

**1**

♠ A1098  
♥ A109  
♦ 109  
♣ KQJ9

♠ K72  
♥ Q83  
♦ Q632  
♣ 832

♠ J65  
♥ KJ762  
♦ KJ7  
♣ 65

♠ Q43  
♥ 54  
♦ A854  
♣ A1074

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

North upgrades to a 15-17 Notrump.  
On heart lead, declarer wins third round and then runs the ♠10.

**2**

♠ KQ  
♥ 10  
♦ 10653  
♣ J108752

♠ 942  
♥ AQ632  
♦ J98  
♣ A9

♠ 653  
♥ K754  
♦ AKQ42  
♣ 6

♠ AJ1087  
♥ J98  
♦ 7  
♣ KQ43

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♠ K

East upgrades (9-card fit) to raise to 4♥.  
South wins second spade and plays 4 rounds of spades for uppercut.

**3**

♠ KQJ  
♥ Q985  
♦ K764  
♣ QJ

♠ 932  
♥ 7432  
♦ 2  
♣ K7432

♠ 8654  
♥ AKJ  
♦ 853  
♣ A98

♠ A107  
♥ 106  
♦ AQJ109  
♣ 1065

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♣ 3

South is worth an opening bid and reaches 3NT. East wins club, cashes ♥K then plays another club which West wins to play another heart.

**4**

♠ 5  
♥ QJ98  
♦ J2  
♣ AKQ962

♠ KJ4  
♥ K7432  
♦ 743  
♣ 104

♠ AQ10932  
♥ A5  
♦ KQ6  
♣ 73

♠ 876  
♥ 106  
♦ A10985  
♣ J85

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♣ 5

East upgrades once the fit is found (and his cards are behind the bidder) and bids 4♠.  
After 2 rounds of clubs, North plays diamonds. East wins second diamond and sets up the hearts.

**1**

♠ 1085  
♥ A432  
♦ A73  
♣ 542

♠ Q764      ♠ AK2  
♥ KQ6      ♥ J75  
♦ 2      ♦ Q865  
♣ QJ1096    ♣ AK7

♠ J93  
♥ 1098  
♦ KJ1094  
♣ 83

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♦ J

South leads the ♦J (top of the interior sequence). North wins the ♦A and returns the 7 (top of a doubleton). Declarer's 8 goes to South's 9. South knows the diamond layout, so shifts. The ♥10 is best/safest. North wins to play another diamond for down 2.

**2**

♠ KJ3  
♥ KQ10  
♦ 843  
♣ Q1093

♠ AQ10842      ♠ 76  
♥ 983      ♥ AJ764  
♦ A5      ♦ 97  
♣ J5      ♣ 7642

♠ 95  
♥ 52  
♦ KQJ1062  
♣ AK8

Dealer: East  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♦
1 ♠	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ 7

West wins the ♠A and sees no future in spades. He shifts to the ♥9 (Top of Nothing) and East ducks declarer's king (if declarer plays the 10, East wins the jack and returns a low one). West gets in with the ♠A to play another heart for down 2.

**3**

♠ A4  
♥ Q  
♦ Q1098754  
♣ K63

♠ Q7      ♠ KJ105  
♥ 7543    ♥ 109862  
♦      ♦ A63  
♣ 10987542    ♣ A

♠ 98632  
♥ AKJ  
♦ KJ2  
♣ QJ

Dealer: South  
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♣ 10

East wins the ♣A and counts points. His partner has 0-2. East's best (only) chance is a low spade switch (not the jack, which might block the suit).

**4**

♠ 10852  
♥ J1097  
♦ 5432  
♣ 3

♠ Q63      ♠ A4  
♥ KQ65    ♥ 843  
♦ AK6      ♦ 87  
♣ J65      ♣ KQ10982

♠ KJ97  
♥ A2  
♦ QJ109  
♣ A74

Dealer: West  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ J

South wins the ♥A and knowing declarer has all the remaining HCP, makes the spectacular play of the ♠K (Merrimac coup) to knock out dummy's entry to the clubs.

