

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 6 2
♥ A 5 2
♦ A 7
♣ K J 10 9 3

15
12 9
4

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
2 ♥ by North			

♠ A K 5 3
♥ Q 10
♦ Q 6 5
♣ A 7 4 2



♠ 9 4
♥ K J 9 8 6 3
♦ 10 8
♣ 8 6 5

♠ Q J 10 8
♥ 7 4
♦ K J 9 4 3 2
♣ Q

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

With 6 ♥s of your own you can be sure that your side has at least an 8-card ♥ fit. So playing ♥s will be better than playing notrump. You bid 2 ♦, transferring partner to ♥s. Partner says 2 ♥.

Of course you pass. You only have 6 points so there is no chance for game. You just wanted to reach the best partscore and figured 2 ♥ would be safer than 1 NT.

As you can see from partner's hand you made the right call. Played in ♥s your hand will produce five tricks. At notrump your hand will win only one trick if the defenders hold up their ♥ A just one time.

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 9 3
 ♥ 9 7 2
 ♦ A 10 7 5 2
 ♣ 10

8
 9 8
 15

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 ♠ by South

♠ Q 8 7 6 4

♥ Q 4

♦ K 6 3

♣ J 9 2



♠ K 10 5

♥ A 5

♦ Q J 8 4

♣ K Q 7 3

North

2 ♥

2 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

2 ♠

3 ♠

South's 1 NT opening shows 15-17 points.
 What is your bid?

With 9 points you have an invitational strength hand. With a 5-card ♠ suit you should transfer partner to ♠s by bidding 2 ♥. Partner dutifully responds 2 ♠. What do you say now?

With this next bid you must tell partner you only have invitational strength, and inform him that you have only 5 ♠s (remember, your transfer promised AT LEAST 5). The bid that says both of these facts at once is 2 NT. Partner comes back with 3 ♠. What say you?

You say pass. Partner did not accept your invitation to game so he must have a minimum hand. His correction to 3 ♠ indicates he has three of the suit and

wants to play in ♠s rather than notrump.

You might revalue your hand up to 10 points now that an 8-card fit has been discovered, but it is a really poor 10 points. Also, remember the warning about Responder revaluing for short suits.

As you can see, a 4 ♠ contract would have no chance, losing 1 trick in each side suit and at least 1 ♠.

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 2		♠ A 9 8 3
♥ K Q J 9 6 3		♥ 10 8 2
♦ 9		♦ A 10 7 5 2
♣ J 8 6 5 4		♣ 10

15
7 8
10

♠ K 10 5
♥ A 5
♦ Q J 8 4
♣ K Q 7 3



♠ Q J 7 6 4
♥ 7 4
♦ K 6 3
♣ A 9 2

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by North			

North's 1 NT opening shows 15-17 points.
What is your bid?

With 11 points you are strong enough to force to game. With a 5-card ♠ suit you should transfer partner to ♠s by bidding 2 ♥. Partner dutifully responds 2 ♠. What do you say now?

You must make a bid that will force partner to game, but at the same time inform him that you have only 5 ♠s (remember, your transfer promised AT LEAST 5). The bid that says both of these facts at once is 3 NT. Partner comes back with 4 ♠. What say you?

You say pass.

You might revalue your hand up to 12 points now that an 8-card fit has been

discovered, but with partner's maximum of 17 you are nowhere near slam range.

A 4 ♠ contract is definitely the place to be.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 8 2
♥ A 5 3
♦ Q 9 4
♣ J 9 8 7

7
9 9
15

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 ♥ by South

♠ 5 3

♥ K 9 8 7 4 2

♦ A 10 6

♣ 6 5



♠ A J 7 6

♥ Q 6

♦ K 7 5 3

♣ K Q 4

North

2 ♦

3 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

2 ♥

Pass

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You have 9 points and 6 ♥s. You transfer partner to ♥s by bidding 2 ♦. He bids 2 ♥, as instructed.

What is your next bid?

