

**Deal 1**  
West Deals  
None Vul

♠ T 5  
♥ A K Q J 4 3  
♦ J 5 3 2  
♣ 3

14  
11 10  
5

♠ A K J 7 4  
♥ 8 7  
♦ A 7 6  
♣ Q 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 3  
♥ T 6  
♦ Q T 8 4  
♣ A K J T 7

♠ Q 9 6 2  
♥ 9 5 2  
♦ K 9  
♣ 9 8 6 2

West            North            East            South  
1♥            1♠            All Pass

1 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 1  
NORTH has an opening hand, 15 points, and a 5-card suit. Unfortunately WEST beat her to

the punch by opening 1

But NORTH should get into the bidding anyway, by Overcalling 1. This shows a good suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

SOUTH has 6 points. If NORTH had actually OPENED 1, SOUTH would be obligated to bid. But knowing that

the Overcall will not be made with more than 16 points, SOUTH just passes.

**Deal 2**

East Deals  
None Vul

♠ 8 5 3  
♥ J 3  
♦ T 8 5 3 2  
♣ T 8 7

1 11  
1 14  
14

♠ Q 9 6 2  
♥ T 5 2  
♦ K Q 4  
♣ K J 6

♠ T  
N  
W E  
S  
♥ A K Q 9 6 4  
♦ J 9  
♣ A 9 3 2

♠ A K J 7 4  
♥ 8 7  
♦ A 7 6  
♣ Q 5 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

4 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 2  
SOUTH has an opening hand, 15 points and five  
But EAST beat him to the punch,

so he overcalls 1 .

NORTH has 11 points, and if SOUTH had opened she would make a Limit Raise to 3 .

But when replying to an Overcall, the strength needs to be a little higher. In Deal 1 it was OK to

pass a 1 Overcall with 6 points, here it is correct to just raise to 2 with 11 points.

SOUTH actually has a strong Overcall so he bids 4 .

**Deal 3**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 8  
♥ A K J 9 3  
♦ 5 4 2  
♣ A Q T 9

9  
14 5  
12

♠ A K J 7 4

♥ 8 7

♦ 9 7 6

♣ J 5 4

N  
W E  
S

♠ T 5 3

♥ Q 6 4

♦ Q J T 8 3

♣ 7 3

♠ Q 9 6 2  
♥ T 5 2  
♦ A K  
♣ K 8 6 2

West North East South  
1♥ 1♠ Pass 3♠

All Pass

3♠ by South

minimum type hand by passing.

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 3

This time NORTH has just 10 points, nowhere near an opening hand. Still, when WEST opens

1

NORTH should Overcall 1 This shows a good suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

SOUTH has 13 points. If NORTH had actually OPENED 1 SOUTH would insist on game. But NORTH didn't

Open, she just Overcalled. So SOUTH must be more cautious. He jumps to 3 and NORTH shows her

**Deal 4**

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ Q J 7 4

♥ A K 9 8 3 2

♦ 4

♣ J 9

15

11 4

10

♠ K 9 8 6

♥ 4

♦ A K 7 3

♣ K Q 7 5



♠ 2  
 ♥ Q J 6  
 ♦ J T 9 6 5 2  
 ♣ T 4 3

♠ A T 5 3  
 ♥ T 7 5  
 ♦ Q 8  
 ♣ A 8 6 2

West	North	East	South
1♥	Dbl	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

4 ♠ by North

**Baker Bidpractice/Set10 4**

NORTH has 15 points, a singleton in the opponent's suit and 4-card support for any suit

partner might name. In other words, a perfect Takeout Double.

SOUTH needs to make a medium-strong bid to apprise NORTH of her 10 points. She jumps to 2 .

NORTH's hand is now worth 17 points because of the singleton. Since he is quite happy with

he bids 4 .

**Deal 5**

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K 9  
♥ K 8 5  
♦ A T 9 7 5  
♣ Q T 3

1  
12 13  
14

♠ 7 6 4 2

♥ 7 6 3

♦ 8 6 4

♣ J 9 8

N  
W E  
S

♠ 5 3  
♥ A J 4 2  
♦ K Q J  
♣ K 7 4 2

♠ A Q J T 8

♥ Q T 9

♦ 3 2

♣ A 6 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	All Pass	Dbl

2♣ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 5  
SOUTH has 14 points, a doubleton in the opponent's suit and at least three cards in

each of the other suits. This is a normal Takeout Double.

