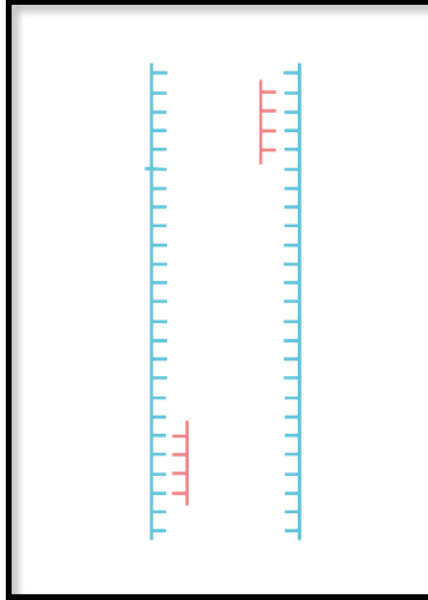


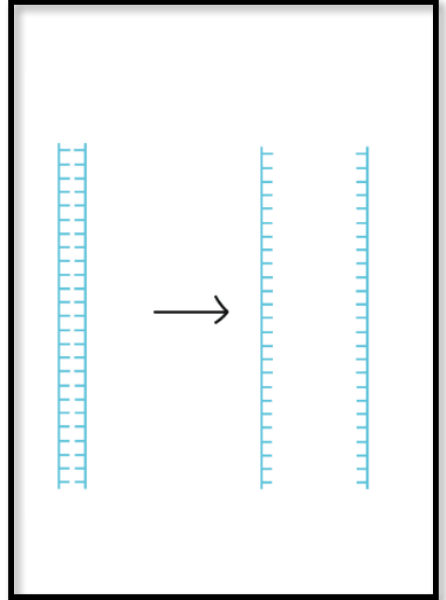
Primers (short segments of complementary nucleotides) attach to sections at the beginning and end of the target DNA sequence.

Extension



Heat is used to break the hydrogen bonds holding the DNA base pairs together.

Annealing



The enzyme Taq polymerase adds free nucleotides to the exposed DNA strands, building new complementary strands.

Denaturation