

# The 5-step Method for Solving Problems



Student Name Redacted





# The 5-Steps



**DFP**

Diagram & Fact Pattern



**WIQ**

What is the Question?



**GDP**

General Definitions & Principles



**PAW**

Particular Application & Work



**FAC**

Final Answer Circle





# Example Problem and Applying the

Steps



A car traveled 40 yards  
in 4 days, what is the  
car's average speed?





01

Create a diagram with labels to better understand the problem, list the facts given in the problem

Diagram and Fact Pattern



# Diagram and Fact Pattern Application

40 yards

Distance (yards)



## Facts

- Total Distance= 40 yards
- Total Time= 4 days

Time (days)

4 days



02






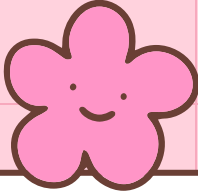
# Write the Question

What is the question?



**What is the  
average speed  
of the car?**

What is the Question?



**Define the equations and  
principles that will be  
used in the problem**

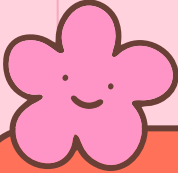
**03**




General Definitions & Principles

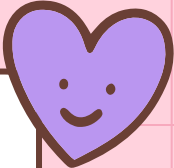







## Definitions of terms & equations



$$\text{Average Speed} = \frac{\text{Total Distance}}{\text{Total Time}}$$



Average speed is the total distance traveled by the object in a particular time interval



Distance  $\equiv$  Total space traversed (accumulated) for all segments of time independent of direction





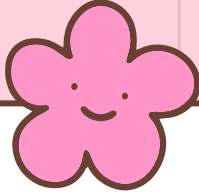

**Apply all of the previous  
steps and show work**



**04**



Particular Application & Work


$$\text{Average Speed} = \frac{\text{Total Distance}}{\text{Total Time}} = \frac{40 \text{ yards}}{4 \text{ days}} = 10 \text{ yards/day}$$



### Facts

- Total Distance= 40 yards
- Total Time= 4 days



## Particular Application & Work



**Circle the final  
answer**

**05**

Final Answer Circle



**Average Speed =**

10 yards/ day