

ASSIGNMENT ANSWERS

1.
 - a) This *natural* simple new suit response at the two level initiates *2-Over-1*. It describes an *unlimited* hand with at least 13 points and at least four diamonds. Because it is a *marathon* response, you are forced to bid until your partnership reaches at least a **3NT** or **4MAJ** game contract.
 - b) This *natural* jump raise is a *limit raise*. It describes a hand with 10-12 dummy points and at least four hearts. Because it is an *invitational* response, you can rebid or pass.
 - c) This *natural* simple new suit response at the two level initiates *2-Over-1*. It describes an *unlimited* hand with at least 13 points and at least five hearts. Because it is a *marathon* response, you are forced to bid until your partnership reaches a game contract.
 - d) Because North's first seat pass previously limited the hand to 0-12 points, this *natural* simple new suit response at the two level refines the *limits* to 10-12 points with at least four diamonds. Since a natural limiting bid is *invitational*, you can rebid or pass.
 - e) This *artificial* jump to **2NT** is a *Jacoby 2N*. It describes an *unlimited* hand with at least 13 dummy points and at least four spades. Because it is a *marathon* response, you are forced to bid until your partnership reaches at least a **3NT** or **4MAJ** game contract.
 - f) A *natural 2♦* overcall of opponent's overcall describes an *unlimited* hand with at least 10 points and at least four diamonds. This new suit bid is *forcing* for at least one round.
2.
 - a) In standard methods, a simple new suit response can be made with as few as 10 points. It is *forcing* but only for one round.
 - b) No change.
 - c) In standard methods, a simple **2♥** response can be made with as few as 10 points and as few has four hearts. It is *forcing* but only for one round.
 - d) No change.
 - e) No change.
 - f) No change.
3.
 - a) **2♣** (*natural, unlimited, marathon, 2-Over-1*). Because you can support partner's spades, you have 15 dummy points. You know the partnership should bid a game contract, probably in spades. Respond **2♣** to describe a hand with at least 13 points and at least four clubs. You can show your spade support at the next opportunity.
 - b) **2NT** (*artificial, unlimited, marathon, Jacoby 2N*). Because you can support partner's hearts, you have 15 dummy points. You know the partnership should bid at least a game contract and, given the nine card fit, the game should be in hearts. Because your clubs are not a good source of side suit tricks, respond **2NT** to describe a hand with at least 13 dummy points and at least four hearts.

- c) **1♥** (*natural, unlimited, new suit forcing*). Because you can not support partner's diamonds, you have 14 points. You know that the partnership should bid at least a game but you do not know if the partnership has a trump fit. With a good five card club suit, you would bid a *marathon 2-over-1 2♣*. But you only have four clubs so it is better to respond with a *new suit forcing 1♥* to describe a hand with at least 6 points and at least four hearts. Since you are responding at the one level, you still have plenty of bidding room to explore for the best game contract.
4. a) **2♣**. You could respond a Jacoby **2NT**, a marathon bid, to show at least 13 dummy points with at least four-card spade support. But given the excellent five card club suit, you will often get a better result if you respond a *2-Over-1 2♣* and show your trump support on the next turn.
- b) You have 14 declarer points but a new suit response at the two level is a *jump shift*, not *2-Over-1*. Respond with a standard **1♠** to describe a hand with at least 6 points and at least four spades. Because a new suit response is forcing for one round, you will get a chance to show your clubs on the next turn.
5. a) **2♥**. Show your support for partner's hearts. Since your 15 dummy points is more than a minimum, go slow.
- b) **3♦**. Show your support for partner's second suit.
- c) **2NT**. You do not have three card support for partner's hearts and you do not have four card support for partner's diamonds. Given the stopper in spade, the unbid suit, suggest no trump.

6. a)			
East	South	West	North
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6. b)			
East	South	West	North
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

6. c)			
South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

6. a) 2-Over-1 Auction:

- **South opens 1♠** (*invitational, five-card major*): Describes a hand with 13-21 declarer points and at least five spades.
- **North responds 2♦** (*marathon, 2-Over-1*): Describes a hand with at least 13 points and at least four diamonds.
- **South rebids 2♥** (*forcing¹*): Describes a hand with five spades and at least four hearts. The hand must also be short in diamonds and/or clubs.

¹ After a *2-Over-1* response, all bids below game level are forcing.

- **North replies 2NT** (*forcing*¹): Describes a balanced hand with minimal strength, less than three spades, less than four hearts, and a stopper in the unbid suit.
Using standard guidelines, this bid would be limiting and invitational instead of forcing. South could pass on the invitation.
- **South rebids 3♥** (*forcing*¹): Describes a hand with five spades and five hearts.
Using standard guidelines, this bid would be limiting and invitational instead of forcing. North could pass on the invitation.
- **North rebids 4♥** (*sign-off*): Describes a hand with three card heart support.
- **South passes:** South does not have the extra strength required to initiate Blackwood to ask for Aces.

b) 2-Over-1 Auction:

- **South opens 1♠** (*invitational, five-card major*): Describes a hand with 13-21 declarer points and at least five spades.
- **North responds 2♥** (*marathon, 2-Over-1*): Describes a hand with at least 13 points and at least **five** hearts.
- **South rebids 3♣** (*forcing*¹): A new suit rebid at the three level describes a hand with at least five clubs *or* at least four clubs with extra strength.
- **North replies 4♣** (*forcing*¹): Describes a hand with at least four clubs. North can bypass 3NT because South has shown either extra strength or a two suited hand. With 15 dummy points and a mild interest in slam, North does not want to apply the fast arrival principle.
- **South bids 5♣** (*sign-off*): Describes a minimum hand with no interest in slam.
- **North passes:** The partnership only has 28-29 (15+13 to 15+14) total points which is not enough strength for a slam.

Because South must be short in diamonds and clubs and North is short in spades, North might pause to consider a distributional slam. But there is no easy way at this level to check for the needed controls.

c) 2-Over-1 Auction:

- **South opens 1♥** (*invitational, five-card major*): Describes a hand with 13-21 declarer points and at least five hearts.
- **North responds 2♦** (*marathon, 2-Over-1*): Describes a hand with at least 13 points and at least four diamonds.
- **South rebids 2NT** (*forcing*¹): Describes a balanced hand with minimum strength. Although South might be tempted to show the club suit, South does not have the point strength to bid a new four-card suit at the three level.
- **North replies 3NT** (*sign-off*): Describes a minimum hand with no interest in slam. Without a trump fit, no trump is the most likely game contract.
- **South passes:** There is not enough total point strength to look for a slam.

¹ After a *2-Over-1* response, all bids below game level are forcing.