Problem-Solving Strategy: Solve a Simpler Problem

**Read It** Look for information.
A relay race requires a team of players to run around an obstacle course. Each player must tap a timer at the beginning and end of his or her turn. There are 5 members on each team. How many times will the timer be tapped during the relay?

**Picture It** Make a table of the information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Members</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Taps</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Solve It** Use the table to solve.

1. To find out the number of taps, multiply the number of members on a team by ______.

2. Fill in the table and solve the problem.

   The timer is tapped ______ times in 5 member relay.

**Try These!** Solve a simpler problem.

3. Tom, Andrew, Alex, and Matthew are kicking a soccer ball. Each boy must kick the ball to every other boy one time. How many times will the ball be kicked?

4. There are 7 discus teams in a competition. Each team has 6 students. Each student will throw the discus 3 times. How many times will the discus be thrown in the competition?