Name _____   Date _____

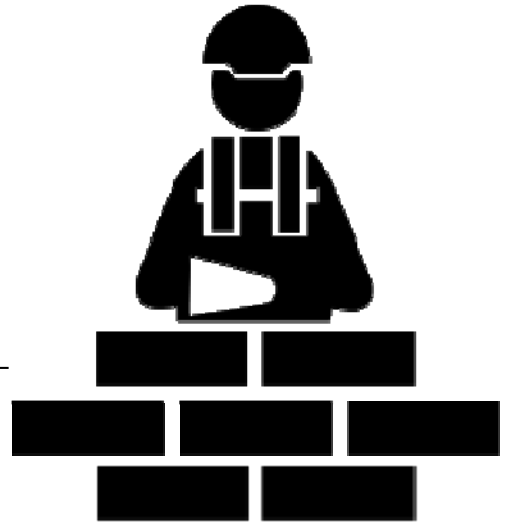## Interpret the Context of Expressions - Step-by-Step Lesson

1. $7x^3 - 5x^2 + x$

a. How many terms are in the polynomial? _____

b. Which term has the highest degree? _____

c. Which would be the best classification of this expression?

Monomial   trinomial   binomial

d. What is the degree of the polynomial? _____

Explanation:

$7x^3 - 5x^2 + x$

a. Each piece of the polynomial is a term, as you see above. This polynomial has 3 terms.

b. Whichever term is to the highest power is also to the highest degree. $7x^3$ is to the highest degree.

c. Since this polynomial is composed of 3 parts, it is best classified as a trinomial.

Mono = 1 term   Bi = 2 terms   Tri = 3 terms.

d. The degree of the overall polynomial is represented by the term that is to the highest degree. In this case, the polynomial is to the degree of 3 because the term with the highest exponent/degree is $7x^3$.