

12.6 Binomial Theorem

1. **Binomial Theorem:** If n is a nonnegative integer then

$$(x+y)^n = x^n + nx^{n-1} \cdot y + \dots + {}_n C_r x^{n-r} \cdot y^r$$

where ${}_n C_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$ if you are looking for the fifth term then $r = 4$

$$(a+b)^n = 1a^n b^0 + \frac{n}{1} a^{n-1} b^1 + \frac{n(n-1)}{1 \cdot 2} a^{n-2} b^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} a^{n-3} b^3 + \dots + 1a^0 b^n$$

$$= \frac{n!}{n! \cdot 0!} a^n b^0 + \frac{n!}{(n-1)! \cdot 1!} a^{n-1} b^1 + \frac{n!}{(n-2)! \cdot 2!} a^{n-2} b^2 + \dots + \frac{n!}{0! \cdot n!} a^0 b^n$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{n!}{(n-k)! \cdot k!} a^{n-k} b^k$$

$n C_r$ is
MATH \rightarrow PRB

The key is knowing that $(a+b)^n$ gets expanded and that the 3rd term has b^2 4th term has b^3 , etc.

2. Use the binomial theorem to expand each expression.

a. $(x-5)^4$

$${}_4 C_0 x^4 5^0 - {}_4 C_1 x^3 5^1 + {}_4 C_2 x^2 5^2 - {}_4 C_3 x^1 5^3 + {}_4 C_4 x^0 5^4$$

↑
first term

This tells us r is one less than the sought out term. $a^{(degree-r)}$ and the multiplier (Pascal's) is ${}_n C_r$

3. Find the indicated term of each expression.

a. Fourth term of $(x+2)^7$

↑
Tells me 2 must be cubed

$${}_7 C_3 (x)^4 (2)^3 = 35 \cdot x^4 \cdot 8 = \boxed{270x^4}$$

b. Sixth term of $(x-y)^9$

↑
Tells me y must be 5

$${}_9 C_5 (x^4)(y)^5 = \boxed{-126x^4y^5}$$

↑
must be negative

c. Fifth term of $(2x+3y)^9$

$${}_9 C_4 (2x)^5 (3y)^4 = 126 \cdot 32 \cdot x^5 \cdot 81 \cdot y^4 = \boxed{326,592x^5y^4}$$

d. Third term of $(a-2\sqrt{3})^6$

↑
odd term

$$+ {}_6 C_2 a^4 (2\sqrt{3})^2 = 15a^4 \cdot 12 = \boxed{180a^4}$$

e. Find the middle term of $(4x^2-9y)^{12}$

7th term

$${}_12 C_6 (4x^2)^6 (9y)^6 = 924 \cdot 4096 \cdot x^{12} \cdot 531441 y^6 = \text{HUGE}$$

$$2011346878 \times 10^{12} \times y^6$$

4. Find the term containing y^8 in the expansion of $(2x+3y^2)^9$

power to power $\rightarrow (3y^2)^4$ so

$${}_9 C_4 (2x)^5 (3y^2)^4 = 126 \cdot 32 \cdot x^5 \cdot 81 \cdot y^8 = \boxed{326,592x^5y^8}$$