

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0080:  
"Selecting Your Lead on Defense:  
Some *Cardinal Bridge Leading Principles*  
And Exceptions Thereto"**

**Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen<sup>1</sup>**

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**Leading Situation #1<sup>2</sup>**

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1S	PASS	1NT*	PASS
2H**	PASS	PASS	PASS

\*In the N/S system NORTH's 1NT response bid (1) denies 3+ Spades but (2) promises 7-11 HCPs.

\*\*SOUTH's 2<sup>nd</sup> bid promises either 5 or 4 Hearts with good Suit Quality.

1. *Sitting WEST, you hold:*

♠ Q T x x      ♥ x x x      ♦ Q J x      ♣ Q J x

*What would you lead?*

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<sup>1</sup> As noted in an article in the Winter/Spring, 2024 article in The American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA) Journal, [https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA\\_1\\_24.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA_1_24.pdf), Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

<sup>2</sup> These first 2 leading situations are based on examples presented by Larry Cohen in his article, "Opening Leads vs. Suit Contracts", in the May, 2024 of the ACBL Bridge Bulletin.

To see Esther's **suggested answer**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0080\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0080_a1.pdf)