**Think-aloud Steps**

**State what the problem is about**

* 1. *Example*: “I am adding….” Or “This word problem is asking me to ….so I need to …..”

**Explain** **your approach, Describe why each step is needed**

* 1. be sure to say *WHY you make certain decision* (underlined below)
  2. *Example*: “*I cannot add 2/3 and ½ because they do not have the same denominator. I need to find equivalent fractions so the two addends have the same denominator, then I can add the two fractions because they are parts of the same unit.*”

**Link procedures back to finding the unknown, Provide a recap explaining why the answer makes sense**

* 1. *Example*: “This answer makes sense because the sum is larger than the two fractions I added, and it has the same denominator as both of the addends.”
  2. *Example:* “The first thing I did was thinking about the problem. The plus sign told me to add two fractions. I had to think about when adding fractions they must have the same unit, which means the denominators need to be the same. So, then I looked at each denominator and noticed they are not the same, so I needed to change one or both fractions to an equivalent fraction before I could add…….”