Problem-Solving Strategies

1. Collect all useful information that the problem gives. (Sort out the information and see what is useful).
2. Notice what “kind” of problem you have.
3. Identify what the problem is; i.e., what you are trying to find out.
4. Think of some ideas for what you could do to solve it.
5. Re-word in your own words.
6. Conjectures: Find more conjectures than stated in the problem.
7. See if you can come up with a more organized and/or logical way to approach the problem.
9. Break down the problem into smaller pieces so you can find a simpler way of solving it when you put it back together.
10. Ask questions of yourself and others.
11. Look at a simpler related problem.