### Schema-Based Instruction

**Schema-based instruction** means teaching students how to look at the structure of word problems and figure out what type of word problem (schema) they are trying to solve. Two kinds of schemas are *additive* and *multiplicative*.

### Change Problems

**Change problems** are when an amount increases (*goes up*) or decreases (*goes down*) because something changes or happens to the starting number (*additive*).

\[
\text{Start +/- Change} = \text{End}
\]

### Combine Problems

**Combine problems** put together two or more separate parts to make a total (*additive*).

\[
\text{Part 1} + \text{Part 2} = \text{Total}
\]

### Compare Problems

**Compare problems** are when two sets are compared to find the difference (*additive*).

\[
\text{Greater} - \text{Less} = \text{Difference}
\]

### Equal Groups Problems

Equal groups problems are when a group or unit is multiplied by a specific number for a product (*multiplicative*).

\[
\text{Set} \times \text{Times} = \text{Product}
\]

### Comparison Problems

A comparison problem is when a set is multiplied a number of times for a product or total (*multiplicative*).

\[
\text{Groups} \times \text{Number in Each Group} = \text{Product}
\]