

You may have tried to simplify $f(x)$ by first subtracting $12 - 5$ to get $7x - x^3$. However, you have used an incorrect order of operations. Note that $f(x)$ has unlike terms and cannot be simplified. Start with:

$$f(x) + g(x) = (12 - 5x - x^3) + (x^2 - 4x + 5)$$

Rearrange the terms and then combine like terms. The correct answer is $-x^3 + x^2 - 9x + 17$.