

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0220:  
"Playing a Suit Contract as Bridge Declarer:  
Sluffing 'Losers' on 'Sacrifice' Tricks"**

**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-3 **Lesson B-17**. 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 3 Lesson B-17**

Dealer: **WEST**

NORTH (5)

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

WEST (12)

**S:** 8  
**H:** 9 8 7  
**D:** A K Q 7 5  
**C:** K 9 7 6

EAST (7)

**S:** 5 4  
**H:** K Q J T  
**D:** 6 4 3 2  
**C:** J T 8

SOUTH (16)

**S:** K Q J 9 7 6 2  
**H:** A 3 2  
**D:** --  
**C:** A Q 3

**Bidding**

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

SOUTH holds **16** HCPs, a Diamond void, and **2** Aces. The Ron Klinger "**Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score**" of SOUTH's Spades is (1) **7** cards plus (2) **3** Honors, or  $7 + 3 = 10$ . An "**SQT Score**" of **10** will support a Suit contract no higher than  $10 - 6 = 4$ .

On Tricks **#1** WEST leads his Diamond King.

1. What Trump Spade should Declarer SOUTH use to ruff on Trick **#1**?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0220\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0220_a1.pdf)