NORTH has a really awful hand. He has just one point and his only 4-card suit is the one the

opponents have already bid. He wants nothing more than to pass.

But he cannot pass. Partner's Double said "Bid your best suit.", so he bids 2 .

Mercifully SOUTH also passes.

**Deal 6**West Deals  
E-W Vul

♠ K 6 2  
♥ A 8 4  
♦ 6 4 2  
♣ K Q 9 7

14  
12 1  
13

♠ Q 9 8 5  
♥ K Q T 5  
♦ A K 3  
♣ 4 2

N  
W E  
S

♠ 4 3  
♥ 9 6 3 2  
♦ T 8 7  
♣ J T 6 5

♠ A J T 7  
♥ J 7  
♦ Q J 9 5  
♣ A 8 3

West	North	East	South
1♣	Dbl	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 6

With 14 points, shortage, and support for the other suits NORTH makes a Takeout Double.

SOUTH has 13 points so she bids 2. This is an artificial bid, apprising NORTH of SOUTH's opening

hand strength, and forcing the partnership to reach the game level.

NORTH suggests

s as trumps.

SOUTH doesn't like

s so she suggests s.

NORTH agrees with and bids game, 4 .

**Deal 7**

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ T 6 2  
♥ A T  
♦ T 9 8 4 2  
♣ T 9 2

16  
4 12  
8

♠ A K J 9 8 3

♥ 7

♦ A K J 3

♣ 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 5  
♥ K Q J 8 4 3  
♦ 7 6  
♣ K Q J 4

♠ Q 7 4  
♥ 9 6 5 2  
♦ Q 5  
♣ A 8 6 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♣
All Pass			4♣

4 ♠ by South

**Baker Bidpractice/**  
**Set10 7**  
 EAST's 1

opening is passed around to NORTH. He is

tempted to overcall 1 but with 18 points is a little strong for a mere overcall.

Instead, he doubles.

With 8 points SOUTH is not strong enough to jump. She bids 2 .

NORTH now bids 2 By doubling first, then bidding his own suit,

he shows a good suit and 17+ points.

SOUTH raises to 4 .

**Deal 8**

East Deals  
None Vul

♠ T 6 3  
♥ T 5 3 2  
♦ T 3  
♣ T 7 4 2

11  
0 11  
18

♠ 8 7  
♥ A 9 7 6  
♦ A 6 2  
♣ K 9 6 3

N  
W E  
S

♠ K Q 5 4 2  
♥ J 4  
♦ K J 9 8 5  
♣ J

♠ A J 9  
♥ K Q 8  
♦ Q 7 4  
♣ A Q 8 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT by North

**Baker Bidpractice/Set10 8**

SOUTH has 18 points, a balanced hand, and a good stopper in their suit. He should overcall 1NT.

For 1NT overcalls, the range is increased to 15-18 points.

NORTH bids 2 (Stayman), just as she would with a 1NT opening. When SOUTH denies holding

a 4-card Major NORTH has enough points to bid 3NT. She doesn't worry about a stopper

since SOUTH promised he had the suit controlled.

**Deal 9**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 4	♦ A 9 6
♥ A 9 3	♦ K Q J
♦ K Q 5 4 3 2	♦ A J 9 7
♣ A T 7	♣ K Q 4

20	J T 5 2
13	7 6 4 2
5	♦ 8 6
2	♣ J 8 6

♠ A 8 6	♦ K Q 9 7 3
♥ K Q J	♥ T 8 5
♦ A J 9 7	♦ T
♣ K Q 4	♣ 9 5 3 2

N	
W	E
S	

West	North	East	South
1♦	Dbl	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

1 NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 9  
NORTH has 20 points, excellent

stoppers and a balanced hand.

She is two points too strong to overcall 1NT. Instead, she doubles.

SOUTH has an awful hand - but since he is forced to bid he says 1 assuming NORTH wants

to hear his best suit.

