

15-3 Vocabulary Terms

*These vocabulary terms MUST be placed on note cards and turned in by Friday for credit.

- 1) Polynomial- a variable expression consisting of one or more terms. The word term represents how many different numbers are in a problem.

The following are polynomials:

$$2a^2 - 3ab + 2b^2 \quad x^3 - 1$$

- 2) Standard Form- writing the terms in order from the highest to the lowest power of one of the variables.

Examples: a. $2a^2 - 3ab + 2b^2$

$$= 2a^2 + 2b^2 - 3ab$$

b. $10c^3 + 6 - 5c + c^4$

$$= c^4 + 10c^3 - 5c + 6$$

- 3) Opposite Sign- changing the sign of a number or variable. When you have a negative number or variable, you make it positive & when you have a positive number or variable, you make it negative.

Examples: $6x^2 - 7x^2y + 3$

$$= -6x^2 + 7x^2y - 3$$

- 4) Subtracting a polynomial- you subtract polynomials by adding the **opposite** of each term in the **second** polynomial.

Examples: $(5x^2 + 10x) - (3x - 12)$

$$= 5x^2 + 10x$$

$$+ \quad \underline{-3x + 12} \quad \text{Group like terms.}$$

$$5x^2 + 7x + 12$$