



## 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)