

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0124:  
"As Declarer, 2 Boards That Require You to  
Choose Between a 'Ruff' versus a 'Sluff'"**

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

To return to the "Esther Bridge Lessons," CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/index.html>

To return to the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes", CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz.html>

Esther on her "**Esther Bridge Lessons**" website has previously recommended the "**BBO Bridge Master**" website:

<https://www.bridgebase.com/v3/anon/bridgemaster>

The "**BBO Bridge Master**" website allows you to declare your skill level, then shows a series of Hands and announces the final contract, each of which you then play as Declarer. At the end of play you can then request a solution in which the optimal "Line of Play" is discussed step by step. The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" question is drawn from "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-2 **Lessons C-27** and **C-28**. Note that across repeated play "**BBO Bridge Master**" may change some Hands in given lessons. Esther may have altered the auction and/or some cards on some Boards.

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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.

## Board C-27, Level 2

NORTH (8)

**S:** J 8 6  
**H:** Q 3 2  
**D:** K 6 5 4  
**C:** Q 3 2

WEST (7)

**S:** A 5 4 3  
**H:** 5 4  
**D:** 8 7  
**C:** K T 9 8 6

EAST (7)

**S:** 2  
**H:** 9 8 7 6  
**D:** Q J T 9  
**C:** A 7 5 4

SOUTH (18)

**S:** K Q T 9 7  
**H:** A K J T  
**D:** A 3 2  
**C:** J

### Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1S	PASS	2S	PASS
4S	PASS	PASS	PASS

1. On Trick #1 WEST leads the Club Ten thus "promising" the top of a "touching card" sequence, and possibly a higher Club Honor. EAST wins Trick #1 with the Club Ace, and on Trick #2 EAST returns Partner's Club lead which WEST wins with his Club King.

Declarer SOUTH loses the 1<sup>st</sup> 2 Tricks. What certain "winners" can SOUTH see? What "certain" losers can Declarer SOUTH see?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0124\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0124_a1.pdf)