



Lesson 4 Teacher's Notes

Aims:

- To introduce ***bidding***.
- The aims of bidding – to reach the best ***denomination***
- The concept of the ***auction*** – the bidding ladder
- How it is decided who will be declarer
- The side with more points has usually more chance of making more than 7 tricks
- The ***requirements*** for an ***opening bid***
- Simple opening bids: **1NT** and **1 of a suit**

Content:

- 1 Explain how it is bidding that makes bridge **different** (NB NOT **difficult**!)
The bidding phase is called an auction because the highest bid wins
Partnerships attempt to find their best denomination
(usually an 8+ card trump fit or no-trump, as in Minibridge)
Each bid must be **higher** than the previous one
Show some sample **auctions**, using the bidding box if possible
- 2 **Declarer**: the first member of the partnership to mention the final denomination
Dummy: declarer's partner
Opening leader: the defender on declarer's left
- 3 Requirements for **opening the bidding**
Any hand with 12+ points (a **queen** or more above an **average** hand) is worth an opening bid
A **balanced** hand with 12-14 points opens 1NT
(“Balanced” = 4333, 4432, 5332 – no **singletons** or **voids**)
A balanced hand with 15+ points, or an unbalanced hand, opens 1 of a suit
- 4 Which suit to bid?
We open our **longest** suit, looking for the best trump fit
With two suits of the same length we open the **higher-ranking**
(This is to make it easier to bid the second suit – compare 1♣-1♠-2♥ with 1♥-1♠-2♣
For the moment leave out 4432 with both majors/both minors – we will deal that later)