

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 3
♥ Q 9 6 3
♦ K J 9 4
♣ 10 5 2

16
7 6
11

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♠ by North

♠ A Q 9 7 4
♥ 8
♦ A 6 3 2
♣ K Q J



♠ K 8 6 5 2
♥ K J 10 7
♦ —
♣ A 9 8 3

North

1 ♠

4 NT

6 ♠

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

4 ♦

5 NT

Pass

Your 4 ♦ bid is a Splinter Bid, showing opening hand strength, at least 4 ♠s, and a singleton or void in ♦s. Partner bids 4 NT.

You have 2 Key-Cards, the ♠ K and the ♣ A. So do you bid 5 ♥?

No. You have two Key-Cards AND a void. So you bid 5 NT. Partner bids 6 ♠.

Deal 2

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 5
♥ Q J 3
♦ 10 7 5 4 3
♣ 8 7 3

13
3 4
20

West

♠ A 10 8
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ K 10 6 5



♠ K Q J
♥ A 10 7 6
♦ A Q J
♣ Q J 9

*North**East**South*

Pass

Pass

Pass

5 ♥ by South

3 ♣

4 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 NT

3 ♥

5 ♥

Pass

Your partner's 2 NT opener is 20-21 points and the 3 ♣ bid is Stayman. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You know of 33 points and you know of an 8-card ♥ fit. The math tells you that 6 ♥ should be a good slam but you might as well check Key-Cards, that's why the convention was invented. So you bid 4 NT and partner answers 5 ♥. What do you say?

You say "Darn!" You are missing just one Key-Card, but you are also missing the trump Queen. And with partner holding only a 4-card suit that Queen might well win a trick. Knowing that at best the slam will depend on a trump finesse you pass 5 ♥.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 6 5 3

♥ 3

♦ 10 9 8 6 3

♣ J 7 6 2

10

1 5

24

♠ 7

♥ K Q 9 8 5

♦ K Q 7 4

♣ 9 8 3



♠ A K Q J

♥ A J 10 7

♦ A 5

♣ K Q 10

♠ 10 9 8 4 2

♥ 6 4 2

♦ J 2

♣ A 5 4

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by North

2 ♥

5 ♣

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 ♣

4 NT

6 ♥

With 11 points and a good suit you should make a positive response. So you bid 2 ♥. Partner then says 4 NT. What is your bid?

The 4 NT bid agrees ♥s as trump. You have one Key-Card, the ♥ K, so you bid 5 ♣. Partner bids the ♥ slam.

Deal 4

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10
♥ A K 9 8 4
♦ K Q 8
♣ K Q 6

♠ 8 4
♥ 10 7 2
♦ 10 7 5 2
♣ A 9 7 4



♠ 9 6 2
♥ Q J 3
♦ J 9 6
♣ J 10 5 3

20
4 5
11

♠ A Q J 7 5 3
♥ 6 5
♦ A 4 3
♣ 8 2

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Your partner has shown a minimum opening hand, but with 6 ♠s. You are happy with the 8-card trump fit but need to know about Key-Cards. So you bid 4 NT. Partner answers 5 ♠ and it is your bid again.

Partner has two Aces and the ♠ Q. That should be all he needs to make slam so you bid 6 ♠.

Deal 5

South Deals

None Vul

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

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



♠ 10 8 3
 ♥ 7 6
 ♦ 9 5 2
 ♣ K 9 8 4 2

9
 7 3
 21

♠ A K Q J
 ♥ A Q 10 4 3
 ♦ A J 8
 ♣ 7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	7 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

7 ♥ by North

With 11 points and a good suit you should make a positive response. So you bid 2 ♥. Partner then says 4 NT. What is your bid?

The 4 NT bid agrees ♥s as trump. You have one Key-Card, the ♥ K, but you also have a void in ♣s. You therefore answer 6 ♣. Partner goes all the way to 7 ♥.

Deal 6

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 6 5 2
♥ A Q 7 4
♦ K 8 6
♣ A Q

♠ J
♥ 9 5 3 2
♦ A 5 2
♣ 10 7 4 3 2



♠ Q 8 4 3
♥ 8 6
♦ 9 7 4
♣ 9 8 6 5

♠ A 10 9 7
♥ K J 10
♦ Q J 10 3
♣ K J

18
5 2
15

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
5 ♠ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Partner has 15-17 points and 4 ♠s. You have 18 points and 4 ♠s. You plan to bid the slam, but first you check Key-Cards. So you bid 4 NT. Partner says 5 ♣. What do you bid?

You are missing 1 Key-Card. Slam has become less certain. You decide to see if partner has the trump Queen so you bid 5 ♦. Partner bids 5 ♠. What do you say next?

Partner denies having the ♠ Q. Knowing that the best you could hope for would be a finesse to make the slam you give up your quest and pass.