



Lesson 19 Examples

Coping with overcalls

♠ K72
♥ Q1092
♦ K653
♣ 84



1♥

2♣

East, your partner, deals and opens 1♥
South intervenes with a 2♣ overcall, showing 5/6 playing tricks
If South had passed you would bid 2♥ - a weak hand with heart support and 6-9 HCP.
And that is what you bid now - the bid means exactly the same as it would mean without the overcall.

♠ AK10762
♥ 74
♦ KQ5
♣ 93



1NT

2♥

This time partner opens 1NT: 12-14 balanced
With 12 points and a good suit you want to be in game.
If South had passed you would bid 4♠.
But South bids 2♥. Does that make any difference?
The 2♥ bid does not inconvenience you at all - you can still bid 4♠.

If the overcall does not prevent you making the bid you would have made - you can still make it

♠ 1032
♥ K5
♦ KJ7
♣ AQJ84



1♥

1♠

Partner opens 1♥.
If South had passed you would bid 2♣, a 2-over-1 response with at least 10 HCP and at least 4 clubs
The 1♠ overcall does not prevent you from bidding 2♣, so bid 2♣
Your bid means exactly what it would have done if South had passed. It is still forcing for 1 round

When the overcall gets in your way

♠ 1072
♥ AQ96
♦ Q54
♣ 853

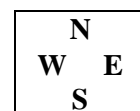


1♣

1♠

Partner opens 1♣.
If South had passed you would bid 1♥, a 1-over-1 response showing 6-27 HCP and at least 4 hearts
When South overcalls 1♠ you can no longer bid 1♥ because spades rank higher than hearts.
You would like to tell partner that hearts are your longest suit by bidding 2♥, but you are not strong enough to bid at the 2-level with these cards
You just have to pass, because South has stolen your room to bid

♠ 1072
♥ AQJ105
♦ 94
♣ K62



1♣

1♠

This time you have a better hand.
You have enough points for a 2-over-1.
It is all right to bid 2♥.
Because you have to bid at a higher level your bid carries extra meaning: ***you have 10+HCP***
you have a ***5+card*** suit
And it is still forcing for 1 round



Lesson 19 Examples

Bidding no-trump over an overcall

♠ KJ3
 ♥ Q107
 ♦ 1083
 ♣ Q985



1♦

1♠

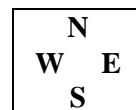
Without the overcall you bid 1NT, a weak response with 6-9 HCP and no trump support.

If no-trump becomes the final contract North will lead spades, his partner's suit.

So you will need **stoppers** in spades to make 1NT

♠KJ3 is an ideal stopper, so bid 1NT.

♠ 874
 ♥ Q1065
 ♦ J2
 ♣ A963



1♦

1♠

Without the overcall you would bid 1♥.

You can no longer bid that, and 2♥ is out because need 10+ HCP and at least 5 hearts

You have the right points for 1NT, but no spade stopper. There is nothing left but pass - the overcall has frozen you out of the auction

♠ 72
 ♥ QJ852
 ♦ Q82
 ♣ AJ7



1♦

1♠

Without the overcall you bid a 1-over-1 1♥.

We can no longer bid 1♥, but this time we can bid 2♥ to show 10+ points and 5 or more hearts

♠ KQ62
 ♥ 93
 ♦ A106
 ♣ Q762



1♥

1♠

If South had passed you would respond 1♠, showing 6-28HCP and at least 4 spades.

But we do not want to play in a suit where an opponent has shown 4/5 playing tricks with that suit as trump! We have a balanced hand with no support and enough points to respond 2NT.

With good stoppers in spades we can bid 2NT

More examples

♠ AQ1052
 ♥ Q83
 ♦ K109
 ♣ 32



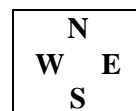
1♥

2♣

Without the overcall you respond 1♠.

Now you have to bid 2♠ - but that is fine with 5+spades and 11 HCP

♠ Q1052
 ♥ KQ83
 ♦ A109
 ♣ 84



1♣

1♥

Without the overcall you bid 1♥, a 1-over-1, bidding your 4-card majors upwards

Now you cannot bid 1♥ because RHO has bid hearts.

But you can bid 1♠, your other major, as a 1-over-1, showing 6-27HCP and a biddable suit