. For what value of  $x$  will the volume be a maximum? If necessary, round to 2 decimal places.
39. If the price for a product is given by  $p = 900 - x^2$ , where  $x$  is the number of units sold, then the revenue is given by  $R = px = 900x - x^3$ . How many units must be sold to give zero revenue?
40. Suppose a cost-benefit model is given by  $y = \frac{3.4x}{100-x}$ , where  $y$  is the cost in thousands of dollars for removing  $x$  percent of a given pollutant. Find the cost of removing 75% to the nearest dollar.

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41.  $f(x) = \frac{x^2+x-9}{x^2-9}$

42.  $f(x) = \frac{x^2-4}{x-2}$

43.  $f(x) = \frac{x-3}{x+4}$

**XV. Solve the equation.**

44.  $1 + \frac{1}{x} = \frac{30}{x^2}$

45.  $\frac{x+2}{x+5} = -3$

46.  $\frac{5-x}{x} + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{7}{x}$

47.  $\frac{18}{x-2} = 1 + \frac{20}{x+2}$

**Answers:**

1. The fossil is 7369 years old.
2. a) In 2000, Quickie sold 189 million hamburgers.  
b) In 1996, Quickie sold 117.2 million hamburgers.
3. \$7585.67
4. \$11,299.12
5. It will take 6.0 years for \$9000 to grow to \$14,500.
6. It will take 20.1 years to quadruple the investment.
7. a)  $P(t) = 900(1.115^t)$   
b) In 5.5 days you will have 1638 rabbits.  
c) It will take 19.6 days to have 7621 rabbits
8. a)  $P(t) = 15000(0.5^{t/6})$   
b) In 3 hours you will have 10,607 bacteria.  
c) It will take 23 hours to reach 1052 bacteria.
9. a)  $f(x) = 1.382(1.457^x), r = 0.996$   
b)  $g(x) = 1.119 + 3.928 \ln x, r = 0.938$   
c) The exponential since its r value is closest to 1.  
d)  $f(7) = 1.382(1.457^7) = 19.3$
10.  $x \approx 7.887$
11.  $x \approx 4.953$
12.  $x = 11$
13.  $x = 8$
14.  $x = \sqrt{86} \approx 9.274$
15.  $\frac{\log 178}{\log 5.2} \approx 3.1430$
16.  $\frac{\log 0.435}{\log 3} \approx -0.7577$
17.  $\log_a 7 + 3 \log_a x + \log_a y + 4 \log_a z$
18.  $\log_b \left( \frac{x^5 y^7}{z^3} \right)$ .
19.  $5^3 = 125$
20.  $x = e^{-9}$
21.  $\log_{14} p = t$
22.  $\log_{16} 32 = \frac{5}{4}$

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23. a) 3    b)  $-20$     c) Left end rises and right end falls
24. a) 4    b) 12    c) Both ends rise
25. a) 6    b)  $-8$     c) Both ends fall
26. a)  $(-2,0), (1,0), (3,0)$     b) positive    c) cubic
27. a)  $(-3,0), (-1,0), (0,0), (2,0)$     b) negative    c) quartic
28. *Local Max* =  $(-0.72, 3.27)$ , *Local Min* =  $(1.39, -1.42)$
29. *Local Max* =  $(-0.49, 3.63)$ , *Local Min* =  $(1.37, -6.01)$
30.  $x = \frac{7}{2}, -5, 5$
31.  $x = 0, 2, 3$
32.  $x = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{-1}{2}, 6$
33.  $x = \pm 2, \pm\sqrt{2}$
34.  $x = -7$
35. a)  $x = -6, -2, 4$     b)  $(x + 6)(x + 2)(x - 4)$
36. a)  $x = -3, 0, 2$     b)  $(x + 3)^2(x)^2(x - 2)^2$
37. 7%
38. 3.75 in
39.  $x = 0, 30$
40. \$10,200
41. a)  $y = 1$     b)  $x = \pm 3$     c) use calculator to check graph
42. a) none    b) none    c) use calculator to check graph, hole at  $x = 2$
43. a)  $y = 1$     b)  $x = -4$     c) use calculator to check graph
44.  $x = -6, 5$
45.  $x = \frac{-17}{4}$
46.  $x = -8$
47.  $x = 8, -10$