

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0250:
'Placing' 'Missing' Honors When an Opponent
Overcalled by Bidding 'Unusual 2NT' After You
Opened 2C and You Are Playing a
6H Contract 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-3 **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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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, 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 D-18

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (7)

S: Q 6 5 3

H: 4 2

D: Q 4 2

C: K 5 3 2

WEST (6)

S: 7

H: 7 5

D: K J T 9 8

C: Q T 9 8 7

EAST (5)

S: K J T 9 8

H: 6 3

D: 7 6 5

C: J 6 4

SOUTH (22)

S: A 4 2

H: A K Q J T 9 8

D: A 3

C: A

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 C	2 NT *	DBL **	PASS
3 H	PASS	4 H	PASS
6 H	PASS	PASS	PASS

- *This "artificial" "**Unusual 2NT**"² bid show **5+** cards in both Minors with both Minors having good "Suit Quality".
- **This **DOUBLE** by Responder shows HCPs and asks Opener to "show" his "strong" Suit.

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Trump Heart 7.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. Where should SOUTH "place" the "missing" Spade King?

² Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see: "Esther Bridge Convention Lesson #8: 'Unusual 2NT'": https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/unus_2NT.pdf. About **3.2%** of randomly-deal bridge Hands involve a 5-5-2-1 distribution (any Suit order) and **0.9%** of Hands involve a 5-5-3-0 distribution (any Suit order) so **4.1%** of randomly-dealt Hands involve **2** 5-card Suits. There are **6** 2-Suit combinations: S,H, S,D, S,C, H,D, H,C, D,C. So, $4.1\% / 6 = 0.7\%$ of randomly-dealt Hands are 2 Suited 5-5 in the Minors. Furthermore, some of the very rare x-x-5-5 distributions you hold may have insufficient Honors to make an 'Unusual 2NT!' Overcall bid rational. "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes, Play as Declarer, Suit Contracts" dealing with 'Unusual 2NT!' Overcall bids are Quizzes #305, #303, #300, #271 and #250.

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0250_a1.pdf