

## The Bus Problem

This is a story about Jose, a dreamer who likes to solve problems. But he solves problems in an unusual way because his solutions are not real. Let's read the story and talk about the solutions that Jose might come up with for this problem.

Jose likes school, but he really likes to dream about things that would make life easier. Jose's brother always teases him. He thinks Jose has crazy ideas. But Jose doesn't care. He knows that someday, some of his ideas might become real. "Just because you didn't think of it, doesn't mean it's dumb," Jose would tell his brother. Jose knows that long ago, no one thought people could fly around in airplanes or go to the moon in a rocket. So Jose just keeps on dreaming.

At the end of the school day, Jose waited in line to get on the school bus that would take him home. The ride would take 30 minutes. Jose was tired and he just wanted to be home. He wished there was a way to get home without walking or taking the bus. So he started dreaming—the kind of dreams his brother made fun of. Jose liked these dreams, and they made the time go by more quickly while he waited in line.



1. What's the problem as Jose sees it?

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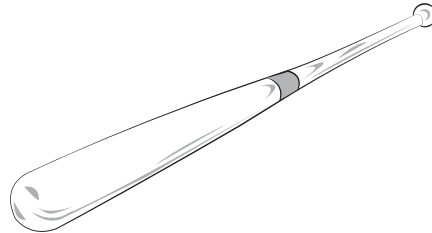
2. What solution might Jose dream up to solve the problem?

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## What's the Solution?

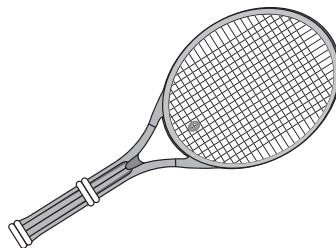
Let's read the stories below. What problem does each character face? How does each character solve the problem? Then write your answers.



Mika loves sports—especially baseball. She plays on her school baseball team. Mika can catch just about any ball that comes her way. But when she gets up to bat, she rarely hits a ball because two boys on her team are always teasing her. One afternoon the coach overheard the boys, and he told them to stop teasing Mika because it wasn't something that team members should do.

Problem: \_\_\_\_\_

Solution: \_\_\_\_\_



There are twelve students who want to be on the tennis team. Mr. Powell needs only six players on the team. Of course, he would like everyone to get a chance to play. Finally he decides to create two teams.

Problem: \_\_\_\_\_

Solution: \_\_\_\_\_