Resp in comp

**1**

♠ 107	♠ KQJ83
♥ AK942	♥ Q
♦ QJ10	♦ K872
♣ K53	♣ J109

  

♠ 9654	♠ A2
♥ J106	♥ 8753
♦ 943	♦ A65
♣ A87	♣ Q642

  

Dealer: North			
Neither Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♠ K

After East's overcall, South bids ♠2 to show a limit raise or better in hearts. North has enough to bid game. After the spade lead, declarer draws 2 trump (West should NOT split his honors) and takes 3 diamond tricks with the aid of a finesse. He exits in spades and East plays the ♣J around to North's ♣K. Now a heart endplays West.

**2**

♠ Q54	♠ 32
♥ K2	♥ 10983
♦ J7654	♦ AKQ8
♣ 852	♣ QJ10

  

♠ KJ6	♠ A10987
♥ QJ4	♥ A765
♦ 1093	♦ 2
♣ A976	♣ K43

  

Dealer: East			
N-S Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	1 ♠
2 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♠ 4

West's 2NT shows spades stopped and a balanced hand with about 11-12 HCP. The LOW spade lead goes to the ace. The next spade goes to the jack and queen and then the suit is cleared. Declarer carefully unblocks his 10♦ (or 9) when cashing some high diamonds (revealing the 5-1 break). South should cover one of the clubs or declarer makes an overtrick.

**3**

♠ AK42	♠ 8753
♥ 53	♥ J982
♦ A85	♦ 1073
♣ 10965	♣ K4

  

♠ QJ1096	♠ AKQ1074
♥ 6	♥ K96
♦ QJ42	♦ 8732
♣ AQJ	

  

Dealer: South			
E-W Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
1 ♠	2 NT	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ Q

North's 2NT is invitational with spades stopped. South bids the heart game. On the first 2 rounds of spades, declarer throws a diamond and a club. In case there is a bad trump split, he next ruffs a spade in hand (key play). When the 4-1 trump split is revealed, declarer cashes the top diamonds ending in dummy and ruffs another spade. He then exits in clubs and waits to collect 2 more trump tricks.

**4**

♠ KJ87	♠ AQ
♥ Q1097	♥ 532
♦ 7	♦ A1093
♣ AQJ8	♣ K765

  

♠ 32	♠ 109654
♥ AKJ8	♥ 64
♦ KQ42	♦ J865
♣ 432	♣ 109

  

Dealer: West			
Both Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Dbl	Redb	1 ♠
Pass	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♠ 5

East's redouble shows 10+. Not wanting to penalize 1♠, East later bids the notrump game (no need to worry about hearts on this auction). He wins the spade lead, crosses in diamonds to lead a club up. North wins and clears spades. Declarer later guesses diamonds (based on the auction) by laying down the ♦A to reveal the 4-1 break.

1

♠ KQJ108  
♥ AJ5  
♦ J2  
♣ 654

♠ 97  
♥ 10832  
♦ K9875  
♣ 97

♠ 64  
♥ Q74  
♦ Q643  
♣ KQJ10

♠ A532  
♥ K96  
♦ A10  
♣ A832

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♣ K

After a routine Jacoby 2NT auction, East leads the ♣K. Declarer draws trump and gives up a club. He wants to try for 3-3 clubs. Eventually, he ruffs a club and plays the ♦A and another ♦ and the defense must break hearts. If West leads one, declarer plays the 5, trapping the queen.

2

♠ AJ102  
♥ 8  
♦ 6532  
♣ Q854

♠ KQ  
♥ 6  
♦ AKJ109  
♣ KJ762

♠ 97543  
♥ A2  
♦ Q4  
♣ A1093

♠ 86  
♥ KQJ1097543  
♦ 87  
♣

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	4 ♥
4 NT	Pass	6 ♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ K

West shows minors and East has enough to answer on the 6-level. If anyone is short in clubs, it is South, so declarer should start clubs with the king and then take a marked finesse.

