

Deal 1

East Deals
None Vul

♠ J 8 3
♥ K 8 6 5 4
♦ 6 4 3
♣ 10 9

7
4 15
14

West

Pass
1 ♦ by East

♠ Q 7 6 4
♥ J 7 2
♦ 9 2
♣ A 8 4 3



♠ A 9
♥ A Q 9 3
♦ K 8 7 5
♣ J 6 5

North

Pass

East

1 ♦

South

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your turn. Decide what you would say, then click on "" above. [BID pass]

You have 14 points but so what. You have no 5-card suit to Overcall. You cannot make a Takeout Double with 4 of their suit. So you pass. It is important to realize that there are hands you would open but cannot overcall with.

Deal 2

West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 8 4
♥ 6 2
♦ A 10 8
♣ K Q J 7 4

10
12 8
10

West

1 ♣

Pass

3 ♥ by North

♠ 10 9 2
♥ A Q J 7 5
♦ Q J 7
♣ 8 6



♠ A 7 5 3
♥ K 10 9 3
♦ K 9 6 4
♣ 5

North

1 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

3 ♥

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 3 ♥]

With four trumps and 12 points you have a text-book raise to 3 ♥. Partner had a minimum overcall though, so he passed.

Deal 3

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 6 5 2

♥ 4 2

♦ K J 10 4

♣ A 7 2

7
10 12
11

West

Pass

Pass

2 ♥ by South

♠ A 7 4 3

♥ K 8 3

♦ 6 3

♣ 9 8 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ 10 9

♥ A Q J 7 5

♦ A 8 7 5

♣ 6 5

North

2 ♥

East

1 ♣

Pass

South

1 ♥

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 1 ♥]

With 12 points and a good suit you have a very solid overcall so you bid 1 ♥. Partner responds 2 ♥. What do you say? [BID pass]

Partner is showing 6-10 points and three trumps. Your hand revalues to 14 at most so you pass.

Deal 4

West Deals
None Vul

♠ 4 3
♥ A 10 5
♦ A 8 7 5
♣ A J 10 2

10
13 10
7

West

1 ♦

Pass

1 ♠ by North

♠ K Q J 9 7

♥ 8

♦ Q 6 2

♣ Q 9 4 3



♠ 6

♥ K J 9 4 3

♦ K 9 4

♣ 8 7 6 5

North

1 ♠

East

Pass

South

Pass

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

You really don't like partner's ♠s, and you do have 8 points. But 8 points is not enough to be considering game, and you would have to bid your ♥s at the 2-level. All things considered it is better to pass while you still aren't doubled.

Deal 5

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 6 3

♥ 10

♦ K 8 6

♣ A J 9 8 7 4 2

9
8 14
9

West

Pass

Pass

3 ♥ by South

♠ J 7 5 2

♥ A 8 6 3

♦ A 10 2

♣ 10 3

N
W E
S

♠ 10 9

♥ K Q J 7 5 2

♦ Q J 7

♣ 6 5

North

3 ♥

East

1 ♠

Pass

South

2 ♥

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 2 ♥]

You overcall 2 ♥ and hear partner raise you to 3 ♥. What do you say now? [BID pass]

No matter how many times you check this hand you cannot revalue it any more than 13 points. Since partner has T at the most you reluctantly pass.

Deal 6

West Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 4
♥ Q 7 5 4
♦ A K 4 2
♣ A 10 6

13
13 8
6

West

1 ♦

Pass

2 ♠ by North

♠ 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

North

1 ♠

Pass

East

2 ♦

Pass

South

2 ♠

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2 ♠]

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 7

East Deals

None Vul

♠ —

♥ J 8 7 2

♦ K Q 4

♣ J 10 7 6 5 4

12
7 13
8

West

Pass

Pass

3 ♠ by South

♠ K 8 4 2

♥ A 9 3

♦ 10 5

♣ K Q 9 3



♠ Q J 10 9 3

♥ K Q 4

♦ 8 6 3

♣ 8 2

North

3 ♠

East

1 ♦

Pass

South

1 ♠

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 1 ♠]

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

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 8

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q J 6 4

♥ 3

♦ 9 8 6 2

♣ J 8 2

♠ 10 9

♥ A K Q J 9

♦ K Q J 10 3

♣ 6



♠ 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

8
16 9
7

West

1 ♥

Pass

4 ♠ by North

North

1 ♠

Pass

East

3 ♥

Pass

South

4 ♠

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 4 ♠]

