

**Deal 1**West Deals  
None Vul

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

**13**  
**13 8**  
 $\begin{matrix} 6 \\ \end{matrix}$

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♦	1♠	2♦	2♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2♠ by North			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

With only 7 points you might not think you have enough to make a "free bid". But in competitive bidding situations like these, where both sides have a fit, bidding is usually better than passing. So you bid 2♠.

You might look at the Law of Total Tricks lesson for more on this subject.

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 4 2

♥ A 9 3

♦ 10 5

♣ K Q 9 3

♠ —

♥ J 8 7 2

♦ K Q 4

♣ J 10 7 6 5 4



West      North      East      South

1 ♦      1 ♠

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

Pass

3 ♠ by South

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid.

You have enough for a 1-level Overcall so you bid 1 ♠. Partner says 3 ♠. What do you say now?

The jump raise tells you partner has 11-14 points.

With your minimum it's going to have to be better than that to get you excited. So you pass.

**Deal 3**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9  
♥ A K Q J 9  
♦ K Q J 10 3  
♣ 6

8  
16 9  
7

♠ A Q J 6 4

♥ 3

♦ 9 8 6 2

♣ J 8 2

		N	
	W	E	
		S	

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

♠ K 8 7 5 3

♥ 7 5 2

♦ A

♣ 7 5 4 3

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

4 ♠ by North

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

You have 10 points, but in cases like this points don't matter that much. They MIGHT be able to make 4 ♥. Partner MIGHT be able to make 4 ♠. This preemptive jump takes the decision away from them.

Looking at the hands you can see that partner is going to go down 1 at 4 ♠. However, that is an excellent result since they appear to be cold for 5 ♥.

**Deal 4**East Deals  
None Vul

♠ 10 9 8  
 ♥ 6 5  
 ♦ 10 9 8 7  
 ♣ K 7 6 3

**11**  
**3 12**  
**14**

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

W N  
S E

♠ K Q 4 2  
 ♥ J 2  
 ♦ Q J 2  
 ♣ Q J 10 8

♠ 5 3  
 ♥ A K 10 8 4  
 ♦ K 6 3  
 ♣ A 5 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1♣	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4♥ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid.

Nice hand. But not nice enough to double, then bid your ♥s. So you overcall 1♥. Partner says 3♥. It is your bid.

The jump raise promises 11-14 points. Your 17 plus partner's 11 or so takes you right up to game. You bid 4♥.

**Deal 5**

East Deals

None Vul

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

**12**  
**5 12**  
**11**

W	N
S	E

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

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
3 NT by North			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

Partner has at least 11 points for his 2-level overcall. He might have as many as 16. You have a perfect invitational hand including two sure stoppers in their suit. So you bid 2 NT. Partner raises to 3 NT and you get to play it there.