3

♠ KJ10  
♥ AQ65  
♦ 65  
♣ 6543

♠ 9832  
♥ 1098  
♦ AQ932  
♣ 9

♠ Q76  
♥ 43  
♦ K1074  
♣ Q1087

♠ A54  
♥ KJ72  
♦ J8  
♣ AKJ2

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♣ 9

After a normal Stayman auction, West leads the singleton ♣9. Declarer draws trump and thows the opponents in with clubs -- never needing to guess the ♠Q.

4

♠ J109853  
♥ KJ  
♦ 6543  
♣ 5

♠ KQ2  
♥ Q3  
♦ KQ1098  
♣ KJ10

♠ A76  
♥ A765  
♦ AJ7  
♣ A32

♠ 4  
♥ 109842  
♦ 2  
♣ Q98764

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	6 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead:

East could invite with 4NT or just bid the slam. Declarer's first move should be a heart towards the queen (a 50-50 chance for the 12th trick). When that fails, he runs the spades/diamonds and gets a count. North can have at most one club, so the ♣A is followed by a sure finesse.

1

♠ J10  
♥ K9832  
♦ 654  
♣ AQ10

♠ 982  
♥ 654  
♦ J872  
♣ 832

♠ AK7654  
♥ Q  
♦ 1093  
♣ KJ9

♠ Q3  
♥ AJ107  
♦ AKQ  
♣ 7654

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1 ♠	Dbl
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ A

East opens 1♠ and South doubles. North is worth 3♥, invitational, and South is barely worth 4♥. After 2 tops spades, East should passively exit in a red suit. Declarer draws trump, strips diamonds and plays a club to the 10 to endplay East.

2

♠ J1094  
♥ A5  
♦ 4  
♣ 987432

♠ AK85  
♥ 64  
♦ A1098  
♣ AKQ

♠ Q7632  
♥ 73  
♦ KJ32  
♣ 65

♠  
♥ KQJ10982  
♦ Q765  
♣ J10

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	3 ♥
Dbl	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♥ K

South leads to the ♥A and wins the next heart and shifts to the ♣J. Declarer tests trumps and then clubs, learning that North has 10 black cards and 2 hearts. Accordingly, North has at most 1 diamond, so declarer lays down the ♦K and then finesses with 100♣ assurance of success.

3

♠ QJ109  
♥ 65  
♦ AQJ9  
♣ AK3

♠ K6  
♥ AQJ109  
♦ K832  
♣ J8

♠ 5432  
♥ 432  
♦ 10  
♣ 76542

♠ A87  
♥ K87  
♦ 7654  
♣ Q109

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1 ♥	Dbl	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

South's 1NT response to the double shows approximately 6-10. North invites with 2NT and South bids the notrump game. West leads the ♥Q, won by South. The best chance for 9 tricks is to play diamonds -- but at once--all the entries to the South hand are needed to pick up 4 diamond tricks for the contract.

4

♠ 8  
♥ KQJ1042  
♦ Q32  
♣ 1092

♠ KJ1032  
♥ 93  
♦ J4  
♣ J873

♠ Q976  
♥ 65  
♦ AK  
♣ AKQ65

♠ A54  
♥ A87  
♦ 1098765  
♣ 4

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♥	Dbl	3 ♥
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ K

North opens with a weak 2♥ and after East's takeout double, South LAWfully raises to 3♥. West has enough for a free 3♠, which East raises to game. The ♥K is led, and South can envision the winning defense. He overtakes with the ♥A and returns his club singleton. He comes in with the trump ace and puts his partner in with a heart to get his ruff for down 1.

