Lesson 2: Practise Responses to Partner' Opening 1NT (12-14) (No Stayman or Transfers)

Print off and fold down the middle.

2	West West	North INT North INT	East Pass East Pass	South ? South ?	 ▲ J4 ♥ KQ53 ◆ J872 ♣ K76 ▲ 9 ♥ J43 ◆ J10872 ♣ 8542 	 Pass If partner had opened in a suit you would have had to bid with 6+ HCP - partner might have 19 HCP, so a combined 25 HCP, enough for game. But partner's 1NT is a limit bid showing a maximum of 14 HCP, so you need at least 11 HCP to have a game going hand. With 10 HCP and no 5+ card suit, PASS. Do not bid 2♥ - partner may only have two hearts. 2♦ You have just 2 HCP Partner has bid a WEAK 1NT (12-14), so your opponents have at least 26 HCP, more than enough for game. Your singleton spade is a worry. You need to rescue partner. You know she must have at least two
3	West	North 1NT	East Pass	South ?	 ♦ 93 ♥ AK6 ♦ QJ76 ♣ K954 	diamonds (maybe four) so you make a weak takeout, which partner will pass. 3NT You have 13 HCP so a combined 25+ HCP, enough for game. You do not have a 5+ card major so 3NT is your best option.
4	West	North 1NT	East Pass	South ?	 ▲ AK876 ♥ K7 ♦ 93 ♣ K954 	3 ▲ You have 13 HCP, so a combined 25+ HCP, enough for game. Your best contract might be 3NT (if partner has just two spades) or 4 ▲. This is one of the only two hand types where you consult your partner. Bid 3 ▲. It is game forcing – partner must choose between 3NT and 4 ▲. She must not pass.
5	West	North 1NT	East Pass	South ?	 ▲ AK8642 ♥ 54 ♦ Q7 ♣ KJ7 	4▲ No need to consult partner. You have 13 HCP so a combined 25+ HCP, enough for game. Partner must have at least two spades so you have an 8+ spade fit.
6	West	North 1NT	East Pass	South ?	 ▲ AK8 ♥ Q764 ♦ 93 ♣ K1054 	2NT This is the second hand type where you need to consult with partner. In the last example you were asking partner to choose the game contract, 3♠ or 3NT. This time you want to play in No Trumps and are asking partner to choose between 2NT and 3NT. You have 12 HCP. If partner has a maximum 14 HCP or a good 13 HCP then she should bid 3NT, otherwise she should pass.
7	West Pass	North 2NT	East Pass	South 1NT ?	 ▲ AK8 ♥ QJ64 ♦ 93 ♣ K1054 	Pass Partner has 11-12 points and is inviting you to bid 3NT with 14 HCP or pass with 12 HCP. You have 13 HCP, so have to decide if your hand is worth an upgrade. Your hand is nothing special, so you decline the invitation.

8	West Pass	North 3♥	East Pass	South 1NT ?	 ▲ AK8 ♥ Q76 ◆ 93 ♣ K10542 	4♥ Partner is showing 11+ HCP and EXACTLY five hearts, and is asking you to choose between 3NT and 4♥. With your three card heart support (a fit) you bid 4♥.
9	West Pass	North	East Pass	South 1NT ?	 ▲ AK8 ♥ Q764 ♦ 93 ♣ KQ54 	Pass With 14 HCP and four hearts you must resist the temptation to bid 3♥. Partner has made a weak takeout showing 5+ hearts and less than 11 HCP. Partner might have ZERO points!
10	West	North 1NT	East Pass	South ?	 ▲ K72 ♥ K96 ◆ 43 ♣ AQ983 	3NT You have 13 HCP and your long suit is a minor. 5* requires 11 tricks so is probably out of reach. The only sensible game contract is 3NT. Swop your clubs and spades and you would bid 3*, asking partner to choose between 3NT and 4*.