

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0166:
"Playing a 3NT Contract as Declarer
When An Opponent Bid During the Auction"**

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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 D-04**. 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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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**

Board D-04, Level 2

NORTH (14)

S: A K
H: A 2
D: Q J 7 6 5 4
C: 4 3 2

WEST (14)

S: J T 9 8
H: T 9 8 7
D: A T
C: A K Q

EAST (1)

S: 7 6 5
H: J 6 5 3
D: 9 8 3
C: 7 6 5

SOUTH (11)

S: Q 4 3 2
H: K Q 4
D: K 2
C: J T 9 8

Bidding

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------------|-------------|------|-------------|
| 1 C | 1 D | PASS | 1 NT |
| PASS | 2 NT | PASS | 3 NT |
| PASS | PASS | | |

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Spade Jack that "promises" the Spade Ten and likely the Spade 9 and a "long" Spade Suit.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy comes "down" what "winners" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What "losers" can the Declarer SOUTH see?
3. What "pitfalls" can Declarer see that **must** be avoided to "make" his 3**NT** contract?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0166_a1.pdf