**1**

♠ AJ9		Dealer: North			
♥ J105		Neither Vulnerable			
♦ AKQ9		West	North	East	South
♣ Q103			1 NT	Pass	3 NT
♠ 1065432	♠ 7	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ AQ94	♥ K82				
♦ 107	♦ J8632				
♣ 2	♣ A764				
	♠ KQ8				
	♥ 763				
	♦ 54				
	♣ KJ985				

Opening Lead: ♦ 3

After the first trick goes to North's ♦A, East knows that North has ♦AKQ9. When he wins his ♣A (not on the first round), West throws a discouraging spade so East shifts to a low heart (showing "like"--BOSTON) and defeats the contract.

**2**

♠ 654		Dealer: East			
♥ A52		N-S Vulnerable			
♦ 9765		West	North	East	South
♣ Q105				2 ♠	3 ♥
♠ AJ87	♠ KQ10932	4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
♥ 43	♥ K7				
♦ KQJ10	♦ 42				
♣ AJ8	♣ 632				
	♠				
	♥ QJ10986				
	♦ A83				
	♣ K974				

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

East opens 2♠, raised to 4♠ (after South's 3♥ overcall). North wins the heart lead and should shift to a low club--his only chance (dummy's diamonds are threatening). South plays third-hand high (♠K) and the defense takes 4 tricks to set the contract.

**3**

♠ J3		Dealer: South			
♥ 7432		E-W Vulnerable			
♦ AQ1076		West	North	East	South
♣ 54					1 ♠
♠ Q62	♠ 54	Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 ♠
♥ J9	♥ 10865	Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
♦ 854	♦ KJ93	Pass			
♣ QJ1032	♣ AK6	Pass			
	♠ AK10987				
	♥ AKQ				
	♦ 2				
	♣ 987				

Opening Lead: ♣ Q

East has diamonds under control, so knows that declarer's only extra tricks might come from ruffing clubs in dummy. To prevent this, he wins the ♠K (cheaper of equals) and shifts to a trump. When in with the next club, he plays another trump to defeat the contract.

**4**

♠ 9763		Dealer: West			
♥ Q9852		Both Vulnerable			
♦ A7		West	North	East	South
♣ K5		Pass	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
♠ J108	♠ AK	2 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
♥ AKJ	♥ 763				
♦ J643	♦ KQ1092				
♣ J109	♣ 832				
	♠ Q542				
	♥ 104				
	♦ 85				
	♣ AQ764				

Opening Lead: ♥ 5

West's 2NT shows 11-12 balanced, no 4-card major. When West wins trick one with the ♥J (probably, he should falsecard), North knows declarer has ♥AKJ. When diamonds are played, it is a good (the only) shot to switch to the ♠K. Partner is marked with good clubs (West is a passed hand)--and it is the only chance--and it works!

Second Hand Defense

1

♠ Q75  
♥ K4  
♦ A876  
♣ AQJ4

♠ 42  
♥ QJ873  
♦ Q92  
♣ K73

♠ K986  
♥ 109  
♦ K54  
♣ 9862

♠ AJ103  
♥ A652  
♦ J103  
♣ 105

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥ 10

West must cover the ♣ 10. East must cover the ♠ Q. West should not cover the first diamonds.

2

♠ 10987  
♥ QJ2  
♦ 952  
♣ 1075

♠ AQ62  
♥ 10983  
♦ 4  
♣ K963

♠ J3  
♥ A7654  
♦ AK3  
♣ Q82

♠ K54  
♥ K  
♦ QJ10876  
♣ AJ4

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♦ Q

If/when dummy's ♥ 10 is played, North must not cover. South must cover the ♠ J. On declarer's low club lead, South must play low.

3

♠ J1092  
♥ K3  
♦ QJ74  
♣ J72

♠ A  
♥ QJ109872  
♦ 65  
♣ Q108

♠ Q643  
♥ 654  
♦ AK3  
♣ A53

♠ K875  
♥ A  
♦ 10982  
♣ K964

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♠ J

If/when declarer leads spades from dummy, south plays low. On declarer's ♥ Q lead from hand, North must play low. When a low club is led from dummy, South must play low to give declarer a guess.

