

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.

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

♠ 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.

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.

1

♠ A765
♥ AK
♦ J52
♣ AJ102

♠ Q108
♥ 98764
♦ K76
♣ 98

♠ J9
♥ QJ105
♦ A1098
♣ 763

♠ K432
♥ 32
♦ Q43
♣ KQ54

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

After a normal Stayman auction, East leads the ♥Q. If declarer starts diamonds, he should lose 3 tricks in that suit. Instead, he should draw 2 trumps, eliminate the clubs and hearts, and throw the defense in with the 3rd spade to break diamonds.

2

♠ 532
♥ KQ10
♦ AJ94
♣ 762

♠ A1094
♥ 8765
♦ 3
♣ AQ95

♠ KQJ876
♥ 943
♦ 2
♣ J84

♠
♥ AJ2
♦ KQ108765
♣ K103

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		2 ♠	3 ♦
4 ♠	5 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♠ A

East opens 2♠ and after South's overcall, West bids a LAWful 4♠S. North guesses to bid 5♦ against which the ♠A is led. Declarer ruffs, draws trumps (while stripping spades in the process) and cashes three hearts ending in dummy. When he plays a club and East plays low, South inserts the ♠10 and claims (if East played the jack, South would cover with the king and also have a claim).

3

♠ 3
♥ 9765
♦ AQJ
♣ J10986

♠ KQ98
♥ A4
♦ K7642
♣ 43

♠ AJ10765
♥ K3
♦ 1095
♣ A5

♠ 42
♥ QJ1082
♦ 83
♣ KQ72

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

After a straightforward auction, South leads the ♥Q. Declarer should not play diamonds himself. He can guarantee the contract by drawing trump, stripping the hearts and exiting with Ace and a club. When the defense has to break diamonds, declarer is sure not to lose 3 tricks in the suit (just cover any card South plays).

4

♠ KQJ10
♥ J876
♦ 2
♣ J986

♠ 5
♥ 432
♦ AJ10987
♣ K43

♠ A432
♥ AQ9
♦ KQ65
♣ A2

♠ 9876
♥ K105
♦ 43
♣ Q1075

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♠ K

After West's weak 2♦, East can explore for slam with 2NT. West can show his club feature and East has no reason to use Blackwood--he just jumps to slam. Declarer wins the ♠A, ruffs a spade and draws trump while also stripping the black suits. He leads a heart from hand and covers anything North plays to claim his contract.