

TEST YOUR BIDDING JUDGMENT

You hold: AQ643
 864
 10
 QJ98

Partner opens 1 Heart, your right hand opponent passes, bid this hand

You hold: AQ
 AK982
 A1053
 Q

You open 1 Heart, left hand opponent overcalls 1 spade, partner jumps to 4 hearts. Your right hand opponent passes, you pass, your left hand opponent now bids 4 spades, Your partner passes, right hand opponent passes. What do you bid and why?

Neither side vulnerable, you're south - West opens 1 diamond, partner doubles and East redoubles, what do you bid with the following hands?

1. A1054 43 108753 54: Bid 1 spade, get the major suit in early before things get out of hand. If everyone's telling the truth, partner knows you can't possibly have much.
2. 76 105 1082 KQ9732 Bid 3 clubs. When the bid to your right is strong, (redouble), a jump by you is weak. When the bid to your right is weak, a jump by you is strong. Your jump shows a reasonable six-card suit, (just what you have)
3. 765 K54 J863 984 Pass. You do best to let partner rescue himself when you have a weak, balanced hand without an unbid 4-card suit
4. 5 K843 753 108532 1 Heart, preparing for partner's inevitable 1 spade bid, allows you to introduce clubs, bidding 2 clubs then 2 hearts is scary, partner will play you for a better hand
5. KJ8642 65 976 43 2 Spades, your jump shows a reasonable six-card suit, (just what you have) when the bid to your right is strong (redouble) a jump by you is weak.

Concept of fast or slow arrival. You use the idea of fast arrival when you preempt. You use fast arrival when partner opens 1 spade and you jump to 4 spades. In this case, fast arrival says, "We have a lot of our trump suit, but my hand isn't so great otherwise." There's a good bridge proverb to help you remember slow arrival: "Slow shows".

When partner opens 1 diamond, you bid 1 spade, and partner "opener" jumps to 4 spades. This IS NOT the same because partner opened then jumped. Partner is telling you that with 4 spades and 6 points, you can make game with his hand. This bid shows EXTRAS.

Have you ever mis-bid because you forgot your role in the auction? You're the OPENER. You open 1 diamond and hear partner respond 1 spade. What rebid will you choose? As long as you remember that you already opened the bidding with one of a suit, you will use opener's strength categories. This point count table was in a previous lesson.

Responder is just as likely to have an identify crisis. After opener raises your major suit, Do you pass, invite, bid game? You're the RESPONDER. Must show your point count.

East is dealer and opens 1 diamond. You make a takeout double. You have an opening hand, but you are not the opener, you're the DOUBLER. As such, your point count categories are similar to opener's.

When your partner doubles 1 diamond for takeout, you are the ADVANCER. Advancer's job is to choose the trump suit and show his strength.

Two common identity crises occur when overcalling. Suppose East opens the bidding with 1 diamond and you as South hold: K5 AQ97 975 KJ65. You were set to open 1 club, But now the only roles available to you are DOUBLER and OVERCALLER. Your hand isn't suited for either one, you pass. Your pass is not necessarily a sign of weakness.

Different situations mean different guidelines. Keep in mind whether you are OPENER, RESPONDER, DOUBLER, OVERCALLER, or ADVANCER.