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 9

East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 9 8
♥ 6 5
♦ 10 9 8 7
♣ K 7 6 3

11
3 12
14

West

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

North

3 ♥

Pass

♠ A J 7 6
♥ Q 9 7 3
♦ A 5 4
♣ 9 2



♠ 5 3
♥ A K 10 8 4
♦ K 6 3
♣ A 5 4

East

1 ♣

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♥

4 ♥

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 1 ♥]

Nice hand. But not nice enough to double, then bid your ♥s. So you overcall 1 ♥. Partner says 3 ♥. It is your bid. [BID 4 ♥]

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 10

West Deals

None Vul

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

11
12 5
12

♠ 7 2
♥ Q 8
♦ J 5 2
♣ A K J 9 7 2



♠ A K 5
♥ K 10 5 2
♦ 10 9 7 4
♣ Q 3

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

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2 NT]

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.

Deal 11

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 6 5

♥ 7 5

♦ Q 8 7 6 2

♣ 5 4 2

9
2 11
18

♠ A 8 3 2

♥ K J 10 6

♦ J 9 3

♣ 10 8



♠ K Q 9

♥ A 8 4

♦ A 10 5

♣ K Q 9 3

♠ J 10 4

♥ Q 9 3 2

♦ K 4

♣ A J 7 6

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

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

1 NT

Pass

2 NT

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 NT

3 NT by South

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 1 NT]

This hand would be one point too strong to Open 1 NT, but it fits the 15-18 range to Overcall 1 NT. Partner responds 2 ♣. What do you bid? [BID 2 ♦]

Don't get your systems crossed. Partner did not make a cue-bid, he is using Stayman. Since you have no 4-card Major suit you answer 2 ♦. Partner now says 2 NT and the ball is in your court. [BID 3 NT]

This is just a plain old 1 NT/Stayman sequence. Partner is inviting, and since you have 18 points you accept.

Deal 12

West Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 2
♥ 9 5 3 2
♦ A K 4 3
♣ A 7 5

10
11 5
14

♠ A K 10 7 5
♥ J 6
♦ 9 7 2
♣ Q 8 3



♠ Q 8 6 3
♥ A K Q 7
♦ 6 5
♣ K 10 6

♠ J 4
♥ 10 8 4
♦ Q J 10 8
♣ J 9 4 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by North

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2 ♦]

Wow! Great ♠ support and 15 points. You cue-bid 2 ♦, forcing partner to bid. He says 2 ♠. Your turn. [BID 4 ♠]

Partner has not made a strong bid and it is possible that T tricks will be too high. But it is pretty likely that game can be made so you bid it. Be bold!

Deal 13

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 5 3 2

♥ J 9

♦ A 10 4

♣ K J 6 3

8

13 11

8

West

Pass

2 ♠ by South

♠ 10 7

♥ K Q 6 2

♦ K 8 5

♣ 8 7 4 2



♠ K Q J 9 8 4

♥ 8 4

♦ Q 6 3

♣ 9 5

North

Pass

East

1 ♥

Pass

South

2 ♠

♠ 6

♥ A 10 7 5 3

♦ J 9 7 2

♣ A Q 10

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 2 ♠]

If you had been the dealer you would have opened 2 ♠. The situation is no different after they open so you Overcall 2 ♠. Everybody passes.

Deal 14

West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10 2
♥ A 10 8
♦ K Q 10 9 7
♣ J 3

9
12 9
10

West

1 ♦

Pass

Pass

2 ♠ by South

♠ 9 7 5
♥ K Q J 9 7
♦ 8 3
♣ K 5 2



♠ A K J 8 6 3
♥ 3
♦ 6 5
♣ Q 10 7 6

North

1 ♥

2 ♠

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♠

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 1 ♠]

You don't like to take partner out of his overcalled suit without good reason. Here you have good reason. So you bid 1 ♠. Partner replies 2 ♠. What do you say next? [BID pass]

You expect partner to have three trumps, but he has made a minimum bid. So you take the conservative route and pass.

Deal 15

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 4 2

♥ 10 5 3

♦ 10 9 5 4

♣ K 6 3 2

12

3 14

11

West

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by North

♠ K Q J 9 7 3

♥ Q

♦ A 8 7 2

♣ 10 4



♠ 10 8 5

♥ A K J 8 4

♦ K 6 3

♣ 9 5

North

1 ♠

4 ♠

East

1 ♣

Pass

ALL

South

1 ♥

2 ♠

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 1 ♥]

You have a nice easy decision here. You overcall 1 ♥. Then partner bids 1 ♠. What do you say next? [BID 2 ♠]

Whether you play a change of suit as forcing or not, your hand certainly qualifies as one where you should make a bid. Partner doesn't really like your ♥s but you are quite satisfied to play in ♠s. So you bid 2 ♠. Partner jumps to 4 ♠ and that closes out the auction.