NORTH now bids 1NT, showing the balanced 19-21 point hand. SOUTH passes, of course.

**Deal 10**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ T 9 8 5  
♥ 9 4  
♦ T 9 6 2  
♣ 5 3 2

10  
0 11  
19

♠ K J 6 2  
♥ 6 5  
♦ A Q 3  
♣ 9 8 7 4

N  
W E  
S

♠ A 3  
♥ K J 8 7 3 2  
♦ 8 4  
♣ Q J T

♠ Q 7 4  
♥ A Q T  
♦ K J 7 5  
♣ A K 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 10  
SOUTH has a 19 point balanced hand, including a stop in

s.

He plans to double, then bid NT. (see Deal 9)

NORTH has 10 points though, so he jumps to 2 .

In theory SOUTH could now bid 2NT to continue the description of his hand, but he might as well

go ahead and bid 3NT instead.

3NT by South

**Deal 11**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ -  
♥ K Q T 7 3  
♦ A 9 8 7 5  
♣ Q 5 3

12  
11 4  
13

♠ A Q T 5 3

♥ 6 4

♦ Q T

♣ A 9 7 4

N  
W E  
S

♠ 9 8 7 6

♥ J 9 2

♦ 6 4

♣ K T 8 6

♠ K J 4 2  
♥ A 8 5  
♦ K J 3 2  
♣ J 2

West	North	East	South
1♥	1♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 11  
With a 5-card suit and 13 points NORTH should overcall 1 .

SOUTH has 13 points and four If NORTH had opened, SOUTH's hand would be good enough

to insist on game. But since NORTH overcalled, SOUTH merely invites with a jump to 3 .

NORTH has better than a minimum overcall so she accepts the invitation and bids 4 .

**Deal 12**

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A 8 2  
♥ A 3  
♦ K J T 4  
♣ Q 8 6 4

13  
14 2  
11

♠ K J 6 4

♥ J T 7 5

♦ 6

♣ A K J 3

N  
W E  
S

♠ T 9 7 5

♥ 2

♦ Q 9 8 7 3

♣ T 7 2

♠ Q 3  
♥ K Q 9 8 6 4  
♦ A 5 2  
♣ 9 5

West North East South  
1♦ Dbl Pass 4♥  
All Pass

4♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 12

NORTH has a very minimum Takeout Double of 1

. But what it lacks

in strength, it makes up for with perfect distribution.

SOUTH has 13 points and only wants to play in one contract, 4

.

NORTH passes happily.

**Deal 13**

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ Q 8 3 2  
♥ 9 8 6 3  
♦ T 2  
♣ 9 8 5

9  
2 11  
18

♠ J 7 6  
♥ T 5 2  
♦ A J 9 4  
♣ K T 2

N  
W E  
S

♠ A T 9 4  
♥ K Q J 7  
♦ Q 6  
♣ A Q 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3NT by South

so she bids 3NT.

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 13  
SOUTH has 18 points, a doubleton in the opponent's suit, and at least three cards in the unbid suits.

This is an ideal hand for a Takeout Double.

NORTH has good strength in EAST's

suit, probably two stoppers.

He has 9 points and no 4-card suit of his own.  
This is the type of hand to respond 1NT.

SOUTH is happy to play Notrump now that she knows the

s are covered,

**Deal 14**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ J T  
♥ K T 7 6 3  
♦ Q 9 8 5  
♣ A K

13  
13 0  
14

♠ A K 9 6 4

♥ Q 5

♦ K 7 4

♣ J T 7

N  
W E  
S

♠ 7 5 3 2  
♥ 8 4  
♦ T 3 2  
♣ 6 5 4 2

♠ Q 8  
♥ A J 9 2  
♦ A J 6  
♣ Q 9 8 3

West	North	East	South
1♥	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

he happily bids 3NT.

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 14  
NORTH has an opening hand, 14 points and five  
But WEST beat him to the punch,

so he overcalls 1 .

SOUTH also has 14 points, she doesn't care  
too much for but she has an

excellent stopper in

s.

She jumps to 2NT, inviting NORTH to bid  
game.

