

Using Model Drawing / Tape Diagrams

Model drawing is a strategy that can

- **Help you understand and make sense of word problems**
- **Provide a visual model that helps you model and explain your reasoning**

1. **Read the entire problem**, “visualizing” the problem conceptually
2. **Determine who** and/or **what** the problem is about
3. **Rewrite the question** in sentence form leaving a space for the answer.
4. **Draw the unit bars** that you’ll eventually adjust as you construct the visual image of the problem
5. **Chunk** the problem, **adjust** the unit bars to reflect the information in the problem, and fill in the **question mark**.
6. **Correctly compute** and **solve** the problem (show all work!)
7. **Write the answer** in the sentence and make sure the answer makes sense.