1. Define the problem.
   1. Transport a cat, a parrot and a bag of seed from one side of a river to the other via a boat that can only carry the man and one other thing per trip. The man must transport the objects in the proper order to prevent the cat from eating the bird or the bird from eating the seed.
   2. The solution to this problem involved some backtracking.
   3. To get the cat, parrot and bag of seed from one side of the river to the other without one eating the other.
2. Break the problem apart
   1. Transportation in a two item boat
   2. Not letting one eat another
3. Identify potential solutions
   1. Multiple Trips:
      1. Transport bird
      2. Return alone
      3. Transport seed
      4. Return with bird
      5. Leave bird and transport cat
      6. Return alone
      7. Transport bird
4. Evaluate each potential solution
   1. Multiple trips:
      1. Cat and seed left at start, one will not eat the other.
      2. Cat left on one side, seed left on other side, bird and man in boat, one will not eat the other.
      3. Cat and seed left at finish, one will not eat the other.
      4. On final trip, cat, bird, seed and man are all reunited and may continue their journey.
   2. This is the only solution to this problem.
5. Choose a solution and develop a plan to implement it.
   1. Multiple Trip Scenario:
      1. Trip 1: The man must transport the bird.
      2. Trip 2: The man must return alone.
      3. Trip 3: The man must transport the seed.
      4. Trip 4: The man must return with the bird.
      5. Trip 5: The man must leave the bird and transport the cat.
      6. Trip 6: The man must return alone.
      7. Trip 7: The man must transport the bird.
   2. My test case was to draw the problem on paper with pencil and erase the items as they were transported.