You want to tell partner you have invitational strength. You also want to tell him that you have 6 ♥s, and that the contract must be played in ♥s. The bid that says both is 3 ♥.

Partner declines your invitation by passing.

A comment is in order about revaluing your hand. Since partner must have at least a doubleton ♥ it is tempting to claim that with the 8-card fit you should add

one point for each of your doubletons, bringing your total to 11. If you did this then you should be bidding game rather than just inviting. The problem with the revaluing is that counting doubleton points in the long-trump hand is deceiving. If you do end up ruffing one or both of those suits it will not add any tricks to your total since you would make your small trumps anyway. So when you have a 6-card suit it is more accurate to not revalue.

As you can see, making even 9 tricks is going to be a challenge.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 8 6

♥ J 9

♦ 9 7 4 3

♣ J 3 2

$$\begin{array}{r} 15 \\ 7 \quad 9 \\ 9 \end{array}$$
West

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ Q 10 9

♥ K 5 3

♦ K 6 2

♣ A K 8 4



♠ 5 3

♥ A Q 10 7 4 2

♦ Q J 10

♣ 6 5

North

1 NT

2 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♦

4 ♥

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You should bid 2 ♦ to transfer partner to ♥s. He bids 2 ♥. What do you say now?

You know you have at least an 8-card ♥ fit. You know you have at least 26 points (15 + 11). She who knows, goes, so you bid 4 ♥.

Deal 6

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 2		♠ A 6 4 3
♥ Q J 10 3		♥ 5 2
♦ K Q 5		♦ J 9 7 4
♣ 10 6 4 3 2		♣ Q J 7

17
8 8
7

♠ Q J 5
♥ K 8
♦ A 10 6 2
♣ A K 9 8

♠ K 10 9 8 7
♥ A 9 7 6 4
♦ 8 3
♣ 5

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by South			

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

You transfer of course, but to which Major? It can work either way, but the preferred method is to first transfer partner to ♥s when you have an invitational hand. So you bid 2 ♦, and partner of course says 2 ♥. What do you bid next?

You now show your second 5-card Major by bidding 2 ♠.

At this point partner becomes the Captain. You have described an invitational (9 point) hand with 5-5 in the Majors. Partner's next bid should set the contract wherever he chooses. In this case, with a maximum 1 NT opener and 3 ♠s he picks 4 ♠.

Note that you must have at least one Major suit fit since partner cannot have a doubleton in both.

Deal 7

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10 9 7
♥ 6 2
♦ 10 8 7 4 3
♣ A 10

10
7 8
15

♠ A J 8 5 4
♥ K Q 10 8 3
♦ 6
♣ 7 5



♠ Q 6
♥ A 7 4
♦ K J 9 2
♣ K Q 8 3

♠ 3 2
♥ J 9 5
♦ A Q 5
♣ J 9 6 4 2

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by North			

after partner's game bid.

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

This is the sequel to Deal 6. You are 5-5 in the Majors again, but this time you have game forcing strength.

The preferred method for this hand is to transfer partner to ♠s, so you bid 2 ♥.

What do you bid after partner completes the transfer?

You show your second 5-card Major by bidding 3 ♥. Since this shows game-forcing strength (11+ points) partner may not pass, but must bid either 4 ♥ or 4 ♠. In this Deal he naturally bids 4 ♥.

If you held an even stronger hand and wished to move toward a slam you would start out the same way but then bid again

Deal 8

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 9 8
♥ 10 8 7 6 2
♦ 10 7 2
♣ J 8

15
4 6
15

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ A Q 10 7 5

♥ 4

♦ 9 8 6

♣ A K Q 5



♠ J 4

♥ A Q J 5

♦ A Q J 3

♣ 10 9 6

North

2 ♥

3 ♣

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

2 ♠

3 NT

South opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

Initiate the transfer by bidding 2 ♥. After partner responds 2 ♠ what do you bid?

