

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0160:  
"Playing a Suit Contract as Declarer When Dummy  
is Short of Trump and Has Few Entries"**

**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 **Lesson B-23**. Note that across repeated play "**BBO Bridge Master**" may change some Hands in given lessons. Esther may have altered some cards in some Hands.

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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.

Dealer: **SOUTH**

**Board B-23, Level 2**

NORTH (10)

**S:** 3 2  
**H:** A 2  
**D:** K Q J T 9  
**C:** 5 4 3 2

WEST (6)

**S:** 7 6 4  
**H:** K Q J T  
**D:** 8 3  
**C:** T 9 8 7

EAST (8)

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

SOUTH (16)

**S:** K Q J T 9 8  
**H:** 5 4 3  
**D:** A  
**C:** K Q J

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 <b>S</b>	PASS	2 <b>D</b>	PASS
3 <b>S</b>	PASS	4 <b>S</b>	PASS
PASS	PASS		

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Heart King that "tops" his "promised" "touching Honors" sequence.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy comes "down" how many "entries" to the NORTH Dummy can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What will WEST lead at his very next turn to lead?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0160 a1.pdf>