

Beginner Bridge Lesson 8

NG34Bridge

Practise your Overcalls

Choose your next bid

Hand: 1 Dealer: West Vul: None West North East South 1♦ Pass Pass ?	South ♠ K 7 6 5 3 ♥ A 8 7 3 ♦ 6 2 ♣ Q J
Hand: 2 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♠ ?	South ♠ A J 3 ♥ 3 2 ♦ Q J 7 6 2 ♣ K J 2
Hand: 3 Dealer: West Vul: None West North East South 1♥ Pass Pass ?	South ♠ K 8 7 ♥ A J 7 6 ♦ K Q 6 5 ♣ K 5
Hand: 4 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♥ ?	South ♠ A Q ♥ K Q 9 ♦ K J 8 6 4 2 ♣ 9 5
Hand: 5 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♥ ?	South ♠ K 3 ♥ 9 5 3 ♦ K Q 5 4 ♣ A Q J 3
Hand: 6 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♦ ?	South ♠ J 5 ♥ K Q 8 6 4 3 ♦ 6 ♣ Q J 3
Hand: 7 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♠ ?	South ♠ Q 5 ♥ K Q 10 6 5 4 3 ♦ 6 ♣ A J 3
Hand: 8 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1NT ?	South ♠ K 9 4 ♥ K Q 10 8 ♦ A J 6 4 ♣ Q 2

Answer: Pass

We have enough points to overcall, but our SQOT is only 6 (we need 7 to overcall at the 1-Level)

Answer: Pass

We have 12 points but our SQOT is only 7. We need an SQOT of 8 to overcall at the 2-level

Answer: 1NT

We are balanced, we have 16 points and we have stops in opener's suit.

Answer: 2♦

We have 15 points, 6 diamonds and an SQOT of 8, so are strong enough to bid to make 8 tricks by making a simple 2-level overcall

Answer: Pass

Although we would have opened the bidding with this hand, we must pass as overcaller. We do not have a suit that meets the SQOT / point count' criteria and we do not have a 'stop' in hearts so cannot overcall with a bid of 1NT.

Answer: 2♥

We have a hand very suitable for a weak jump overcall – 6-9 HCP, a 6 card suit and a SQOT of 8, which is equal to the number of tricks we are bidding for.

Answer: 2♥

11 HCP, a 7 card suit and an SQOT= 9. We are too strong for a weak jump overcall to 3♥ (we would open 1♥ with this hand using the Rule of 20) so we make a simple overcall. If partner bids something like 2NT we can rebid our hearts to show our extra length.

Answer: Pass

We have opening points but do not have a bid. We have no good 5 card suit Our hand is much more suitable for defence, sitting over East.

Hand: 9 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♦ 1♥ 1♠ ?	South ♠ 8 ♥ 7 4 2 ♦ 9 6 2 ♣ K J 8 7 6
Hand: 10 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♦ 1♥ 1♠ ?	South ♠ 8 ♥ J 7 4 2 ♦ 9 6 2 ♣ K J 8 7 6
Hand: 11 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♦ 1♥ Pass ?	South ♠ K Q 8 7 4 ♥ 7 2 ♦ 9 6 2 ♣ K 3 2
Hand: 12 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♦ 1♥ Pass ?	South ♠ J 8 7 4 2 ♥ 7 ♦ 9 6 5 2 ♣ K 3 2
Hand: 13 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♥ ?	South ♠ Q J 7 4 ♥ K 8 2 ♦ A K 5 2 ♣ K 3
Hand: 14 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♥ ?	South ♠ Q 10 8 4 ♥ K 10 2 ♦ A K 10 9 8 ♣ K 9
Hand: 15 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♥ 1NT Pass ?	South ♠ J 9 7 6 5 4 3 ♥ 9 5 3 ♦ 8 6 ♣ 9
Hand: 16 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♥ 1NT Pass ?	South ♠ A Q 7 6 5 ♥ 9 5 3 ♦ A 6 ♣ 9
Hand: 17 Dealer: East Vul: None West North East South 1♥ 1NT Pass ?	South ♠ Q 9 7 ♥ J 5 3 ♦ A 6 7 3 ♣ Q 2

Answer: 2♥

We have a heart fit so we can count three shortage points. Our hand is just strong enough for us to raise partner's suit

Answer: 3♥

We have (at least) a 9 card heart so we make an aggressive jump raise

Answer: 1♠

We do not have a fit for partner's suit but we would have made 1♠ overcall with this hand so should do so now. The bid promises a 5 card suit, SQOT = 7 and 8+ points.

Answer: Pass

We not try to rescue partner with this hand. We would not have overcalled if we had been in partner's seat so we pass.

Answer: 1NT

We have 16 points, a balanced hand and a stopper in hearts (we will be declarer if we play in No Trumps and a heart lead will come round to our ♥K) Replace the ♠J with ♠2 and with a poor 15 HCP we would pass.

Answer: 1NT

We have a good 15 points (good 5 card suit and good intermediates – 10's, 9's), a balanced hand and a stopper in hearts. We upgrade our hand to 16 points and can overcall 1NT.

Answer: 2♠

This is a weak takeout. We have a very weak hand but long spades that will be worthless in No Trumps but will produce lots of tricks in a spade contract.

Answer: 3♠

We have 10 points and partner has at least 15 points. Partner has bid No Trumps so has at least two spades. Our bid is game forcing, showing exactly 5 spades, offering partner a choice of game contracts. (With 6 or more spades we would have bid 4♠).

Answer: 2NT

We have 9 points and a balanced hand. Our 2NT bid is inviting partner to bid 3NT if she is at the upper end of her 16-18 HCP range, or pass with 15 or a poor 15 HCP. With just one more point we would bid 3NT.