

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0170:
**"Several Basic and Important Principles for
Playing 3NT Contracts as Declarer"**

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 **Lessons A-01, A-05, and A-09**. 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.

**The Importance of "Promoting" "Winers" and
Selecting the "Correct" Discards
(Opponents "Silent" Throughout the Auction)**

Dealer: **NORTH**

Board A-01, Level 2

NORTH (14)

S: A
H: A K
D: 6 4 3 2
C: Q J T 9 8 7

WEST (5)

S: 9 8 7 5
H: Q T 9 8
D: K 8
C: 6 5 3

EAST (7)

S: T 6 4 3 2
H: 7 6 5
D: 9 7 5
C: A K

SOUTH (14)

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

Bidding

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 C	PASS	1 D	PASS
2 D	PASS	2 H	PASS
3 C	PASS	3 NT	PASS
PASS			

WEST leads the Spade 9 as the "top" of a "touching" card sequence in his "longest" Suit thus promising the Spade 8 and likely the Spade 7.

1. Was SOUTH's bid as Responder the "correct" bid?
2. What "winners" can SOUTH as Declarer see once the NORTH Dummy comes "down"?
3. What "entries" can Declarer SOUTH see into the NORTH Dummy?
4. What "danger" can Declarer SOUTH see that must be avoided?
5. What cards should be led by Declarer SOUTH at Tricks **#2** and **#4**?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0170_a1.pdf