4

♠ QJ9  
♥ AQ3  
♦ A87  
♣ AQ32

♠ 1042  
♥ 10984  
♦ 5432  
♣ 96

♠ K653  
♥ 762  
♦ QJ9  
♣ 875

♠ A87  
♥ KJ5  
♦ K106  
♣ KJ104

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	6 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ 10

East must not cover the first spade honor from dummy. East must split his diamond honors if dummy leads low. Still, with a proper view, declarer can endplay East.

1

♠ 75  
♥ KQJ10  
♦ 6532  
♣ 762

♠ J10982  
♥ 763  
♦ Q987  
♣ J

♠ K63  
♥ A982  
♦ 4  
♣ Q10984

♠ AQ4  
♥ 54  
♦ AKJ10  
♣ AK53

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♠ J

West leads the ♠ J and East should play the King (In case West has led from AJ109x).

Declarer should hold up 1 round.

When declarer wins the spade he plays a heart and West signals count.

This enables East to hold up the first heart and win the 2nd round to defeat the contract. (If East ducks a 2nd round of hearts, declarer can revert to diamonds and take 9 tricks)

2

♠ AK92  
♥ 75  
♦ 965  
♣ A984

♠ Q1063  
♥ AK1093  
♦ AQ8  
♣ Q

♠ J75  
♥ J64  
♦ K743  
♣ K53

♠ 84  
♥ Q82  
♦ J102  
♣ J10762

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♠ A

West makes a game-try, but East rejects with the ugly and flat 8-count.

North leads two high spades with South signalling hi-lo. North continues with the ♠ to give South a ruff. South obeys the suit-preference signal and crosses in clubs for another spade play. The ♣ Q defeats the contract.

3

♠ AQ  
♥ KQJ754  
♦ 65  
♣ KJ5

♠ 10942  
♥ 9  
♦ A104  
♣ 98432

♠ 863  
♥ 3  
♦ KQJ987  
♣ AQ6

♠ KJ75  
♥ A10862  
♦ 32  
♣ 107

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♦ K

North opens 1♥ in 3rd seat and East overcalls 2♦. At this point, South could make a limit raise, or simply jump to 4♥ as shown.

East leads the ♦ K and West should signal encouragement with the ♦10. East continues diamonds (best to avoid the queen) to put West in (he must overtake) for a club through declarer.

4

♠ 642  
♥ 9863  
♦ AKJ92  
♣ 6

♠ Q109  
♥ 107  
♦ Q76  
♣ KQJ97

♠ AK  
♥ AKQ  
♦ 1084  
♣ 108432

♠ J8753  
♥ J542  
♦ 53  
♣ A5

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♠ 5

After the obvious auction South leads the ♠ 5.

Declarer plays clubs and South ducks the first round (on general principle). By the time South wins her ♣A, North will have been able to give an effective defensive signal. A high diamond would make it easy (down 1) or a low heart would make it a little harder, but would lead to down 2.



1

♠ A93  
♥ Q10  
♦ AK43  
♣ AQ86

♠ 86  
♥ A754  
♦ QJ109  
♣ J53

♠ K10752  
♥ 82  
♦ 752  
♣ K107

♠ QJ4  
♥ KJ963  
♦ 86  
♣ 942

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ 5

Declarer must keep a spade entry to dummy's hearts. He wins trick one with the ♠A and knocks out the ♥A (West wins the second round). Declarer takes 4 hearts, 2 spades and AK-A for 9 tricks.