Since NORTH has several points more than he  
might have had, and no 6-card suit to rebid,

**Deal 15**  
 West Deals  
 None Vul  
 ♠ K Q J 6 4 2  
 ♥ A 4 2  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ T 9 5  
 15  
 11 0  
 14

♠ 8 7  
 ♥ K Q 9 7  
 ♦ A K 8 3  
 ♣ Q J 4  
 N  
 W E  
 S  
 ♠ T 5  
 ♥ 8 6  
 ♦ T 9 7 6 4 2  
 ♣ 7 3 2  
 ♠ A 9 3  
 ♥ J T 5 3  
 ♦ Q 5  
 ♣ A K 8 6

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Dbl	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
All Pass			

4 ♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 15  
 NORTH has 15 points and all the requirements for a Takeout Double of 1 .

With 14 points of his own, SOUTH knows his side needs to be in a game somewhere. He passes this information

to NORTH with a cue-bid of 2 .

NORTH gets the message and starts the hunt for a trump fit by bidding 3

. That

makes it easy for SOUTH - he bids 4

**Deal 16**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ T 8  
♥ T 4 3  
♦ A 8 6  
♣ J T 5 4 3

8  
5 11  
16

♠ K 7 5  
♥ 8 5 2  
♦ K Q 3  
♣ 9 7 6 2

N  
W E  
S

♠ 9 3  
♥ K Q J 9 6  
♦ T 9 5 4  
♣ K Q

♠ A Q J 6 4 2  
♥ A 7  
♦ J 7 2  
♣ A 8

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 16

There is only one reason that SOUTH should not overcall with 1 He is too strong.

The maximum strength of an overcall is 16 points. Above that you should double.

So SOUTH doubles, and after NORTH bids 2 , SOUTH bids 2 This shows an overcall

type hand, but with 17 or more points.

NORTH has fine trump support and 8 points so she bids a confident 4 .

**Deal 17**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A 6 4  
♥ Q 8  
♦ A J T 8 3 2  
♣ T 4

13  
11 1  
15

♠ K 9 8 3

♥ 7 6

♦ K Q 5

♣ A J 7 6

N  
W E  
S

♠ T 7 5  
♥ J T 9 5 2  
♦ 9 6  
♣ 9 5 3

♠ Q J 2  
♥ A K 4 3  
♦ 7 4  
♣ K Q 8 2

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

## Baker Bidpractice/Set10 17

NORTH has 13 points but has no bid over 1

SOUTH can make a Takeout Double, so he does.

NORTH now cue-bids

to show opening hand strength.

SOUTH shows his

suit, NORTH doesn't like it.

NORTH shows her suit, SOUTH doesn't like it.

SOUTH shows his suit, NORTH likes it fine, but decides 3NT will be easier than 5 .

**Deal 18**

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A J T 7 4

♥ A 7 3

♦ A 8 6

♣ 9 5

8

13 6

13

♠ 8  
♥ K J T 9 4  
♦ T 9  
♣ A 8 7 4 3

N  
W E  
S

♠ 9 6  
♥ Q 6 5  
♦ J 7 5 4  
♣ K T 6 2

♠ K Q 5 3 2

♥ 8 2

♦ K Q 3 2

♣ Q J

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

All Pass

1 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 18

WEST would have had a great opening 1 bid.  
But when SOUTH opened 1

in front of him he was hornswaggled. He  
couldn't bid any other suit, he couldn't bid 1NT

and he sure couldn't bid So he must pass.

And so does everybody else pass.

**Deal 19**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 6 4  
♥ K Q 9 6  
♦ A 4  
♣ A Q 9 8 4

8  
15 9  
8

♠ K Q J 9 7 5 3

♥ 7 4

♦ Q 3

♣ 6 2

N  
W E  
S

♠ T

♥ A T 8 3

♦ J T 7 5 2

♣ K J T

♠ A 8 2  
♥ J 5 2  
♦ K 9 8 6  
♣ 7 5 3

West            North            East            South  
1♣            3♠            All Pass

3 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 19

If West had passed, NORTH would have opened with a preemptive 3 .

She should make the same bid with the same hand AFTER the opponents open. And she makes it

for the same reason, to describe her hand and to take away bidding space from the opponents.

