Problem-Solving Strategy: Make an Organized List

1. Renee, Jessica, and Anjali are competing in the finals of the obstacle course. How many different ways can they finish?

What is the question asking you to find?

What do you know?

Make an organized list to show all the possible ways that the competitors can finish.

Does your solution make sense?

How many different ways can Renee, Jessica, and Anjali finish the obstacle course?

3 girls are competing in the obstacle course. They can each come in first, second, or third.


Yes; each girl can finish in first 2 different ways, second 2 different ways, and third 2 different ways.

6; Possible answer:

Each girl has 5 chances to start and 1 not to start, so the solution makes sense.

Make an organized list to solve the following problem.

2. Beth, Andrea, Nancy, Tanya, Christine, and Helene all want to be the starters on the basketball team. Five of them can start. How many different combinations of starters can be chosen from this group?