2

♠ J1098  
♥ QJ8  
♦ 432  
♣ 1082

♠ Q542  
♥ A32  
♦ AK7  
♣ AJ7

♠ AK6  
♥ K764  
♦ Q85  
♣ K43

♠ 73  
♥ 1095  
♦ J1096  
♣ Q965

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 NT	Pass
6 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♦ J

West knows there are 33-35 HCP, so he should go directly to 6NT (no need for Gerber). Declarer wants to try both majors, so starts by ducking a heart. He then can try both majors and fall back on the club finesse if needed.

3

♠ AK32  
♥ AK6  
♦ AJ95  
♣ 43

♠ 10986  
♥ J874  
♦ K43  
♣ 106

♠ J7  
♥ Q103  
♦ Q1087  
♣ KJ95

♠ Q54  
♥ 952  
♦ 62  
♣ AQ872

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♠ 10

Declarer wins the spade in dummy and plays a club to his 7. This allows him to later set up the 5th club.

4

♠ Q6  
♥ 10985  
♦ J975  
♣ 942

♠ AJ102  
♥ AQ  
♦ AKQ4  
♣ KQ5

♠ 743  
♥ K73  
♦ 832  
♣ AJ107

♠ K985  
♥ J642  
♦ 106  
♣ 863

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	6 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ 10

Declarer has 11 top tricks. Instead of relying on 3-3 diamonds, declarer should first take a spade finesse. Then, when diamonds don't split, take another spade finesse.

1  
 ♠ KJ10976  
 ♥ 6532  
 ♦ A2  
 ♣ A  
 ♠ A54  
 ♥ 9874  
 ♦ J10  
 ♣ K1094  
 ♠ 32  
 ♥ KQJ  
 ♦ Q765  
 ♣ J832  
 ♠ Q8  
 ♥ A10  
 ♦ K9843  
 ♣ Q765

Dealer: North  
 Neither Vulnerable  

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

  
 Opening Lead: ♥ K

Declarer should duck the opening lead. Even with a trump shift (best) and another trump, declarer can draw trump and play ♦A, ♦K and throw a heart on the ♦9.

2  
 ♠ Q7  
 ♥ 82  
 ♦ J10752  
 ♣ QJ65  
 ♠ 984  
 ♥ A43  
 ♦ K864  
 ♣ 872  
 ♠ AK653  
 ♥ K765  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ A43  
 ♠ J102  
 ♥ QJ109  
 ♦ Q93  
 ♣ K109

Dealer: East  
 N-S Vulnerable  

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

  
 Opening Lead: ♥ Q

Declarer should duck the opening lead. Then he can win any return, cashing 2 top spades then unblocking the ♦A and trumping the 4th heart in dummy.

3  
 ♠ K83  
 ♥ 96  
 ♦ A7652  
 ♣ 632  
 ♠ J74  
 ♥ 72  
 ♦ Q1083  
 ♣ A875  
 ♠ Q1065  
 ♥ 543  
 ♦ K4  
 ♣ KJ109  
 ♠ A92  
 ♥ AKQJ108  
 ♦ J9  
 ♣ Q4

Dealer: South  
 E-W Vulnerable  

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

  
 Opening Lead: ♦ 3

West's diamond lead is the only one to allow the contract to make. Declarer must duck in dummy and then use the major-suit entries to set up the long diamond.

4  
 ♠ KQJ1097  
 ♥ 63  
 ♦ Q86  
 ♣ 73  
 ♠ A5  
 ♥ KQJ1097  
 ♦ AJ5  
 ♣ K2  
 ♠ 642  
 ♥ A8  
 ♦ 1092  
 ♣ J9654  
 ♠ 83  
 ♥ 542  
 ♦ K743  
 ♣ AQ108

Dealer: West  
 Both Vulnerable  

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

  
 Opening Lead: ♠ K

Declarer must use one heart entry to lead a LOW diamond to the jack. After it loses, he uses the other heart entry to run the ♦10. When that holds, he can lead to the ♣K.

