

SIMPLE RESPONSES – PART TWO- October 14, 2020

Last week we learned that to respond to your partner's opening or overcall you need at least 6 points. Unless your partner has made a forcing opening bid (like 2 clubs), you would pass with fewer than 6 points in your hand. We learned about the following situations:

1. Your partner has opened in a minor suit: If you have a four card major suit, you would respond by bidding that suit.
2. Your partner has opened in a major suit: If you have 3 cards in that suit, you would respond by bidding partner's major suit. With 6-10 points you would bid it at the 2 level. With 11-12 points you would bid it at the 3 level. With 13 or more points you could go right to game (e.g. 4 hearts or 4 spades).

There are other situations in which you have enough points to respond to your partner, but you don't have a 4 card major to answer partner's minor suit bid, or you don't have at least 3 cards in partner's major suit. You still need to bid.

Partner opens in a minor suit, but you don't have a four card major:

One option you could take is to respond *1 No Trump*. This bid shows that you don't have a major suit for partner and you have between 6-10 points. A one no trump response always shows 6-10 points!!

Another option you could take is to respond in partner's suit. For example, if he opens 1 club, you could respond 2 clubs. Just like above, that would show 6-10 points. The difference is, you would need about 5 clubs. Why?

Remember, partner may have as few as 3 clubs and still open 1 club.

Partner opens in a major suit, but you don't have support in his suit:

One option you could take is to respond *1 No Trump*. As explained above, this is something you could do with 6-10 points, and no support in partner's major suit.

The above bids are used when you are responding with a weak hand (6-10 points). You have other options with more points.

When you have 11 or more points, you can feel free to show your best suit, even if you have to go to the 2 level to bid it (Remember, every bid has to be higher on the bidding scale than the previous one). **YOU CANNOT GO TO THE 2 LEVEL TO RESPOND UNLESS YOU HAVE AT LEAST 11 POINTS.** (The one exception to that is if you are making a simple raise—partner opens 1 spade, you bid 2 spades). So openers, remember.... If partner bids to the 2 level after you open at the one level, he's showing you 11 points. Bear that in mind when deciding whether or not to bid to game (Remember 3 NT needs 25 points, 4 H or 4 S needs 26 points, 5 C or 5 D needs 28 or 29 points). **What do you bid?**

Partner has opened 1 Diamond:

Spades – A, 8, 6

Spades – A. 8. 6

Hearts – A, 10, 9

Hearts – A, K, Q, J, 7, 4

Diamonds – 10, 8, 5, 4

Diamonds – 9

Clubs – J, 6, 5

Clubs – 5,4,3

Spades – A, J, 5, 3

Spades – J, 10

Hearts – 10, 5, 4, 3

Hearts – K, J, 9,5

Diamonds – 6, 3, 2

Diamonds – Q, J, 10, 9, 7, 3

Clubs – 3, 2

Clubs - 8

Partner has opened 1 Spade:

Spades – A. K. 3, 2

Spades – A, K

Hearts – A. K, 3

Hearts – J, 7,5, 4, 2

Diamonds – 10, 8, 7, 4, 3, 2

Diamonds – 8,4,2

Clubs- X

Clubs – 8,5,4

OPENING BIDS, OVERCALLS AND RESPONSES EXERCISE Lesson 5- October 14, 2020

What would you bid as the dealer?

1. Spades – A, Q, J, 10
 Hearts – K, 9, 8, 7, 3
 Diamonds – Q, 6, 2
 Clubs – 7

2. S- A, J, 10, 9, 2
 H- K, Q, 9, 7, 6
 D- 10
 C- J, 8

3. S-8
 H- J, 10, 9, 8
 D – A, 5, 3, 2
 C – A, 9, 6, 5

4. Spades – 8
 Hearts-J, 10, 9, 8
 Diamonds – A, K, 3, 2
 Clubs- A, K, J, 6

5. S - K, 10, 5
 H- A, Q, 8, 6
 D – Q, J, 8
 C – A, 9, 2

6. S – Q, J, 10, 5
 H – A, Q, 2
 D – A, K, 6, 3
 C – A, J

You are East. North bids 1 Spade. What is your bid?

7. Spades – 10, 9
 Hearts – A, K, 9, 8, 6
 Diamonds – 7, 6, 5
 Clubs – 8, 4, 3

8. S- A, K, Q, J, 10
 H- J, 8, 6
 D – 8, 7, 2
 C – 6, 4

9. S – 9, 7, 4
 H – A, Q, 10, 2
 D – A, K, 8, 4, 3
 C – 8

Your partner, North, bids 1 Heart. East passes. As South, what's your bid?

10. Spades – A, K, 10, 6
 Hearts – 8, 7
 Diamonds – Q, 9, 5, 4
 Clubs – 9, 6, 3

11. S – A, K, 9
 H – Q, 10, 4
 D – 10, 8, 7, 5
 C – 9, 6, 3

12. S – A, 7
 H – A, K, 8, 6
 D – Q, 7, 4, 2
 C – 8, 6, 5

Your partner opens 1 Diamond. Your RHO passes. What's your bid?

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|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 13. Spades – A, 10, 8, 6 | 14. S – J, 10, 8, 4 | 15. S – 7, 5 |
| Hearts – K, 9, 7, 5 | H – Q, 5, 4 | H – 9, 6, 3 |
| Diamonds – 10, 3, 2 | D – 9, 6, 5, 3 | D – Q, 10, 6 |
| Clubs – 9, 2 | C – 4, 2 | C – A, K, 7, 6, 3 |
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Your partner opens 1 Spade. Your RHO passes. Your bid?

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| 16. Spades – A, 10 | 17. S – K, 10, 8 | 18. S – A |
| Hearts – 10, 9, 8, 7, 6 | H – A, Q, 10, 9 | H – K, J, 10 |
| Diamonds – K, 8, 4 | D – A, 8, 6 | D – A, Q, 8, 4, 2 |
| Clubs – J, 9, 3 | C – 9, 7, 5 | C – 8, 6, 5, 4 |
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What is your opening bid?

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 19. Spades – A, K, 10, 9, 8, 4 | 20. S – A, K, 10, 9, 8, 4 | 21. S – A, K, 10, 9, 8, 4 |
| Hearts – A, K, Q | H – A, Q, 5 | H – J, 10, 5 |
| Diamonds – A, J | D – 10, 9, 8, 4 | D – 9, 8 |
| Clubs – J, 9 | C – X | C – 6, 4 |
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| 22. Spades – A, K, 10, 9, 8, 4, 2 | 23. S – A, K, 10 | 24. S – J, 8, 5 |
| Hearts – 8 | H – A, J, 4 | H – 7 |
| Diamonds – 5, 4 | D – K, Q, 9 | D – 9, 8, 3 |
| Clubs – 9, 5, 3 | C – A, J, 10, 5 | C – K, Q, J, 10, 9, 8 |
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SAMPLE HAND # 5- LESSON # 5- CONTRACT – 4 Hearts- DEALER: EAST

Date: October 14, 2020

NORTH

Spades- K 5

Hearts- K 10 5 4

Diamonds- K 8

Clubs- Q J 9 6

WEST

Spades- 10 9 6 3

Hearts- 9 3 2

Diamonds- A 10 9 7

Clubs- A K

EAST

Spades- 4 2

Hearts- 7

Diamonds- Q J 6 4 2

Clubs- 10 8 7 5 3

SOUTH

Spades- A Q J 7

Hearts- A Q J 8 6

Diamonds- 5 3

Clubs- 4 2

1. Starting with the dealer, give the complete bidding for this hand.

2. Who is declarer? _____

3. What are the possible losers in this hand? _____
