

MODULE 4 STUDENT NOTES

Opening 1 of a Suit

The Opener's 1st Bid

- 1♣ 12-19 HCP 4+ clubs
- 1♦ 12-19 HCP 4+ diamonds
- 1♥ 12-19 HCP 4+ hearts
- 1♠ 12-19 HCP 4+ spades

1NT 12-14 Balanced Hand (previous lesson)

Important: If you **CAN** open 1NT on your hand, you **MUST** open 1NT, **NOT** 1-of-a-suit.

When opening 1 of a suit, it is important to bid your suits in the correct order so you can describe your hand accurately to your partner. Use the following rules:

Basic Opening Bid Rules

The order in which you bid your suits is very important. Here are the rules:

- **Bid your longest** suit or with equal-length suits:
- Bid the **lower ranking** of **two 4-card** suits ("bottoms up") or
- Bid the **higher ranking** of **two 5-card** suits ("tops down").

When to respond to 1-of-a-suit Opening

- 0-5 HCP – pass – as the partnership has less than 25 HCP, game is unlikely.
- 6+ HCP – respond to the opening, partner may have 19 HCP – so there's a chance of game.

Responding Priorities

1st Priority: If your partner opened a Major suit (1♥ or 1♠) and you have 4+ card support and 6+ points, you should confirm playing in the Major suit fit and raise, as follows:

- 0-5 points – pass
- 6-9 points – raise 1♥ to 2♥ or 1♠ to 2♠
- 10-12 points – raise 1♥ to 3♥ or 1♠ to 3♠
- 13+ points – you have enough to make game so raise 1♥ to 4♥ or 1♠ to 4♠.

What if you don't have support for your partner's suit?

If you don't have 4+ support for partner's suit, or your partner opened a minor suit (1♣ or 1♦), but you have 6+ HCP, you should normally respond in a new suit, or 1NT. This is covered in the next week's topic.

Opener's rebid after Responder raises

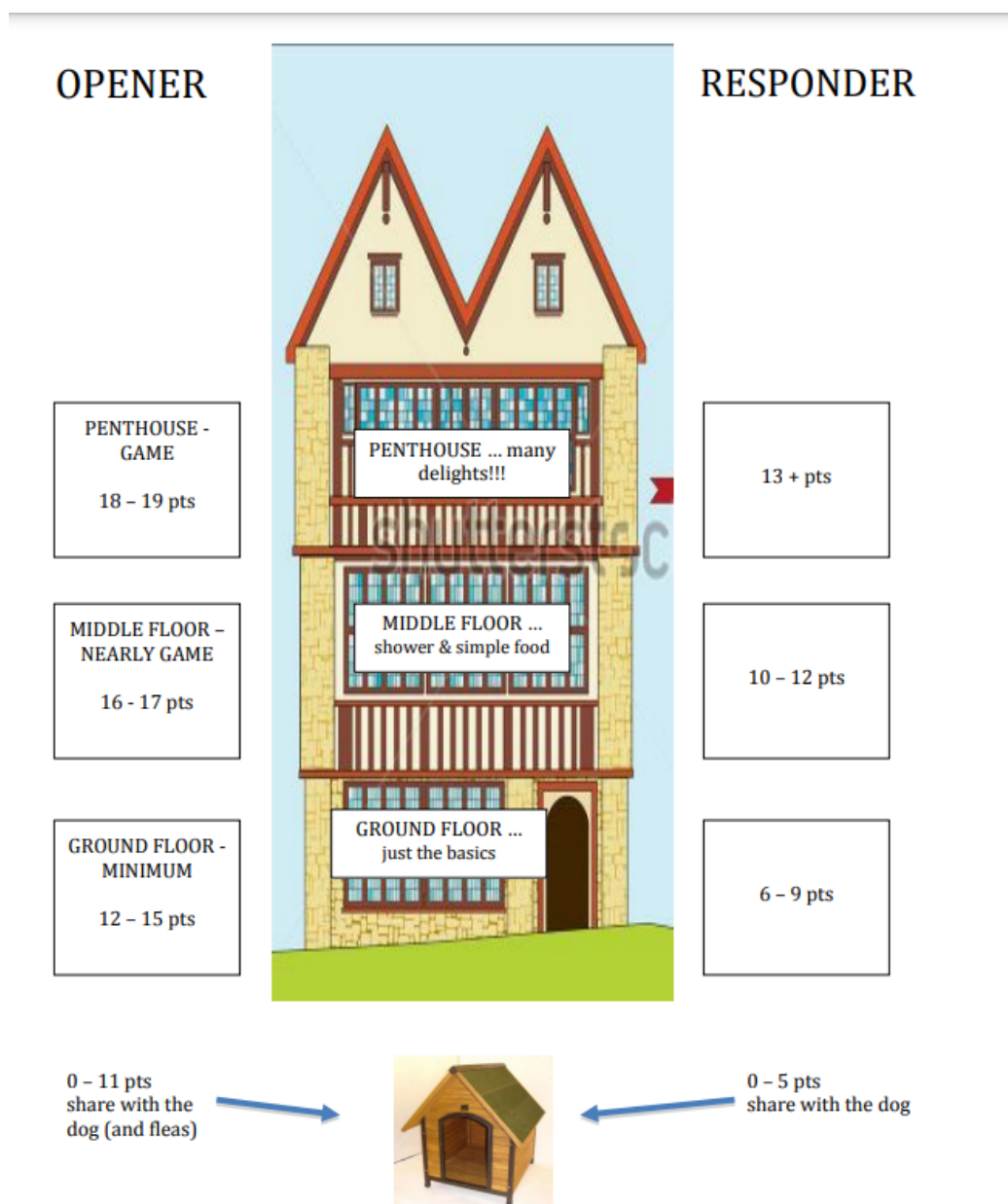
When Responder has raised Opener's Major suit, then Opener uses the info Responder has given and applies arithmetic to determine the level of the final contract. For example, if they opened 1♥ on a strong hand of 19 points, once Responder raises, even just to 2♥, they know their side has at least $19+6 = 25$ points, enough for game – and they should bid 4♥.