Your bid of a minor suit here shows at least 4 cards and is a slam try. With a weaker hand you would probably just bid 2 NT or 3 NT.

Having made the try, you accept whatever partner decides. In this case, with a 15 point minimum, a doubleton ♠ and no ♣ fit, partner settles on 3 NT.

Deal 9

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 4 3 2
 ♥ J 8 3
 ♦ A 5 4
 ♣ 8 6 3 2

17
 5 3
 15

West

North

East

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 NT by North

♠ K J

♥ K Q 9

♦ K 10 7 3

♣ A J 7 4



♠ A Q 10 7 5

♥ A 4

♦ 9 8 6

♣ K Q 5

♠ 9 8 6

♥ 10 7 6 5 2

♦ Q J 2

♣ 10 9

North opens 1 NT. What do you respond?

With 16 points you have to be thinking about slam. But first things first, start the transfer process by bidding 2 ♥.

What is your next bid after partner's 2 ♠?

With 16 points you want to make an invitation to slam, but you also need to let partner know that you only have 5 ♠s so that he can play notrump when he only has a doubleton ♠.

The BEST way to say both these things is to bid 4 NT. This is similar to the 2 NT bid in Deal 2.

But you can see the problem with the bid - if partner mistakes it for Blackwood 4 NT things could get very confused. So

don't use this unless you know both of you are on the same wavelength.

Here both partners understood the bid and North bid 6 NT.

Deal 10

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10 6 4 3
♥ 10 2
♦ Q J 8
♣ 9 6 5

5
6 9
20

♠ 7 5
♥ K Q 8 7 4
♦ 10 9 3
♣ 8 7 4



♠ Q 2
♥ A J 3
♦ A K 6 4
♣ K Q J 10

♠ A J 9 8
♥ 9 6 5
♦ 7 5 2
♣ A 3 2

West	North	East	South
			2 NT
Pass	♦	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by South

South opens 2 NT showing a balanced 20-21 point hand. What do you respond?

Jacoby Transfers work fine with 2 NT openings also. You should bid 3 ♦ as a transfer to ♥s. Partner complies by saying 3 ♥. What do you say now?

You bid 3 NT which tells partner you have just 5 ♥s and lets him decide on which game to play.

On this Deal partner has 3 ♥s so he bids on to 4 ♥.

Notice that when partner opens 2 NT the invitation to game option is no longer available. As responder you must decide immediately whether to stop short of game (by transferring then passing) or to go to game. This is not a serious problem

since the tighter (20-21) point range makes responder's decision easier to make.

Deal 11

North Deals
None Vul

♠ A J 6
♥ A 7 5 3
♦ 10 8 3 2
♣ 9 6

15
9 8
8

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 NT by North			

♠ K Q 7 5
♥ J 8
♦ A Q 6
♣ Q J 7 4



♠ 10 8 4 3
♥ K 4
♦ J 9 7
♣ A 10 5 2

♠ 9 2
♥ Q 10 9 6 2
♦ K 5 4
♣ K 8 3

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.
What do you bid?

This is an easy one. Partner has
commanded you to say 2 ♥. So you say
2 ♥. Partner now bids 2 NT.

What is your bid?

Partner's bidding shows 9 points and
exactly 5 ♥. He asks that you take him
back to ♥s if you have 3 of them. You
don't. He is asking you to bid game if you
have 17 points or a good 16. You don't.

So you pass.

Deal 12

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 5 2
♥ K 10 3
♦ A 6 4
♣ 7 6 5 2

8
7 8
17

♠ K J 10 6 3
♥ 9 6
♦ 9 8 2
♣ K J 4



♠ Q 4
♥ A Q 8
♦ K Q 10 5
♣ A 10 9 3

♠ A 9 8
♥ J 7 5 4 2
♦ J 7 3
♣ Q 8

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

3 NT by South

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♥.
What do you bid?

Naturally you say 2 ♠. Partner comes
back with 2 NT.

What do you bid?

