

## 5.1 Multiply Polynomials

### A Polynomials

A *polynomial* is an algebraic expression formed by *adding or subtracting terms*.

Each *term* of the polynomial contains:

- a *numeric coefficient* multiplied by
- *one or more variables* raised to *non-negative integral* exponent

Example 1. Find if each of the following expression is or is not a polynomial.

$$\begin{array}{llllll} a) & -2 & b) & x & c) & -x^2 & d) & 3xy & e) & -2x^{-1} \\ f) & 1 + \frac{1}{3}x & g) & -2x^2 + 3x - 5 & h) & \frac{2}{x+1} & i) & x + xy - 2x^2y^5 & j) & -2x + 2^x \end{array}$$

### B Monomials

*Monomials* are polynomials with *one single term*.

Example 2. Find if each of the following expression is or is not a monomial.

$$\begin{array}{llllll} a) & x & b) & xy & c) & -2x & d) & x + y & e) & -3x^2 \\ f) & -2xy^2 & g) & -2xyz & h) & 1 - x + 4y - z & i) & 10 & j) & 2^x \end{array}$$

### C Multiply monomials

- ✓ The product of two or more monomials is also a monomial
- ✓ The *numeric coefficient* is equal to the *product* of all numeric coefficients
- ✓ For each variable, apply the exponent rule  $x^n x^m = x^{n+m}$

Example 3. Multiply the following monomials.

$$\begin{array}{lll} a) & (-2)(+3x) & b) & (-2x)(-y) & c) & (-3x)(-5x) \\ d) & (-4x)\left(\frac{1}{2}xy\right) & e) & (-xy^2)(3x^3) & f) & \left(-\frac{2x}{3}\right)\left(\frac{-3xy}{4}\right) \end{array}$$

### D Binomials

- ✓ *Binomials* are polynomials with *two terms*
- ✓ By adding or subtracting two monomials, a binomial is formed
- ✓ Binomials may be *simplified* if they contain *like terms*

Example 4. Find if each of the following expression is or is not a monomial.

$$\begin{array}{llllll} a) & x & b) & xy & c) & -2x & d) & x + y & e) & -3x^2 \\ f) & -2xy^2 & g) & -2xyz & h) & 1 - x + 4y - z & i) & 10 & j) & 2^x \end{array}$$

## E Distributive Property

The distributive property states that for any numbers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ :

$$a(b + c) = ab + ac$$

## F Multiplying a monomial by a binomial

- ✓ In order to multiply a monomial by a binomial, use the distributive property.

Example 5. Multiply the following monomials and binomials.

a)  $2(x - y)$

b)  $(-x)(1 - 2y)$

c)  $(-3x)(2x - 3y)$

d)  $(2x^2y)(xy^2 - 3x)$

## G Combining like terms

Like Terms:

- ✓ differ eventually by the *numeric coefficient*
- ✓ have *identical variables* raised to *identical exponents*
- ✓ may be *combined* by using the *distributive property*:  $ax + bx = (a + b)x$

Example 6. For each case, combine (collect) like terms.

a)  $1 - x + 2 - 4x$

b)  $x - xy - 2x + 3xy$

c)  $-2 + x - xy + 4 - 5x + 3xy$

d)  $x + 1 - x^2 - 2x - 3x^2 + 5$

## H Multiplying binomials (FOIL Method)

FOIL:

- ✓ stands for First, Outside, Inside, and Last
- ✓ is used to multiply two binomials (see the diagram below)

$$(a + b)(c + d) = ac + ad + bc + bd$$

Example 7. Use the FOIL method to multiply the following binomials.

a)  $(1 - 2x)(x - 3)$

b)  $(3x - 2y)(-2x + 4y)$

### I Multiplying binomials (Grid Method)

The *Grid Method* is used to multiply *two or more* polynomials (see the diagram below).

$$(x - 2)(2x + 3) = \begin{array}{c|c|c} & x & -2 \\ \hline 2x & 2x^2 & -4x \\ \hline 3 & 3x & -6 \\ \hline \end{array} = 2x^2 - x - 6$$

Example 8. Use the grid method to multiply binomials.

a)  $(1 + x)(x + x^2)$

b)  $(2x + 3y)(2x - 3y)$

### J Multiplying polynomials (Each by Each Method)

✓ Multiply *each term* of the first expression by *each term* of the second expression (see the diagram below)

$$(a + b)(c + d + e) = ac + ad + ae + bc + bd + be$$

Example 9. Multiply (expand brackets). Simplify the answer.

a)  $(1 + x + xy)(x - y)$

b)  $(1 + x - x^2)(3 - x + 2x^2)$

c)  $(a + b + c)(a + b - c)(a - b + c)(-a + b + c)$