

**Polynomials 5 - Solving Polynomial Inequalities**

**Standards:** A-REI.11, F-IF.1, F-IF.4, F-IF.5,  
F-IF.7c, A-APR.3, A-CED.1

**HW#10:**  
#1-4

**GLO:** #3 Complex Thinker

**Math Practice:** Reason abstractly and quantitatively

**Learning Target:**

How can we solve  $f(x) > g(x)$  involving polynomials?

**Warm Up**

(split screen)

The graphs of three quadratics functions are shown below. The scale used on each axis is 1-unit.

A.  $f(x) = 0$

$x = -1 \text{ \& } 1$

B.  $g(x) = 0$

$x = -1 \text{ \& } -3$

C.  $h(x) = 0$

$x = -2$

D.  $h(x) = 1$

$x = -1 \text{ \& } -3$

E.  $f(x) = -2$

no solution

F.  $g(x) = 3$

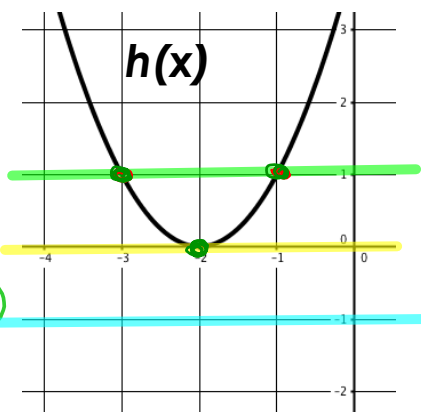
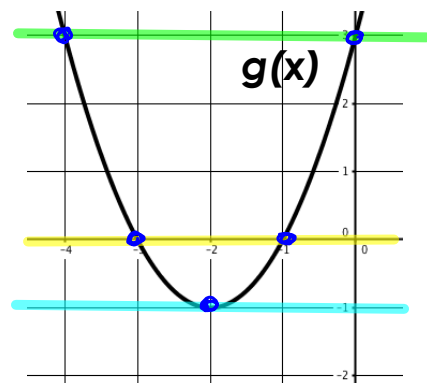
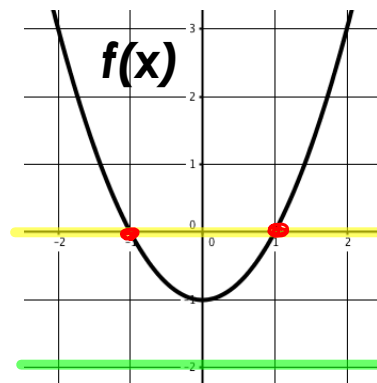
$x = 0 \text{ \& } -4$

G.  $g(x) = -1$

$x = -2$

H.  $h(x) = -1$

no solution  
(no intersection of  $h(x)$  \&  $-1$ )



## Solutions of Polynomial Inequalities

1. The graph of  $f(x) = (x+1)(x-2)(x-3)$  is shown

**A)** Recall that an equation is essentially asking you a question. Write the question that the following equation is asking:

$$f(x) = 0$$

"When  $y=0$ , what is the  $x$ -value?"

**B)** Use the graph to answer the question you stated above

$$x = -1, 2, 3$$

**C)** Write the question that the following inequality is asking:

$$f(x) < 0$$

"When  $y < 0$ , what is the  $x$ -value(s)?"

**D)** Use a colored pen or highlighter to trace over and darken ALL portions of the graph of  $f(x)$  that show where  $f(x) < 0$



**E)** Shade the intervals along the  $x$ -axis that correspond to the portions of the graph that you just traced/darkened.

**F)** The intervals along the  $x$ -axis that you just shaded represent the solution to the inequality (i.e., ALL values of  $x$  that satisfy the inequality  $f(x) < 0$ ). Represent the solution in a complete sentence, set notation, and interval notation.

• All real numbers less than  $-1$  or between  $2$  &  $3$ .

•  $\{x: x < -1 \text{ OR } 2 < x < 3\}$

•  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (2, 3)$

2. Determine the solution to the inequality

$$(x - 2)(x + 3)(x - 3) \geq 0$$

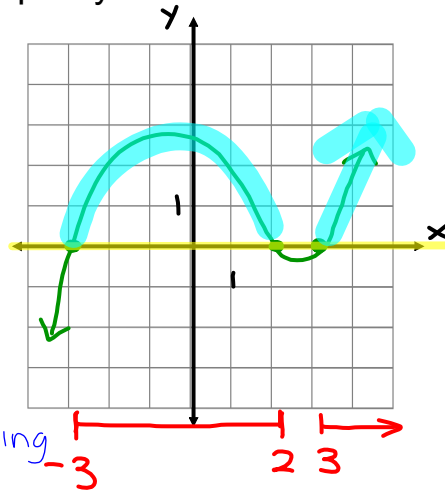
zeros: 2, -3, 3

$$\begin{aligned} x - 2 &= 0 \\ +2 &+2 \\ x &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

eb: ↗ ↘

Determine the solution

**graphically** and represent the solution in the three standard ways (complete sentence, set notation, interval notation)