Partner's bidding shows 9 points and
exactly 5 ♠. He asks that you take him
back to ♠s if you have 3 of them. You
don't. He is asking you to bid game if you
have 17 points. You do.

So you bid 3 NT.

Deal 13

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 8 4
 ♥ K 9 3
 ♦ 10 8 4 2
 ♣ 6 5

17
 8 7
 8

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ A 6 2
 ♥ 8 7 5
 ♦ A K Q
 ♣ A 10 9 8



♠ 9 3
 ♥ Q J 10 6 2
 ♦ 7 5 3
 ♣ K Q 4

North

1 NT

2 ♥

4 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♦

2 NT

Pass

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.
 What do you bid?

Partner's command is your wish - you say
 2 ♥.

He now bids 2 NT. What do you say?

Partner's bidding shows 9 points and
 exactly 5 ♥. He asks that you take him
 back to ♥s if you have 3 of them. You do.
 He is asking you to bid game if you have
 17 points. You do.

So you bid 4 ♥.

With your 3-3-3-4 distribution you might
 have been tempted to bid 3 NT instead of
 4 ♥. It's a good thing you didn't, they
 would have killed you in ♠s.

Deal 14

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 2		♠ Q 10 8 4
♥ K Q J 9 3		♥ 10 6
♦ K 8		♦ J 10 9 6 4
♣ Q 9 5 4 2		♣ A 10

7
11 7
15

♠ J 6
♥ A 7 5
♦ A Q 7 2
♣ K J 8 3

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

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♥.
What do you bid?

The initial response to a transfer is really easy. You bid 2 ♠.

But what do you bid after partner then says 3 ♠?

Partner has 6 ♠s and you have 2. So a ♠ contract is fine.

Partner has 9 points and you have 15. So a game contract is too high.

You pass. And you're going to have to play great to make even 9 tricks!

Deal 15

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 9 4 2

♥ 4 3

♦ A 8 6

♣ Q 10 7 4

17
8 8
7

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ A 6

♥ 9 6 5

♦ K Q J 2

♣ A K 9 8



♠ 8 7 3

♥ A K 10 8 7 2

♦ 9 3

♣ 6 5

North

1 NT

2 ♥

4 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♦

3 ♥

Pass

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.
What do you bid?

You follow orders and say 2 ♥.

Partner follows up with 3 ♥. What do you
bid next?

Partner has 9 points and 6 ♥s. You have
17 points and 3 ♥s. That adds up to 26
points and 9 ♥s. You have enough points
for game and enough trumps to play ♥s
so you bid 4 ♥.

Deal 16

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 5 2
♥ A 8 3
♦ 10 8 6
♣ Q J 4 2

9
8 6
17

♠ 10 9 8 7 3
♥ K Q 10
♦ A 4
♣ 10 7 3



♠ A 6
♥ 9 6 5
♦ K Q J 2
♣ A K 9 8

♠ K Q 4
♥ J 7 4 2
♦ 9 7 5 3
♣ 6 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

3 NT by South

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♥.
What do you bid?

You say 2 ♠ and partner rebids 2 NT.
What do you bid?

Partner has 9 points and a 5-card ♠ suit.
He is inviting you to choose a game if you
have maximum.

Since you have 17 points you accept the
invitation, but with only 2 ♠s you choose
3 NT.

Deal 17

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 10 7 3 2

♥ A 7 2

♦ 8 2

♣ Q 7 4

17
7 9
7

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ A K

♥ J 6 5

♦ A K J 4

♣ J 8 6 5



♠ Q 9 8 5 4

♥ K Q 10 8 3

♦ 7 5

♣ 3

North

1 NT

2 ♥

4 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♦

2 ♠

Pass

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.
What do you bid?

You obey partner and bid 2 ♥ but he then
bids 2 ♠.

What do you bid?

Partner has told you that he has an
inviting, 9-point hand with 5 of each
Major. He wants you to choose a Major
and also decide whether to play game or
partscore.

