Hand 1
Dealer North

♠ K954
♥ 86
♦ QJ5
♣ Q1054

♠ 103
♥ A1097
♦ 109862
♣ 98

♠ 62
♥ KQJ3
♦ A7
♣ AKJ32

♠ AQJ87
♥ 542
♦ K43
♣ 76

N	E	S	W
NB	1C	1S	NB
3S	Dbl	NB	4D
NB	**4H**		

After South's overcall of 1S, North's 3S is a "Total Trumps" barrage, indicating 4-card support. East doubles to introduce the heart suit without going past 4C. When West bids 4D, East moves to 4H. This indicates that she holds clubs and hearts. West is happy enough and passes. To succeed, East must ruff two clubs in dummy before drawing all the trumps.

Hand 2
Dealer East

♠ Q54
♥ AK4
♦ 932
♣ QJ96

♠ 32
♥ 1098753
♦ K10
♣ 1032

♠ A87
♥ Q6
♦ AQJ876
♣ 54

♠ KJ1096
♥ J2
♦ 54
♣ AK87

N	E	S	W
-	1D	1S	NB
2D	NB	3C	NB
4S			

North's 2D is an Unassuming Cue-Bid (UCB) which shows 3-card support or more, plus an opening hand. It is the one strong bid you can make opposite an overcall. With a minimum hand, South would rebid 2S but, as he holds 12pts, this is a good hand, and he should show his other suit, clubs. North realises that they have a double fit and jumps to 4S - which makes.

Hand 3
Dealer South

♠ A2
♥ QJ98
♦ A53
♣ J742

♠ KQ10985
♥ 65
♦ 7642
♣ 6

♠ J764
♥ A
♦ K98
♣ 109853

♠ 7
♥ K107432
♦ QJ10
♣ AKQ

N	E	S	W
-	-	1H	2S
4H	4S	?	

West's Weak Jump-overcall shows a good quality 6-card suit with 5-9pts. When North raises to 4H, it is easy for East, with ten trumps, to bid 4S. This bid skewers N/S. If South bids on to 5H, he will go down if West leads his singleton club. East will win A♥ and return a club for a ruff. Later, declarer cannot avoid losing K♦ to East for one off. If South passes or doubles 4S, E/W will only go one down.

Hand 4
Dealer West

♠ A105
♥ 7
♦ KQ3
♣ AJ10984

♠ KQ73
♥ KQ1086
♦ A105
♣ 6

♠ 9643
♥ 432
♦ 9642
♣ 752

♠ J82
♥ AJ95
♦ J87
♣ KQ3

N	E	S	W
-	-	-	1H
2C	NB	**3NT**	

When North overcalls 2C, South should assume that, as he holds ♣KQ, North is either strong or holds six or seven clubs. Either way, game looks likely and an UCB will not help South find the best denomination. Therefore, with a fit in a minor suit, he should opt to bid 3NT. Not only will his side hold the right number of points, but West will be marked with all the remaining values, making the play of the hand that much more straightforward.