Deal 16

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A 6 5 2
♥ Q J 2
♦ Q 8 3 2
♣ K 4

15
12 4
9

West
1 ♦
Pass
Pass
3 ♥ by North

♠ J 10 9
♥ K 10 7 3
♦ A J 10
♣ A Q 5



♠ K Q 8 3
♥ A 8 6 5
♦ 6 5
♣ 10 7 6

North
1 NT
2 ♥
Pass

East
Pass
Pass
Pass

South
2 ♣
3 ♥

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2 ♣]

You treat partner's 1 NT Overcall the same as a 1 NT Opening. You use Stayman and bid 2 ♣. Partner replies 2 ♥. What is your next bid? [BID 3 ♥]

You have 9 points, an invitational strength hand. You bid 3 ♥, inviting partner to go to game with a maximum. He declines your invitation.

Deal 17

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 5 2

♥ 8 7

♦ 10 8 7 6 4

♣ 8 5 4

15
2 12
11

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ 8 4

♥ K Q J

♦ A Q 9 5

♣ K 9 7 2



♠ A J 9

♥ 10 9 4

♦ K 3

♣ Q J 10 6 3

North

2 ♠

3 NT

East

1 ♠

Pass

ALL

South

2 ♣

2 NT

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 2 ♣]

You have a sound 2-level overcall. You bid 2 ♣ and partner replies 2 ♠. What is your next bid? [BID 2 NT]

Partner's cue-bid obviously forces you to bid. Partner's hand might be very distributional, but rather than just sticking to ♣s you suggest with 2 NT. This guarantees you have ♠s stopped. Partner likes your suggestion and bids 3 NT.

Deal 18

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A 7 2
♥ K 5 4 2
♦ 10 6
♣ A K 3 2

13
14 0
13

West

1 ♣

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ K Q J 10 5

♥ Q 10 7

♦ A J 3

♣ 8 7



♠ 8 3

♥ A J 9

♦ K Q 9 7

♣ Q J 10 6

North

1 ♠

3 NT

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 NT

Pass

♠ 9 6 4

♥ 8 6 3

♦ 8 5 4 2

♣ 9 5 4

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2 NT]

Balanced hand, poor support for partner's suit, stoppers in their suit and 13 points. You couldn't get a better hand to jump to 2 NT. Partner takes you to 3 NT.

Deal 19

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 7 6 5 4

♥ 9 6 4

♦ J 2

♣ J 4 3

16
4 12
8

♠ A J 10

♥ Q 10 7

♦ A 7 5

♣ K Q 10 9

N
W E
S

♠ 8 3

♥ K 8 5

♦ K Q 10 9 6 4

♣ 7 2

♠ K 9 2

♥ A J 3 2

♦ 8 3

♣ A 8 6 5

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

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. [BID 2 ♦]

With a good 6-card suit and 10 points you make a Weak Jump Overcall to 2 ♦. Partner says 2 NT. What do you bid now? [BID 3 ♥]

The 2 NT bid is a standard response to a Weak 2-bid. It asks for the identification of any outside high-card if the Weak 2-bidder has more than a minimum. Here you are in the top range for your bid so you show your ♥ K.

That was apparently the missing link for

partner, he now says 3 NT.

Deal 20

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 10 9 3 2
♥ 8 4 2
♦ A 7
♣ 9 2

♠ —
♥ 10 9
♦ Q 9 8 3 2
♣ A K Q 7 5 3



♠ J 7 6 4
♥ Q J 6 5 3
♦ 10 5 4
♣ J

9
11 5
15

♠ A 8 5
♥ A K 7
♦ K J 6
♣ 10 8 6 4

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

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say? [BID 2 NT]

You might just try 4 ♠. Of course if partner has a minimum Weak Jump Overcall that will get you much too high. A better approach is to ask for more information from partner. The bid that asks is 2 NT. Partner replies 3 ♦. What do you bid now? [BID 4 ♠]

Partner's 3 ♦ bid tells you two things. One, he is in the top half of his 6-11 point range. Two, he has a high card (Ace or King) in ♦s. When you construct a hand for him which contains 6 pretty good ♠s

and the ♦ A you come up with a hand which will probably make game. Bid 4 ♠.