

Answers raising minor

1) 1H – no need to raise the diamonds (yet).

le you can bid 1H for now and if so wish bid 3D next.

2) again 1H is sound enough and what everyone bids

3) and now you might be wiser to bid 2C than 1H

The reasons have been explained in the notes but you will have read those of course.

4) 1Sp is fine.

5) Yes. Note that South *could* have bid 3C at their 1st call (to show 10-12) but it made more sense to offer a major suit 1st. Now the major suit doesn't seem to be what partner is interested in so we bid 3C. We have managed to show hearts and clubs and 10-12 pts. Quite descriptive for us.

6) Ok well there doesn't seem much to this question I admit. Mea culpa. Still there is an answer of sorts that some ought to note.

We led the singleton because we wanted to ruff. When a trump is led and we have only two trumps (A + 2) we of course *jump* with our Ace to make sure we still have a small trump to trump with. We have to guess whether to lead a club or heart but if we guess well and partner wins with the Ace of the suit we led ...hopefully they will switch back to diamonds to give us a ruff with our last remaining trump. Surely noone would duck with the Ace spades when a trump was led ? Wanna bet ?

7) I played the 9 diamonds at trick 1 to show partner I could (hopefully) make a trick with my J diamonds).

My plan is to continue the defence of building a trick by returning a diamond to partner's hoped for Q and thus to establish my Jack diamonds as a winner.

Perhaps not as crucial as in question 6 but here once again I *jump* with my Ace spades to get on with the defence as described above.

8)These also look easy but there is an important point to them.

The expert bridge player looks ahead a few tricks to see what they intend to do and where to make leads from.

In (a) you can't do much better than plan on taking a club finesse and a heart finesse. Well to take those 2 finesses you will need to be in the dummy twice.

Where do we win the diamond lead ? In hand so we still have the K diamonds as an entry to dummy to (later) take a finesse. How do we draw trumps ? We make sure we are in dummy after we have drawn trumps to be in the right hand to (later) take the other finesse. We play spades like this ; K spades; then Q spades; then Ace spades.

In (b) we need to take a number of heart finesses. We will need entries to hand. Win the diamond in dummy. Draw trumps by playing Kspades; Q spades; Ace spades. Then take the 1st heart finesse. If it wins return to the Ace diamonds and take the 2nd Heart finesse.

“Coo I just normally draw trumps any old way and then decide what to do “

9)Time to mug them up if you don't know them. BTW if you never actually *use them* (without the teacher pointing them out 1st) I would suggest you don't really “know” them. I'd be surprised if at least one of them didn't come up in any session you played .And if you missed them