SOUTH treats it just like a Preemptive 3-bid, even though it is now called a Weak Jump Overcall.

In this case, SOUTH passes.

**Deal 20**

East Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q 9 6 3  
♥ K T 7 2  
♦ 9 2  
♣ Q 7 2

6  
7 17  
10

♠ K 7 2  
♥ Q J 5 4  
♦ 6 3  
♣ 9 8 6 4

♠ 4  
N  
W E  
S  
♥ A 9 8  
♦ K Q 7 4  
♣ A K J T 5  
♠ A J T 8 5  
♥ 6 3  
♦ A J T 8 5  
♣ 3

West      North      East      South  
All Pass

1 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 20  
SOUTH has 12 points, but with two 5-card suits worthy of an overcall. There isn't really a

right and wrong here, but it usually works out best to overcall in the higher-ranking suit. That

leaves open the possibility of bidding the second suit later.

In this Deal, after SOUTH overcalls 1 that later possibility never happens because

everybody should pass.

**Deal 21**

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q 8 6

♥ Q 8 6 3

♦ 9 8 4 3

♣ 8 5

4 17  
7 12

♠ K J T 7 4 2

♥ A 9

♦ T 6

♣ A K Q

N  
W E  
S

♠ A 5 3  
♥ 4 2  
♦ A K 2  
♣ J 7 6 4 2

♠ 9  
♥ K J T 7 5  
♦ Q J 7 5  
♣ T 9 3

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

All Pass

1 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 21  
EAST has 13 points but she has to pass.

She cannot Double without support for

s.

She cannot bid 1NT without 2 more points.

She cannot overcall 2 with a terrible suit like that.

And WEST of course must also pass.

**Deal 22**

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K Q J 8 4 2  
♥ Q 2  
♦ Q 8 7  
♣ 8 3

4  
10 14  
12

♠ -  
♥ T 9 4 3  
♦ 6 4 3 2  
♣ K J T 9 4

N  
W E  
S

♠ A 9 7 6 5  
♥ A 8 5  
♦ A T 9  
♣ 6 5

♠ T 3  
♥ K J 7 6  
♦ K J 5  
♣ A Q 7 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Dbl	1♠ All Pass

1 ♠ X by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 22  
WEST obviously has to pass when SOUTH opens 1 .

EAST has a reasonable Takeout Double. She hopes WEST will name a suit and they can just play a partscore.

You should almost always bid when partner makes a Takeout Double. Almost always. This is the one time

when you don't. WEST's are so good that he passes, converting the Takeout Double into a Penalty Double.

**Deal 23**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 4 3  
♥ T 6 5  
♦ Q 4 2  
♣ A K Q 7

11  
11 2  
16

♠ A K 8 7 2

♥ J 9 8

♦ K 7 6

♣ 6 5

N  
W E  
S

♠ T 6  
♥ 7 4 3  
♦ J T 3  
♣ J T 9 8 3

♠ Q J 5  
♥ A K Q 2  
♦ A 9 8 5  
♣ 4 2

West      North      East      South  
1♣      1♠      Pass      4♠  
All Pass

4 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 10 23  
NORTH has a normal overcall of 1 .

SOUTH has a really good hand, but he doesn't have to worry about missing a slam since NORTH will

not have more than 16 points. So he just bids what he thinks NORTH can make, 4 .

**Deal 24**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 7 2

♥ T 9

♦ A Q 7 2

♣ 7 3 2

11  
11 9  
9

♠ K Q 3  
♥ K Q J 5 3  
♦ 9 6 5  
♣ T 6

N  
W E  
S

♠ 9 8 4  
♥ A 7 6 2  
♦ 8 4  
♣ K Q 9 5

♠ T 6 5  
♥ 8 4  
♦ K J T 3  
♣ A J 8 4

West

1♦

All Pass

North

1♥

East

Pass

South

1NT

Baker Bidpractice/Set10 24

NORTH has 12 points and a good enough suit to overcall 1

.

SOUTH has 9 points with a good

stopper. She bids 1NT.

NORTH has nothing more to say, and lets SOUTH play 1NT.

1 NT by South