

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0162:
"As Declarer, When You Are Likely to Lose
Control of Trump and an Opponent Ruff Is
Threatened, What Can You Do
to Improve Your Situation?"**

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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Ron Klinger (1941-) is an Australian contract bridge player who has written more than **70** bridge books including his 1990 book, Guide to Better Card Play, which won the "American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA) Bridge Book of the Year Award." His book, Right Through the Pack Again, won the 2010 "International Bridge Press Association Book of the Year Award." He was Editor of Australian Bridge for 13 years (1972-1985). For many years he has written, and still currently writes, a weekly bridge column for both the Sydney Morning Herald and The Sun-Herald.

Klinger also originated the Ron Klinger "**Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score**". The "**SQT Score**" is computed by adding together (1) the number of cards held in the Suit and (2) the number of Honors (including the Ten) held in the Suit. Suit contracts set at a level of "**SQT Score**" - 6 are generally relatively safe.

The present "**Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz**" is drawn from **Tip #61** (pp. 94-95) from Klinger's 2003 book, 100 WINNING BRIDGE TIPS for the Improving Player. The examples have been slightly modified by Esther. The bidding is by Esther.

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¹ 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, Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

Dealer: **WEST**

NORTH (9)

S: K T 9 5 4

H: A 7

D: Q T 9 5

C: 6 4

WEST (17)

S: A Q 7

H: Q 8 6 2

D: A 7 2

C: K Q J

EAST (6)

S: 8 3

H: K T 9 5 4 3

D: K 8

C: 9 8 7

SOUTH (8)

S: J 6 2

H: J

D: J 6 4 3

C: A J T 5 2

Bidding

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT	PASS	2D*	PASS
3H**	PASS	4H	PASS
PASS	PASS		

*Jacoby Transfer to Hearts

**Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see "Esther Bridge Conventions Lesson #23: 'The 'Super-Duper Super-Accept' Variation on the Traditional Jacoby Transfer from Partner's 1NT Opening Bid":

<https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/SUPER.pdf>

Klinger (2003, p. 94) presents the actual version of this slightly modified Board played in the 1996 Australian Women's Team Competition.

NORTH leads the Club 6, Declarer plays the EAST Dummy Club 7, SOUTH plays the Club Ten, and Declarer WEST "wins" Trick #1 with the Club King. Klinger (2003) notes that "South did well to duck the first club. If South takes the ♣A, there is no defence" (p. 94).

1. Should Declarer WEST now "draw" Trump?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0162_a1.pdf