- All real numbers between and including -3 and 2 or greater than or equal to 3.

$$\{x : -3 \leq x \leq 2 \text{ or } x \geq 3\}$$

$$[-3, 2] \cup [3, \infty)$$

3. Graph  $p(x) = -(x + 2)(x - 1)(x - 4)$

Then use the graph of to determine the solution to the following equations or inequalities. Express the solution to all inequalities in a notation of your choice.

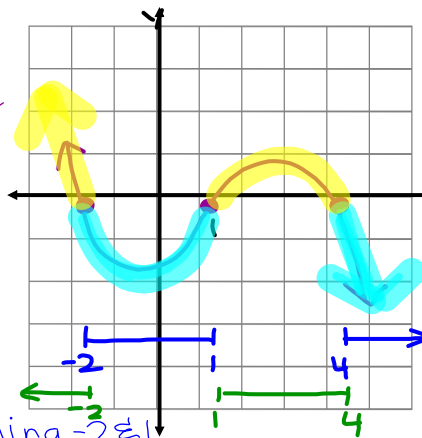
A)  $-(x + 2)(x - 1)(x - 4) = 0$

zeros: -2, 1, 4

$$\begin{aligned} x + 2 &= 0 & x - 1 &= 0 & x - 4 &= 0 \\ x &= -2 & x &= 1 & x &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EB: } &\uparrow \downarrow \\ \text{D} &= 3 \\ \text{LC} &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = -2, 1, 4$$



B)  $-(x + 2)(x - 1)(x - 4) \leq 0$

- All real numbers between and including -2 and 1 or greater than or equal to 4.

$$\{x : -2 \leq x \leq 1 \text{ or } x \geq 4\}$$

$$[-2, 1] \cup [4, \infty)$$

C)  $-(x + 2)(x - 1)(x - 4) > 0$

- All real numbers less than -2 or between 1 and 4.

$$\{x : x < -2 \text{ or } 1 < x < 4\}$$

$$(-\infty, -2) \cup (1, 4)$$

## Comparing the values of two polynomial functions

4. The coordinate plane below shows the graph of a cubic function,  $C(x)$ , and the graph of a quadratic function,  $Q(x)$ .

**A.** Mark one point that satisfies the equation  $C(x) = Q(x)$ . Label this point "E" and justify why this point satisfies the equation  $C(x) = Q(x)$ .

*$C(x) \neq Q(x)$  intersect at that point*

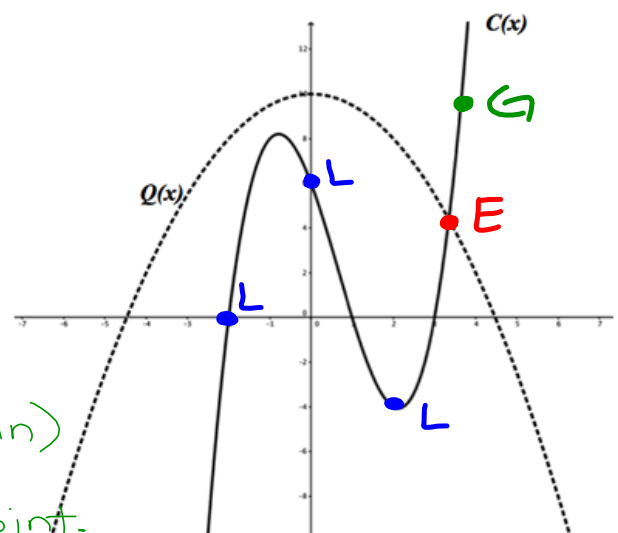
**B.** Mark one point that satisfies the inequality  $C(x) > Q(x)$ . Label this point "G" and justify why this point satisfies the equation  $C(x) > Q(x)$ .

*The x-value is higher (greater than) of  $C(x)$*

*the x-value of  $Q(x)$  at that point.*

**C.** Mark one point that satisfies the inequality  $C(x) < Q(x)$ . Label this point "L" and justify why this point satisfies the equation  $C(x) < Q(x)$ .

