

APPROACHING A QUANTITATIVE PROBLEM

- Be systematic
- Develop a strategy
- Understand the context – read the question for this purpose first
 - Visualise the scenario – draw a sketch
- Read the question again to identify key information (values, variables, parameters etc)
 - Collect the information – WRITE IT DOWN
- Read the question again to clarify what you are being asked
 - What will the answer/s look like? WRITE IT DOWN
- Identify what information you need, and what you don't
- Identify any necessary unit conversions
- Recognise the appropriate calculation or calculations
 - What formula will you use?
- Do the calculation.
- Check 1. Look at the target answer – does it match?
- Check 2. Is it sensible?
- Check 3. Check your steps

Make a checklist

	Doing	Thinking	Check
1	Read for context	What is the scenario?	
2	Collect the information	What Information do I have? • What units are they in?	
3	Read again carefully	What am I being asked to find? • What will my target answers look like? What units?	
4	Look at the information available	Is a unit conversion necessary - Is more than one conversion needed? What information is necessary? What is not necessary?	
5	Think	What calculation/s do I need? What formula is appropriate? - Step 1? - Step 2?	
6	Do	Do the calculation - Keep all units with numbers - Use the units to check calculations	
7	Check 1	Give the answer/s in the units required (REFER BACK TO 3)	
8	Check 2	Does the answer make sense? - Use your subject knowledge and common sense	
9	Check 3	Check each step again.	