

VARIABLE = SINGLE LETTER

COEFFICIENT = NUMBER IN FRONT OF THE VARIABLE

TERM = A NUMBER, A  
NUMBER TIMES A VARIABLE(S)  
OR VARIABLE(S) TIMES A  
VARIABLE(S)

ex:  $8x$  COEFF: 8

$x^2y$  COEFF: 1

7 COEFF: 7

ex: 5

$7x$

$x$

$x^2$

$x^2y^5$

DEGREE = LARGEST POWER OF X

ex:  $x^2 - 7x + 3$  DEG = 2

NOTE: TERMS ARE SEPARATED BY '+'S AND '-'S

ex:  $\underbrace{x^2}_{1} - \underbrace{7x}_{2} + \underbrace{3}_{3}$

MONOMIAL = 1 TERM

BINOMIAL = 2 TERMS

TRINOMIAL = 3 TERMS

POLYNOMIAL = 1 OR MORE  
TERMS

STANDARD FORM

LARGEST POWER  $\rightarrow$  SMALLEST POWER

ex:  $8x + x^3 - 7x^2 - 3$

$x^3 - 7x^2 + 8x - 3$

LIKE TERMS = SAME VARIABLE(S)

TO SAME POWERS

ex:  $7x, 8x$

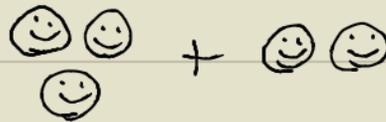
LIKE

ex:  $9x^2, -2x^2$

LIKE

ex:  $11xy^2, 13x^2y$

NOT LIKE  
TERMS



$3 \text{ smiley faces} + 2 \text{ smiley faces}$

$= 5 \text{ smiley faces}$

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ex:  $3x + 2x$   
 $= 5x$