Tension in a Multibody System

1) Draw a FBD
2) Use the whole system to find F_{net}
3) Divide F_{net} by the system mass to find acceleration
4) Draw a FBD of a single mass
5) Determine F_{net} of just that mass using $F_{net}=ma$
6) Analyze the forces on that mass to find F_T.

Examples: