

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0264:
"BBO Bridge Master' Let's You
Practice Playing the *Way You Must* When There Is
Only One Way Albeit an Unlikely Way
for You to Make Your 4S Contract"**

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. Here we use the *free* "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-4 **Lesson B-13** which gives you the opportunity to see and *repeatedly practice* playing a given bridge Board.

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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 4 Lesson B-13

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (7)

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

WEST (8)

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

EAST (7)

S: 8
H: Q J T 9 8 6
D: A 9 8 6
C: 6 4

SOUTH (16)

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

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 S	PASS	2 S	PASS*
4 S **	PASS	PASS	PASS

*EAST's Hearts have a Ron Klinger "**Suit Quality Test**

(**'SQT'**) **Score**"² of (1) **6** Heart Cards plus (2) **3** Honors (including the Ten since EAST holds 1 or more Heart Honors higher than the Heart Ten) or $6 + 3 = 9$. An "**SQT Score**" of 9 will generally support a Suit bid up to the 9 - 6 - **3** level. EAST also holds a singleton in the Opponents' bid Spades, the Diamond Ace, and a Club doubleton. However, this Overcall would be "lead directing" and EAST is missing both the Heart Ace and Heart King.

SOUTH decides to bid 4S** by considering the bridge "**Rule of 5**"³. The bridge "**Rule of 5**" says that when you open 1**H** or 1**S** and Responder bids a "constructive" raise showing (1) **3+** Trump cards and (2) **6+** HCPs (hopefully **7+** HCPs and/or a Trump Honor) you can safely bid game if the sum of your "missing" Aces, Kings and Queens, taking into

² Within the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes" see: "**Several Bidding Conundrums and A Centennial-Quiz Tribute to Ron Klinger and His 'Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score**":
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0100_q.pdf

³ Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see: "Esther Bridge Dialogue Lesson #25: "Some of the 40 or So Bridge Bidding/Play 'Rules'":
<https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/rules.pdf>

account "short" Suits, if the sum of these "missing" Honors is **5** or less. Here SOUTH is "missing" **1** "top" Spade Honor, **2** "top" Heart Honors, **1** "top" Diamond Honor, and **1** "top" Club Honor, and $1 + 2 + 1 + 1 = 5$.

On Trick **#1** WEST leads the Diamond Jack as the "top" of a Diamond doubleton. EAST "wins" with his Diamond Ace. On Trick **#2** EAST leads his Heart Queen to "knock out" the NORTH Dummy Ace and "promote" his remaining Heart Honors. Declarer SOUTH "wins" Trick **#2** with the NORTH Dummy's Heart Ace.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What cards should Declarer SOUTH play on Tricks **#3** and **#4**?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0264_a1.pdf