

Problem-Solving Strategy: Solve a Simpler Problem

1. There are 32 schools that participated in a statewide trivia tournament. In each round, one school played one match against another school and the winner continued on until 1 school remained. How many total matches were played?

UNDERSTAND

What is the question?

What information do you know?

PLAN

Could solving a simpler problem help you to solve the original problem?

SOLVE

How many matches are there in the first round?
How many schools are left for the second round?

Solve the problem.

LOOK BACK

Is your answer reasonable?

Solve.

2. A restaurant has 24 tables that each can sit 2 people per side. If the tables are pushed together for a banquet, how many people can sit at the table?