**1**

♠ Q2  
♥ A9765  
♦ KQ6  
♣ Q76

♠ J9863  
♥ 8  
♦ J72  
♣ J1092

♠ A107  
♥ K43  
♦ 10984  
♣ A43

♠ K54  
♥ QJ102  
♦ A53  
♣ K85

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♦ 10

After a Jacoby 2NT auction, East leads the ♦10 against 4♥. Declarer takes a losing finesse and East exits safely in a red suit. When the black suits are played, second hand low allows the defense to get 4 tricks for down 1. (experts note: Double dummy there is a strip/squeeze against East to make 4♥).

**2**

♠ 1065  
♥ J9765  
♦ Q98  
♣ Q9

♠ A874  
♥ AQ4  
♦ A32  
♣ A106

♠ QJ9  
♥ 32  
♦ J7654  
♣ K43

♠ K32  
♥ K108  
♦ K10  
♣ J8752

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

East should respond 1♦ not 1NT. West should rebid 2NT not showing spades. North leads a 4th best heart. Declarer can hold up, but best defense sets it. Heart continuations, second hand low in diamond and not covering the first spade are all needed defensive issues.

**3**

♠ A853  
♥ QJ103  
♦ Q105  
♣ KQ

♠ J109  
♥ A42  
♦ 983  
♣ 10975

♠ 762  
♥ 7  
♦ AKJ2  
♣ 86432

♠ KQ4  
♥ K9865  
♦ 764  
♣ AJ

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ J

After a routine Jacoby 2NT auction, West leads a normal ♠J against 4♥. East discourages. Declarer wins and plays trumps. West ducks the first one so he can get a signal. East throws a low club to discourage. When West takes his ♥A he knows to switch to diamonds.

**4**

♠ Q7  
♥ 943  
♦ AJ8  
♣ K9862

♠ AJ98  
♥ Q85  
♦ Q32  
♣ A73

♠ 1063  
♥ AKJ1072  
♦ 105  
♣ QJ

♠ K542  
♥ 6  
♦ K9764  
♣ 1054

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♦ 6

West should show his spades and then East invites with 3♥. West raises and the unbid suit is led. North wins the ♦J and underleads his ace. South knows there are no more diamonds to cash, and worries about spades, switches to clubs for down 1.

1

♠ 962  
♥ KQ  
♦ 654  
♣ KQ987

♠ J105  
♥ 1094  
♦ J72  
♣ J643

♠ AQ3  
♥ J865  
♦ AQ1083  
♣ 2

♠ K874  
♥ A732  
♦ K9  
♣ A105

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1 ♦	Dbl
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦ 2

South makes a takeout double and chooses to try the NT game after North's invitational jump. Declarer has 9 tricks (3 hearts, 1 diamond and 5 clubs), but has to be careful with entries. Most notably, he should unblock his ♣10 when the suit is played.

2

♠ KQJ75  
♥ 5  
♦ Q1062  
♣ A105

♠ 6  
♥ AQJ9  
♦ AKJ85  
♣ 432

♠ A1032  
♥ K1042  
♦ 74  
♣ Q86

♠ 984  
♥ 8763  
♦ 93  
♣ KJ97

Dealer: East  
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1 ♦	1 ♠	Dbl	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♠ K

West has too much for only 2♥ so jumps invitationally to 3♥. East accepts. After the ♠K lead, declarer wins and plays the top diamonds. He trumps a diamond high, crosses in trump and ruffs another diamond high. His diamonds are good--so he draws trump and takes the first 10 tricks.

3

♠ AQ4  
♥ AK85  
♦ AQ  
♣ 10852

♠ KJ1095  
♥ J64  
♦ J  
♣ AK64

♠ 876  
♥ 10972  
♦ 105432  
♣ Q

♠ 32  
♥ Q3  
♦ K9876  
♣ J973

Dealer: South  
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1 ♠	Dbl	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ 8

North's auction shows more than a 1NT overall, so South raises to 3NT. After the spade lead, declarer plays the ♠A and then overtakes the ♦Q and knocks out the 10 to set up 9 tricks.

