

Quiz Answers - Forcing and Non-Forcing Bids

Abbreviations used:

P=Partner

O=Opener

R=Responder

F=Forcing

NF=Non-forcing

LHO=Left-hand opponent

RHO=Right-hand opponent

Identify whether each of your partner's opening bids is forcing or non-forcing and give the rule or explanation. One example is given.

	P/O	RHO	F/NF?	Explanation
Ex	1♠	Pass	NF	If you have 6+ pts, you are expected to bid. (With 6-9 pts and no 3-card support for spades, you would bid 1NT.) Otherwise, NF.
#1	1♥	Pass	NF	If you have 6+ pts, you are expected to bid. Otherwise, NF.
#2	2♣	Pass	F	This is an artificial bid meaning a strong hand with 22+ pts. It is a demand bid. Your response is 2♦ (waiting) or 2♥ ("bust" hand).
#3	1♣	Pass	F/NF	Partnership agreement. Respond as usual if you have 6+ pts. With less than 6 points, you should bid your 4-card major if you have one. Otherwise, bid 1♦ showing no 4-card major. If you have few points and 4-5 clubs, then you can pass.
#4	4NT	Pass	F	Partner has opened with Blackwood and is asking for Aces. Bid 5♣ (0 or 4 Aces), 5♦ (1 Ace), 5♥ (2 Aces) or 5♠ (3 Aces).
#5	2♣	3♥	NF	Opponent has intervened with a pre-emptive, weak heart bid. You are not required to bid, but should use your judgment. If you have 4+ pts, you should consider bidding, especially if short in hearts.
#6	2♣	Double	NF	Your partner has a strong hand and may not have any clubs but, because of the intervening double, he will now get a chance to bid again. The double could be a "lead-directing" bid by opponent. You can ask your LHO what this bid means. Your partner has 22+ pts, so you should respond 2♦ (waiting) with 3+ pts. If you have a "bust" hand, you could simply pass. If partner does not have many clubs, he will certainly bid another suit or 2NT.

This time you have opened the bidding. Identify whether your partner's responding bid is forcing or non-forcing and give an explanation. One example is given.

	You	LHO	P/R	F/NF?	Explanation
Ex	1♣	Pass	1♥	F	A change of suit by Responder is forcing.
#7	1♥	Pass	1NT	NF	This is a cut-off bid. Your partner does not have support for hearts and has 6-9 pts.
#8	1♠	Pass	2♥	F	A change of suit by Responder is forcing.
#9	1♠	Double	2♠	NF	Partner has supported your suit. This is non-forcing. The double by opponent has no bearing on your partner's bid, but you would now be aware that LHO is short in spades and has opening points.
#10	1NT	Pass	2♣	F	This is Stayman. Partner has asked you to state your 4-card major if you have one, or bid 2♦ if you don't.
#11	1♥	2♠	3NT	NF	Game level has been reached. This is non-forcing.

Continuation of the bidding with Partner opening:
(Opponents pass throughout.)

	P/O	You/R	P/O	F/NF?	Explanation
Ex	1♥	1♠	2♥	NF	P/O has repeated his suit without jumping.
#12	1♥	1♠	2♠	NF	P/O has agreed to your suit without jumping.
#13	1♥	1♠	2♣	NF	P/O has (likely) 5 hearts and 4 clubs with no 4-card support for your spades. P/O has not jumped so you can pass.
#14	1♥	1♠	3♦	F	P/O has made a jump shift, probably searching for a NT contract. If you have club stoppers, you should bid 3NT.
#15	1♦	1♥	1NT	NF	P/O is showing a minimum opening hand, denying a 4-card spade suit.

Continuation of bidding when you are the Opener:
(Opponents pass throughout.)

	You	P/R	You	P/R	F/NF?	Explanation
Ex	1♥	1♠	2♥	3♦	F	A new suit by responder is forcing. Also, "new minor forcing."
#16	1♥	1♠	2♥	2♠	NF	P/R is showing 5 spades and fewer than 2 hearts. He prefers spades to hearts.
#17	1♥	1♠	2♥	3♠	NF	P/R has jumped, repeating his suit to show 10+ pts, extra spades, and no fit for hearts.
#18	1♦	1♥	2♦	2♠	F	A new suit by Responder is forcing.
#19	1♣	1♥	1♠	1NT	NF	NT is a "cut-off" bid, showing 6-9 pts.
#20	1♣	1♦	1NT	2NT	NF	NT is a "cut-off" bid; in this case, showing 10-12 pts and inviting to game.