

1

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

N	E
W	S

♠ 6 2
 ♥ K 10 9 8
 ♦ 8 5 4 2
 ♣ Q J 9

♠ Q 4
 ♥ A J 7 6 2
 ♦ K Q 10
 ♣ K 8 2

♠ A 8 5
 ♥ 4 3
 ♦ A J 9
 ♣ A 7 6 5 3

Dealer: South
 Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

No. 11179

Opening Lead: ♣ Q

Illustrates:

- Level Beginning
- Responder's Rebid
- Finesse

Bidding Commentary

South is balanced with 15 points so should open 1 of their longest suit.

North has no fit so responds 1♠. Opener should now show their balanced hand with 15-16 points by bidding 1NT.

North can now figure out that partner has at least 2 spades, which means that there is a fit in spades. North should now bid 2♠. This should become the final contract.

Note: When North rebids spades they have escalated the level of the contract. They should not do this without a 6 card suit.

Defence Commentary

East has three touching honours in an unbid suit, so should lead the ♣Q. This traps dummy's K.

Planning

prospective losers are:

- ♠ 1
- ♥ 1
- ♦ 2
- ♣ 2

A total of 6 losers. To meet the contract permits only 5 losers, so an extra trick needs to be developed. The best chance is in hearts. lead the ♥Q towards the ♥A. If east plays let it run. Even if it loses the ♥J will be promoted to a winner. (A finesse that wins when it loses)

2

<p>♠ A 8 4 ♥ A J 7 5 ♦ 10 5 ♣ J 9 5 2</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N		E	W				S		<p>♠ 7 5 3 ♥ 6 ♦ A Q J 4 ♣ Q 10 8 7 3</p> <p>♠ K 6 2 ♥ K Q 9 4 3 ♦ 9 6 2 ♣ A 6</p> <p>♠ Q J 10 9 ♥ 10 8 2 ♦ K 8 7 3 ♣ K 4</p>	
N		E										
W												
	S											

Dealer: East
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

No. 11186

Opening Lead: ♠ Q

Illustrates:

Level Beginning
Opening 1Major

Bidding Commentary

East has a 5332 hand with 12 points and a rebiddable major, so opens 1♥. West has a fit and 10 points, so raises to 3♥. East does not have extra values, so passes.

Lead

South has an honour sequence headed by the ♣Q.

Planning

Potential losers are:

- ♠ 1
- ♥ 0
- ♦ 3
- ♣ 1

Total of 5. So 1 extra trick is required. It can be developed if after losing 2 rounds of diamonds, the remaining small diamond can be trumped in dummy. So only 1 trump is required in dummy. This is OK unless trumps break very badly. So pull trumps and play on diamonds.

3

♠ A	♠ Q 10 2	N W E S	♠ 8 7 5 3
♥ A 6 5 3	♥ K 10		♥ Q J 9 7 2
♦ 10 9 7 5	♦ 8 4 2		♦ Q J 6 3
♣ 10 8 7 2	♣ A Q J 6 3		♣
	♠ K J 9 6 4		
	♥ 8 4		
	♦ A K		
	♣ K 9 5 4		

Dealer: South
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

No. 11205

Opening Lead: ♣ 8

Illustrates:
Shape Unbalanced
Opening Lead

Defence Commentary

West has to lead to a 4♠ contract. After South supported clubs West can figure out that partner has 0 or 1 club. West should therefore lead a club hoping that partner can ruff. Best is to lead a high spot card, here the 8 as a suit preference signal for hearts.

The defence should make two ruffs plus the ♥A and ♠A, followed by a third ruff. Down 2!

4

<p>♠ A 6 4 ♥ K 10 3 ♦ Q J 6 ♣ A Q 7 4</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	<p>♠ K 10 3 ♥ J 9 8 4 2 ♦ 7 5 2 ♣ J 3</p> <p>♠ Q 8 2 ♥ 7 5 ♦ A 10 9 4 3 ♣ K 5 2</p>	<p>♠ J 9 7 5 ♥ A Q 6 ♦ K 8 ♣ 10 9 8 6</p>
N	E						
W	S						

Dealer: West			
Neither Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

No. 11120

Opening Lead: ♥ 4

Illustrates:
 Shape Balanced
 Defending
 Third Hand

exception and don't make obvious signs of suffering by trying to remember what teacher said before playing the queen! The play works particularly well when third hand has a side suit entry.

