

Situation A. Student Strategies

Casey's Strategy

To compute the total cost of an item that costs \$8.95 with a 5% sales tax, I multiply \$8.95 by 0.05 and then add the tax to the \$8.95.

$$8.95 \cdot 0.05 + 8.95$$

Sammi's Strategy

Multiply \$8.95 by 1.05.

That will get the whole amount (100% or 1) and the tax (5% or 0.05).

$$\frac{8.95}{100} = \frac{x}{105}$$

$\xrightarrow{\times 1.05}$   
 $\xleftarrow{\times 1.05}$

Vanessa's Strategy

I used the Distributive Property. I think this strategy will work for any bill.

$$0.05 \cdot 8.95 + 1 \cdot 8.95 = (0.05 + 1) \cdot 8.95$$

or

$$1.05 \cdot 8.95 \text{ to find the total bill.}$$

Alex's Strategy

I first find 1%. Then I can find any percent, like the 105% needed for this question.

$$\frac{8.95}{100} = \frac{0.0895}{1} = \frac{x}{105}$$

$\xrightarrow{\div 100}$     $\xrightarrow{\times 105}$   
 $\xleftarrow{\div 100}$     $\xleftarrow{\times 105}$

Ash's Strategy

I used a percent bar or tape diagram. Extend the bar to find 105%.

