

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0210:  
"When Playing as Declarer 'Placing' Honors  
by Listening to the PASSes and  
'Unblocking' the Dummy"**

**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 D-18**. 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, the purported ACBL Double Triple Emerald Gold Platinum LifeMaster with 20+ million ACBL MasterPoints, in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So, this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

**BBO Bridge Master Level 2 Lesson D-18**

Dealer: **WEST**

NORTH (10)

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

WEST (11)

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

EAST (4)

**S:** 3 2  
**H:** 8 6 5 3 2  
**D:** 3  
**C:** A 9 8 7 4

SOUTH (15)

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

**Bidding**

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

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Heart Ace thus "promising" at least the Heart King and asking Partner EAST whether EAST can "win" Trick #3 if Hearts is led on that Trick either by (1) playing the Heart Queen or (2) ruffing. By this action WEST has "shown" 7 HCPs.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what Honors can Declarer SOUTH see that N/S are missing?
2. Where should Declarer SOUTH "place" the Club Ace that N/S are missing?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0210\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0210_a1.pdf)