

Try these everyday 3 problems and see how you fare—

1.

♠ AKQ62
♥ QJ98
♦ QT6
♣ Q

You are dealer at White v/s Red and you open 1♠. Pass by lefty and partner responds 2♥. Pass.

QUIZ: Your rebid please?

2.

♠ T8763
♥ 75432
♦
♣ J64

Partner opens 1NT in first seat and RHO doubles (strong - no agreement by opponents). You decide that 2 of a major will fare better.

QUIZ: What will be your bid?

3.

4		♠ 7	Dir: W										
		♥ KQJ973	Vul: Both										
		♦ A85											
		♣ AQT											
♠ Q965		♠ KJ432											
♥ 5		♥ 2											
♦ K2		♦ QJ63											
♣ K98632		♣ J75											
16	♠ AT8	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>♣♦♥♠</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>- 4 5 - 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>- 4 5 - 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>1 - - 1 -</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>1 - - 1 -</td> </tr> </table>		♣♦♥♠		N	- 4 5 - 4	S	- 4 5 - 4	E	1 - - 1 -	W	1 - - 1 -
♣♦♥♠													
N	- 4 5 - 4												
S	- 4 5 - 4												
E	1 - - 1 -												
W	1 - - 1 -												
8	♥ AT864												
8	♦ T974												
8	♣ 4												

You get to 4♥ in two bids.

East leads the ♠2 (3rd/5th). You win the ace in dummy, draw a trump, then the ♣A and you cross-ruff 2 clubs and 2 spades. You now play the ♦A and another diamond.

Poor West wins the king but has only black cards left, thus offering you a ruff/sluff giving you +680.

QUIZ: Both sides made mistakes in the play! What were they?

Sid's solutions

1.

4♣ = splinter raise!

(It is vital to tell partner that you have at most 1 club.)

This bid assists partner enormously. Whether partner cues 4♦ now or goes to 4NT directly, it will get your side to the cold slam. + 980.

2		♠ JT543	Dir: E
		♥ 2	Vul: N-S
		♦ 9854	
		♣ AT8	
♠ 9	♥ AKT653	♦ AJ	♣ 6543
♠ AKQ62	♥ QJ98	♦ QT6	♣ Q
5	♠ 87	♥ 74	♦ K732
12	16	♣ KJ972	
7			
			♣♦♥♠
			N - - - -
			S - - - -
			E - - 6 - 2
			W - - 6 - 2

2.

2♣ stayman. Over a double, best is to play "systems on", i.e. simply ignore the double - all bids retain their original meanings.

If partner responds 2♦, you will then bid 2♥. Partner will pass or correct to 2♠ with 2-3 in the majors.

As it happens, partner will bid 2♥, so all is well.

14		♠ J54	Dir: E
		♥ Q9	Vul: None
		♦ Q7653	
		♣ T97	
♠ T8763	♥ 75432	♦ J64	♣ Q85
♠ KQ2	♥ AT86	♦ AJ8	♣ Q85
5	♠ A9	♥ KJ	♦ KT942
1	16	♣ AK32	
18			
			♣♦♥♠
			N 1 3 - - 1
			S 1 3 - - -
			E - - 3 3 -
			W - - 3 3 -

3.

Errors were -

Defender: When declarer plays diamonds, play the king first time and get out of partner's way. +650 only.

Declarer: Win the spade lead with the ace, and promptly cash the ♦A at trick 2! Before West surmises what you are up to. +680 again.