

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 6
♥ J 10 9 3
♦ 9 7 6 5
♣ Q 10 9 8

21
3 6
10

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9
♥ Q 4 2
♦ Q J 10 2
♣ J 7 5 3 2

♠ K 10 7 2
♥ A K 8 6 5
♦ 8 3
♣ 6 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	5 NT	Pass	6 ♦
Pass	7 NT	ALL	Pass

7 NT by North

Your 2 ♥ response shows 8+ points, with at least 5 ♥s. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Your hand is looking better and better. You already gave a positive response so you know you are forced to game. It is better to keep the bidding low to allow more investigating room so you bid 3 ♠. Partner bids 4 NT. What is your response?

With ♠s agreed as trumps you have two Key-Cards, the ♠ K and the ♥ A. With no trump Queen you respond 5 ♥. Partner now says 5 NT. What do you reply?

Partner is asking for Kings and you have just 1, the ♥ K. Remember, the ♠ K is not a King, it is a Key-Card which you have already counted. So you bid 6 ♦. Partner counts 13 tricks and bids 7 NT.

Deal 2
North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ A 8
♦ 10 8 6 4
♣ K J 5

11 18
4
7

N
W E
S

♠ 8 2
♥ 10 7 5 2
♦ A 9
♣ 10 9 8 4 2

♠ A K 9 6 5 4
♥ K Q 6
♦ K Q J 2
♣ —

♠ 10
♥ J 9 4 3
♦ 7 5 3
♣ A Q 7 6 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		
6 ♠ by East			

Partner's 3 ♠ is a limit raise, 11-12 points and good ♠ support. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

What you DO NOT say next is 4 NT. If partner answered 1 Key-Card you would not know what to do. If he has a red Ace you can make slam, but if his one Key-Card were the ♣ A you couldn't. Instead you make a control-showing bid of 4 ♣, promising first round control. Partner obliges you by bidding 4 ♥. What is your next bid?

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Partner's bidding is like the Sherlock Holmes tale Silver Blaze, about the dog that didn't bark. Partner's ♥ bid shows that he DOES have the ♥ A, but equally important it shows that he DOES NOT

have the ♦ A. So you know you don't have a ♥ loser but do have a ♦ loser. You bid 6 ♠.