

MORE ZERO PRODUCT LAW COMMON CORE ALGEBRA I



The **Zero Product Law's** importance to mathematics cannot be overstated. It finally allows us, in certain situations, to solve equations that are **higher-order** polynomials than just linear. Of course, for it to work, we must have two conditions met: (1) we must have the equation set equal to zero and (2) we must be able to factor the expression equal to zero.

Exercise #1: Solve each of the following equations using factoring.

(a) $x^2 + 2x - 35 = 0$

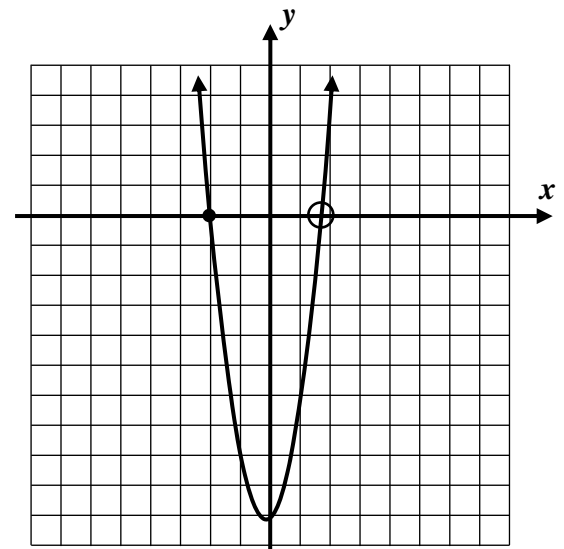
(b) $3x^2 - 30x + 48 = 0$

(c) $(x-3)(x+1) + (x-3)(2x-7) = 0$

Let's remember why this is such a crucial skill in terms of parabolas.

Exercise #2: James graphed the quadratic $y = 3x^2 + x - 10$ using tables on his calculator and found the graph shown below. He can tell from his graph and table that $x = -2$ is one of the zeroes. But, he couldn't tell what the other was because it did not fall on an integer location (circled).

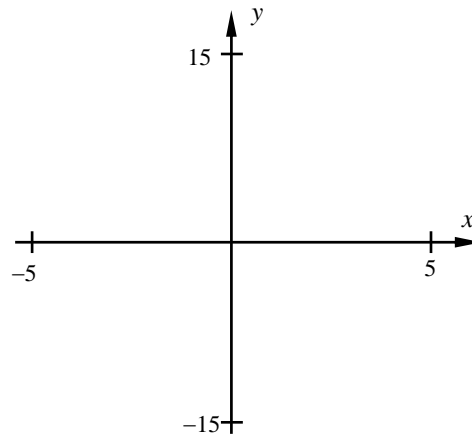
- (a) Write down an equation that would allow you to solve for the zeroes of this function.
- (b) How does knowing that $x = -2$ is a zero help you factor the trinomial $3x^2 + x - 10$? Factor it.
- (c) Solve the equation in (a) using factoring to find the other zero of this function.



We can even explore higher-order polynomials and their zeroes on a very limited basis. So far the best we have done is an x^2 , but polynomials that contain an x^3 can also be analyzed. These are known as **cubics**.

Exercise #3: Consider the cubic function $f(x) = x^3 - 9x$.

- (a) Find the zeroes of this function algebraically by factoring.
- (b) Use your calculator to sketch a graph of this function. Circle the zeroes on the graph.

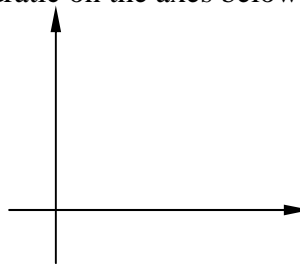


You will study higher-order polynomial functions in Algebra II. But, you should be able to find the zeroes for a limited number of **cubic polynomials** that can be easily factored. In our last exercise, we'd like to explore the relationship between the **zeroes of a quadratic** and the x -coordinate of its turning point.