Despite your ♠s being so beautiful there
are only two of them so you pick ♥s. And
since you have a maximum 17 points you
bid the game, 4 ♥.

Deal 18

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 6 2
♥ J 3
♦ A 10 3 2
♣ 10 8 2

10
6 8
16

♠ A K 8 7 3
♥ K 10 9 6 5
♦ 7 5
♣ 9



♠ Q 10 5
♥ A Q 4
♦ K J 4
♣ K J 6 5

♠ 4
♥ 8 7 2
♦ Q 9 8 6
♣ A Q 7 4 3

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by South

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♥. What do you bid?

You say 2 ♠. Partner then bids 3 ♥. What do you bid?

Partner has a game forcing hand and is 5-5 in the Majors. He has asked you to choose one of them to bid game in.

With 3 of each you might be inclined to choose your stronger one, ♥s, but in fact that doesn't really matter since partner is probably stronger in ♠s.

What does matter is those minor suits. If the opening lead is a ♣ or ♦, which is very likely, you want the lead to be coming into your hand, not partner's. And in general you would prefer to have the stronger hand remain concealed. So you

bid 4 ♠ where you will be declarer, rather than 4 ♥ where partner would be declarer.

Deal 19

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 2
♥ 8 5
♦ Q 10 9 6 2
♣ J 5 4 3

17
3 6
14

♠ 10 5
♥ K Q 10 4
♦ A K 7
♣ K Q 9 8



♠ K Q 9 4
♥ A J 9 7 3
♦ 8 3
♣ A 6

♠ A J 8 6 3
♥ 6 2
♦ J 5 4
♣ 10 7 2

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	6 ♥
ALL	Pass		

6 ♥ by North

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.
What do you bid?

Just hold it a minute and DO NOT say 2 ♥. True, when partner transfers, you almost always just obey and complete the transfer. This is the one time when you don't. You had a 17 point 1 NT opener with 4 ♥s and a doubleton. As soon as partner told you to bid ♥s your hand became worth 18 points because of the good trump support and the doubleton. So you inform partner of this by making the "super-accept" bid of 3 ♥. In other words, you complete the transfer with a jump.

Partner's eyes get big (but you aren't allowed to notice that) and he bids 4 ♣.

What do you bid?

Partner's ♣ bid was not a suit, you already have an agreed suit, ♥s. The ♣ bid was showing you first round control in ♣s, and is a slam try by partner.

You continue the search for slam by showing your first round ♦ control, you bid 4 ♦.

That was all partner needed to hear, he jumps straight to 6 ♥.

Deal 20

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 7 2
 ♥ 8 4
 ♦ Q 5 3
 ♣ 10 6 5 4

6
 9 5
 20

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by South

♠ Q 9 8 5 3

♥ 7 2

♦ 8 6 4 2

♣ A 3



♠ J 10 4

♥ A K

♦ A K 9 7

♣ K Q 9 8

North

3 ♥

3 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 NT

3 ♠

4 ♠

You open 2 NT and partner responds 3 ♥. What do you bid?

You bid 3 ♠, just as partner asked. He puts you in game at 3 NT. What do you say? Bid or pass?

Bid of course. You have an 8-card ♠ fit so you prefer ♠s to notrump.

As you can see, 3 NT would surely go down with a ♥ lead, while 4 ♠ is cold.

One hand doesn't mean it will always be like this, but usually if you have an 8-card fit the Major suit game will be better than 3 NT.

Deal 21

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 5 3 2		♠ Q 9 7 4
♥ 9 6		♥ 4 2
♦ Q J 8 7 6		♦ 4 3 2
♣ 10 9		♣ A 7 5 2

♠ A J 10
♥ K 8 5 3
♦ A K
♣ J 8 6 4



16
3 6
15

♠ K 6
♥ A Q J 10 7
♦ 10 9 5
♣ K Q 3

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

6 ♥ by North

suit. So you bid 6 ♥.

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.
What do you bid?

You are very close to being strong enough for a "Super-accept", but with this hand you should just complete the transfer to 2 ♥.