Play Commentary

Declarer does not have 9 immediate tricks. They have 5/6 depending on which card RHO plays at trick 1. Three extra tricks are available in diamonds, but the lead may be lost once.

Note: When LHO leads low at a no trump contract they may have 2 honours, including the ace. So if RHO plays the Q it is dangerous not to take the K. Failure to take the K with RHO still on lead will likely lead to the K being captured by LHO's ace!

Bidding Commentary:

West has a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT, so opens 1♣.
 East makes a routine bid of 1♦. West then shows their balanced hand with 15-16 points. East's hand is worth 10 points. A five card suit headed by two honors (not to mention the 9) is worth one extra point, minimum. So East can work out that the partnership must have 25 or more points, so bids game.

Defensive Commentary:

When dummy has small cards and partner has led from length, third hand is expected to play high - unless the highest card has an equal(s) such as the QJ (x), the J10 (x) or the 1098 (x). In each case the lower or lowest equal is played. However, there is an exception, a huge exception - when third hand has AQx.

With AQx, the proper third hand play is the queen not the ace. Why? If partner has the king, it doesn't matter which honor is played. If the queen holds, South plays ace and another. It is when declarer has the king that it matters. If South plays the ace and queen, declarer holds up, wins the third round heart and finesses diamonds into South, the non-danger hand. After South wins the king he is 'heartless' and West has nine tricks: 4 diamonds, 3 clubs, 1 heart and 1 spade.

If the ♥Q is played at trick one, West will fear holding up (wouldn't you?) lest North has led from the AJxx(x) in which case the defense will rattle off the first four or five heart tricks. Say declarer takes the king at trick one, the normal play, and runs the ♦Q. South wins and plays the ace and heart. The defenders take four hearts and a diamond. Down one. Do not forget this

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N	E					
W	S					

Dealer: North			
Neither Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

No. 11156

Opening Lead: ♦ Q

Illustrates:

- Misfit
- Shape Unbalanced

Bidding Commentary

After a routine opening of 1♥ South responds 1♠ and opener rebids 2♣.

South is minimum except for the high quality Spade suit. After opener's rebid the known fit in hearts is 6 and in clubs also 6. East is therefore justified in making a rebid of 2♠.

Note: With only 5 spades East would have to give false preference, and bid 2♥.

North started with a good hand but it is clear that there is a nasty misfit. North should pass 2♠.

Defence Commentary

West has a singleton in an unbid suit and has two small trumps, so should lead the ♦Q.

With the ♦J visible in dummy East can figure out that West is leading either a doubleton or a singleton. East should overtake with the ♦K. A strong East might then lead low.

NS will go down, but further bidding would have likely made the negative score greater.

Bath Bridge School

Beginning Bridge 2
Week 1

<p>♠ 8 4 3 2 ♥ A Q 10 6 3 ♦ Q 7 4 ♣ 5</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	<p>♠ A Q 9 5 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ 10 9 6 ♣ 10 9 6</p> <p>♠ 6 ♥ J 5 2 ♦ A K J 5 2 ♣ A Q 7 4</p>	<p>♠ K J 10 7 ♥ 8 7 ♦ 8 3 ♣ K J 8 3 2</p>
N	E						
W	S						

Dealer: West
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

No. 11160

Opening Lead: ♣ 10

Illustrates:

Bidding Commentary

The first few bids are routine. West at their rebid should show support for diamonds.

Then East should show support for hearts. West must now be thoughtful.

East has bid out a 5431 shape, so has a singleton spade opposite 4 little ones. Additionally the trump suit is of good quality and the ♦Q has increased in value as it is in partners long suit. In summary there is a two suited fit and a singleton in both black suits. This is sufficient to bid game.

Opening Lead

Leading from an unsupported ace is a no no at a suit contract, so the choice is between clubs and diamonds. East has shown more diamonds than clubs, so lead the ♣10.

Play Commentary

Declarer should expect to lose a heart and a spade. After pulling trumps two of the losing spades can be discarded on the long diamond suit. The remaining spade is a third loser. Failure to draw trumps before running the diamonds would also lead to a third loser.