*At that point, the x-value of  $C(x)$  is less than the x-value of  $Q(x)$ .*

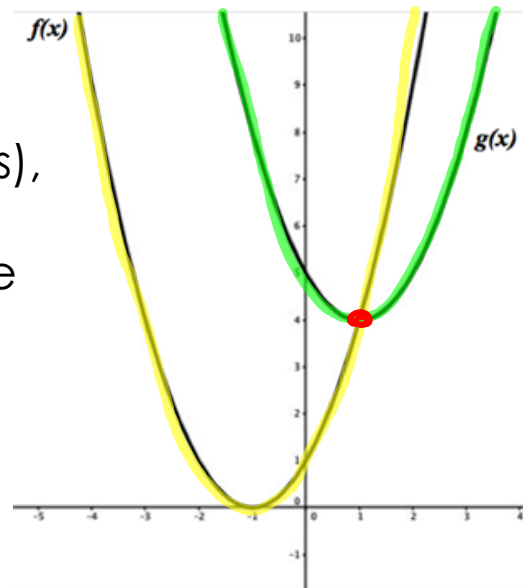


5. The coordinate plane shows the graphs of the following functions:

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1$$

$$g(x) = x^2 - 2x + 5$$

To find the intersection point(s), we may not want to rely on looking at the graph since the point(s) may be hard to determine exactly.



Remember, we can solve  $f(x) = g(x)$  by also using algebraic methods:

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 2x + 1 = x^2 - 2x + 5 \\ -x^2 \quad -x^2 \\ +2x \quad +2x \\ -5 \quad -5 \\ \hline 4x - 4 = 0 \\ +4 \quad +4 \\ \hline 4x = 4 \quad x = 1 \\ \frac{4}{4} \quad \frac{4}{4} \end{array}$$

Look at the graph.  
Do the parabolas seem to intersect at  $x = \underline{1}$ ?

Check: by substituting  $x = \underline{1}$  into each function.

$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= (1)^2 + 2(1) + 1 \\ &= 1 + 2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{f(1) = 4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(1) &= (1)^2 - 2(1) + 5 \\ &= 1 - 2 + 5 \\ &= -1 + 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{g(1) = 4}$$

6. The graph shows a cubic function  $f$  and a linear function  $g$ .

A) Select all values that appear to be solutions to the equation  $f(x) = g(x)$

$$x = -3$$

$$x = -2$$

$$x = -1.5$$

$$x = 0.75$$

$$x = 2$$

$$x = 3$$

$$x = 5$$

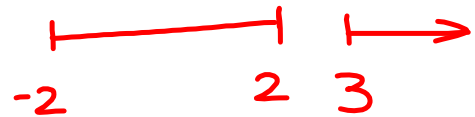
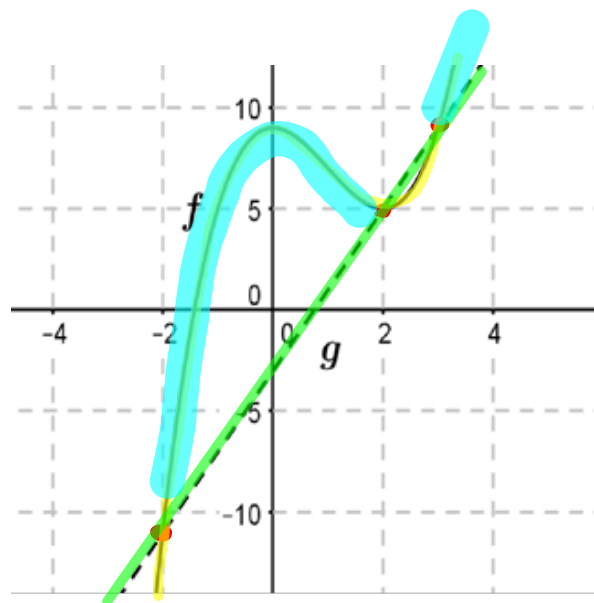
B) Shade the parts of the graph to show ALL solutions to the inequality  $f(x) > g(x)$

C) Write your answer from part B in any of the three standard forms

• All real numbers between  $-2 < x < 2$  or greater than 3.

•  $\{x : -2 < x < 2 \text{ or } x > 3\}$

•  $(-2, 2) \cup (3, \infty)$



7. The graphs of the following functions are shown below:

$$f(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$$

$$g(x) = 5x + 1$$

A. Solve for all values of  $x$  such that

$$f(x) \leq g(x)$$

$$x^2 + 4x - 1 \leq 5x + 1$$

Write your solution in one of the three standard forms.

• All real numbers between  $\&$  including  $-1$   $\&$   $2$ .

$$\bullet \{x: -1 \leq x \leq 2\}$$

$$\bullet [-1, 2]$$