Partner now says 4 NT. What do you bid?

If you don't remember Deal 9 go back and look at it now. Partner is not bidding Blackwood, he has about 16 points and is inviting you to bid a slam if you have a maximum. He is also telling you that he has just 5 ♥s and wants you to decide between the suit contract and notrump.

Once you understand partner's bid, your next move is simple. You have a maximum and you prefer to play in the

Deal 22

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10 9 7
♥ 8 2
♦ J 8 6
♣ Q 9 6 5

15
6 4
15

♠ J 3
♥ A K 9 5 3
♦ 4 2
♣ A K 7 2



♠ A Q 6 4
♥ J 6
♦ A K 7 5
♣ J 8 3

♠ 8 5 2
♥ Q 10 7 4
♦ Q 10 9 3
♣ 10 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

3 NT by South

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦.
What do you bid?

You complete the transfer by bidding 2 ♥.

Partner now says 3 ♣. What do you bid?

Partner has 5 ♥s and probably 4 ♣s.

He is interested in slam and wants help from you in either of his suits. You have a minimum 1 NT opener and no help for him so you try to dampen his enthusiasm by bidding 3 NT. It works.

Deal 23

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 7 5 3 2
 ♥ 4
 ♦ J 8
 ♣ K Q J 9

15
 12 0
 13

West

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ 9 4

♥ A 8 6

♦ A K 9 7

♣ A 8 6 5

N
 W E
 S

♠ A J 10

♥ K Q J 9 3

♦ Q 4 3

♣ 7 2

North

1 NT

Pass

4 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♦

3 NT

Pass

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦. However, your Right Hand Opponent injects a 2 ♠ overcall.

What do you bid?

You don't want to bid 3 ♥ because partner might have a very weak hand. Since you don't really have anything to add to your opening bid you PASS.

Remember, you have a partner who heard your first bid and he knows more about the hand than you do. And he now bids 3 NT. What do you say now?.

Aha! Partner does have a good hand, at least 11 points and with 5 ♥s.

You have a minimum, but with 3 ♥s you prefer the suit game to 3 NT so you bid

4 ♥.

Deal 24

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 2		♠ A K Q 7 5 3
♥ 10		♥ K 4
♦ Q J 10 7 4		♦ 8 3
♣ K Q 10 7 2		♣ J 4 3

	♠ 9 4
	♥ A J 8 6
	♦ A K 9
	♣ A 8 6 5

	2		
	9	13	
	16		
West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	2♠	1 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	3♥
3♥ by South			

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2♦. However, your Right Hand Opponent injects a 2♠ overcall.

What do you bid?

More often than not it is correct to pass after an opponent overcalls your partner's transfer response. This is because your partner might be very weak, and in any case your partner knows a lot about your hand while you don't know much about his.

However, in this case you know that your side has at least 9♥s, and you are weak in ♠s. So you bid 3♥, knowing that even if you go down it may be better than letting them play ♠s.

Deal 25

East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 9 5
♥ A K 7 5 3
♦ 8 3
♣ K 4 2

10
10 16
4

West

2 ♦

Dbl

2 ♠ by North

♠ K Q 8 7 6 3

♥ Q 2

♦ 10 6

♣ Q J 9



♠ 2

♥ J 10 9 4

♦ Q J 5 4 2

♣ 10 7 3

North

2 ♠

Pass

East

1 NT

Pass

Pass

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

You open 1 NT and partner responds 2 ♦. However, your Right Hand Opponent injects a 2 ♠ overcall. What do you bid?

It is usually correct to pass in this situation, particularly if you are not strong in partner's suit. So you pass and partner doubles.

What do you say now?

Partner's double is called a Cooperative Double. It doesn't mean he has a ♠ stack, it just means that your side has the balance of power and North may have over-reached himself.

If you had good ♥s you might bid them now. Or, it is possible that you could make 3 NT. But it is likely that you are

going to make a bigger score in penalties so you pass.