Opener's Rebid after a Limit Raise

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| After 1♥ – 2♥ | |
| Pass | 12-15 |
| 3♥ | 16-17 |
| 4♥ | 18-19 |
| After 1♥ – 3♥ | |
| Pass | 12-13 |
| 4♥ | 14+ |

The Bridge House

The three different levels of opening and responding bids are illustrated in the house diagram:



Opening 1 of a Suit

1. What do you open with the following hands?

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ♠ AQ654 ♥ 72 ♦ A2 ♣ A92 | ♠ AJ52 ♥ J8 ♦ A105 ♣ J1085 | ♠ K2 ♥ AKQ2 ♦ J9875 ♣ 97 | ♠ AJ952 ♥ AQ862 ♦ K5 ♣ 4 | ♠ A52 ♥ AK62 ♦ AJ85 ♣ 97 |

2. What do you open with the following hands?

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ♠ AKQJ9 ♥ 2 ♦ A108532 ♣ 9 | ♠ KJ65 ♥ KQ32 ♦ J ♣ A987 | ♠ 4 ♥ Q9643 ♦ K1082 ♣ AK2 | ♠ Q9 ♥ A107 ♦ 107 ♣ KQJ965 | ♠ AQ5 ♥ 8 ♦ AJ1085 ♣ A974 |

3. Partner opens 1♥ - what do you respond with these hands?

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ♠ A52 ♥ AJ62 ♦ A1085 ♣ 84 | ♠ Q105 ♥ Q76 ♦ 10852 ♣ 1032 | ♠ A2 ♥ Q962 ♦ KJ765 ♣ J5 | ♠ 62 ♥ 6543 ♦ Q985 ♣ A52 | ♠ 5 ♥ Q986 ♦ K875 ♣ AK97 |

4. You open 1♠ and your partner bids 2♠. What is your rebid?

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ♠ K5432 ♥ KJ6 ♦ Q108 ♣ A2 | ♠ QJ854 ♥ A862 ♦ AJ ♣ AK | ♠ AQJ52 ♥ K87 ♦ A98 ♣ K6 | ♠ AKQ765 ♥ K6 ♦ 3 ♣ KQ75 | ♠ AKQ432 ♥ 76 ♦ J108 ♣ A9 |

Module 4 Quiz

ANSWERS

Opening 1 of a Suit

1. What do you open with the following hands?

(a)
♠ AQ6542
♥ 72
♦ A2
♣ A92

1♠

(b)
♠ AJ52
♥ J8
♦ A105
♣ J1085

Pass

(c)
♠ K2
♥ AKQ2
♦ J9875
♣ 97

1♦

(d)
♠ AJ952
♥ AQ862
♦ K5
♣ 4

1♠

(e)
♠ A52
♥ AK62
♦ AJ85
♣ 97

1♦

2. What do you open with the following hands?

(a)
♠ AKQJ9
♥ 2
♦ A108532
♣ 9

1♦

(b)
♠ KJ65
♥ KQ32
♦ J
♣ A987

1♣

(c)
♠ 4
♥ Q9643
♦ K1082
♣ AK2

1♥

(d)
♠ Q9
♥ A107
♦ 107
♣ KQJ965

1♣

(e)
♠ AQ5
♥ 8
♦ AJ1085
♣ A974

1♦

3. Partner opens 1♥ - what do you respond with these hands?

(a)
♠ A52
♥ AJ62
♦ A1085
♣ 84

4♥

(b)
♠ Q105
♥ Q76
♦ 10852
♣ 1032

Pass

(c)
♠ A2
♥ Q962
♦ KJ765
♣ J5

3♥

(d)
♠ 62
♥ 6543
♦ Q985
♣ A52

2♥

(e)
♠ 5
♥ Q986
♦ K875
♣ AK97

4♥

4. You open 1♠ and your partner bids 2♠. What is your rebid?

(a)
♠ K5432
♥ KJ6
♦ Q108
♣ A2

Pass

(b)
♠ QJ854
♥ A862
♦ AJ
♣ AK

4♠

(c)
♠ AQJ52
♥ K87
♦ A98
♣ K6

3♠

(d)
♠ AKQ765
♥ K6
♦ 3
♣ KQ75

4♠

(e)
♠ AKQ432
♥ 76
♦ J108
♣ A9

Pass