4

♠ J9862  
♥ 8753  
♦ Q7  
♣ 103

♠ Q543  
♥ AQJ4  
♦ 1054  
♣ Q4

♠ AK  
♥ 102  
♦ K92  
♣ A98765

♠ 107  
♥ K96  
♦ AJ863  
♣ KJ2

Dealer: West  
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	1 ♦
Dbl	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♦ 6

West's negative double shows 4-4 in the majors. East repeats the clubs and West can invite with 3♣ or "punt" with a 2♦ cuebid. Either way, East bids notrump, leading to 3NT. After a diamond lead, declarer plays the ♥10. South must cover. Declarer unblocks the ♠AK and takes his major suit winners. Eventually, he exits in diamonds and South must lead from his ♠K for the 9th trick.

Declarer Overview

1  
 ♠ AQJ1095  
 ♥ 8  
 ♦ 94  
 ♣ AQJ5  
 ♠ 6  
 ♥ AK64  
 ♦ K1062  
 ♣ K1097  
 ♠ 74  
 ♥ J10975  
 ♦ AJ53  
 ♣ 63  
 ♠ K832  
 ♥ Q32  
 ♦ Q87  
 ♣ 842

Dealer: North  
 Neither Vulnerable  

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Dbl	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

 Opening Lead: ♥ J

The defense leads and continues hearts. Declarer trumps high (saving the ♠5). He draws 2 rounds of trump ending in dummy (saving a second dummy entry). He takes a club finesse and then crosses in trumps to repeat the finesse.

2  
 ♠ J972  
 ♥ Q103  
 ♦ 107  
 ♣ QJ105  
 ♠ A10  
 ♥ AK986  
 ♦ K84  
 ♣ A42  
 ♠ 864  
 ♥ 542  
 ♦ AQJ3  
 ♣ 863  
 ♠ KQ53  
 ♥ J7  
 ♦ 9652  
 ♣ K97

Dealer: East  
 N-S Vulnerable  

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

 Opening Lead: ♣ Q

Declarer has to lose 2 clubs and at least 1 heart (needing a 3-2 break). The spade loser can go on the diamonds. After winning the ♣A, declarer must play ace, king AND ANOTHER trump. If he doesn't play the third trump, North can ruff the 3rd diamond and declarer never gets the 4th diamond.

3  
 ♠ AQ4  
 ♥ 432  
 ♦ QJ86  
 ♣ KJ6  
 ♠ J9762  
 ♥ Q10  
 ♦ A52  
 ♣ 984  
 ♠ K103  
 ♥ J975  
 ♦ 94  
 ♣ 10753  
 ♠ 85  
 ♥ AK86  
 ♦ K1073  
 ♣ AQ2

Dealer: South  
 E-W Vulnerable  

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

 Opening Lead: ♠ 6

Declarer has 6 top tricks and can knockout the ♠A to get 3 more. He can't afford the ♠Q at trick one. If it loses (as it does), the spade continuation sets him. He plays LOW from dummy and can't be defeated.

4  
 ♠ KJ9  
 ♥ 864  
 ♦ QJ109  
 ♣ Q107  
 ♠ 1062  
 ♥ J9  
 ♦ AK8542  
 ♣ A4  
 ♠ A743  
 ♥ AK  
 ♦ 73  
 ♣ K8652  
 ♠ Q85  
 ♥ Q107532  
 ♦ 6  
 ♣ J93

Dealer: West  
 Both Vulnerable  

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

 Opening Lead: ♥ 5

Declarer has 7 top tricks. He should test diamonds with the ace and king. If they split, he concedes a diamond and has an overtrick. When they don't split, he tries clubs and the 3-3 split sees him home. Ducking a diamond first is wrong, because it puts all the eggs in that one basket.