Exercise #4: Consider the quadratic $y = x^2 - 8x + 15$.

- (a) Find the zeroes of this function algebraically using factoring.
- (b) Write the quadratic function in vertex form and identify the coordinates of its turning point.

- (c) What is true about the x -coordinate of the turning point compared to the zeroes you found in (a)?
- (d) Without using a calculator, sketch a graph of this quadratic on the axes below.



Exercise #5: A quadratic function can be written in factored form as $y = (x+3)(x-7)$. Which of the following would be the x -coordinate of its turning point?

- (1) $x = 6$ (3) $x = 5$
(2) $x = 2$ (4) $x = 4$



Name: _____

Date: _____

**MORE ZERO PRODUCT LAW WORK
COMMON CORE ALGEBRA I HOMEWORK**

FLUENCY

1. Solve each of the following:

(a) $(3x+1)(x-2) = 0$

(b) $5(x-3)(x+8) = 0$

2. Solve each of the following by factoring:

(a) $2x^2 - 19x + 35 = 0$

(b) $4x^2 - 52x + 120 = 0$

3. Solve each of the following by factoring:

(a) $30x^2 - 80x = 0$

(b) $x^2 - x = 0$

4. Solve each of the following by factoring a binomial gcf out of each term:

(a) $(2x-1)(x+5) + (2x-1)(x-2) = 0$

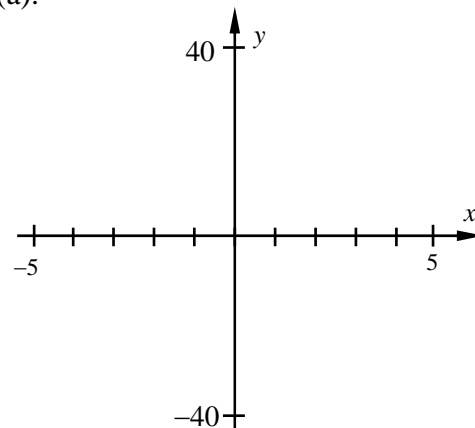
(b) $(x-8)(5x+4) - (x-8)(2x+6) = 0$



5. Consider the cubic polynomial $y = x^3 + 2x^2 - 8x$.

(a) Find the **three** zeroes of this function algebraically by factoring.

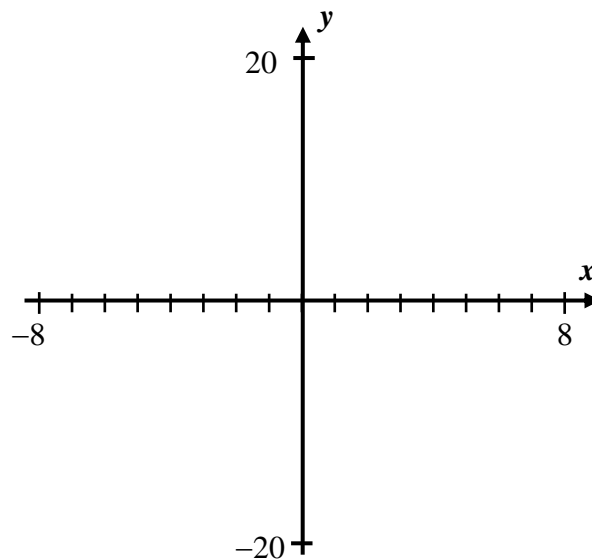
(b) Use your calculator to sketch a graph of the cubic on the axes below. Mark your answers from (a).



REASONING

6. Consider the quadratic function $y = x^2 + 4x - 5$.

(a) Find its zeroes algebraically.



(b) Using your calculator, sketch a graph of the function on the axes given.

(c) Find the zeroes of $y = 2x^2 + 8x - 10$ algebraically.

(d) Using your calculator, sketch a graph of this function on the same axes. How does the second graph compared the first that you drew?

