

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0269:
"Playing a 4S Contract as Declarer
When LHO Opened 1NT"**

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-19** which gives you the opportunity to see and *repeatedly practice* playing a given bridge Board.

© Copyright, Bruce Thompson, 2025. All rights reserved.

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-19

Dealer: **WEST**

NORTH (12)

S: K Q J
H: K Q J T 9 8
D: 2
C: 6 5 3

WEST (15)

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

EAST (1)

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

SOUTH (12)

S: T 9 8 7 6 5
H: A
D: Q 4
C: A Q 4 2

Bidding

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT	2H	PASS	2S
PASS	3S	PASS	4S
PASS	PASS		

WEST leads his Diamond Ace thus "promising" the Diamond King and asking Partner EAST if EAST can "win" Trick #3 either (1) with the Diamond Queen assuming the NORTH Dummy holds 3+ Diamonds or (2) by ruffing. On Trick #2 WEST continues Diamonds with his Diamond King even though the exposed NORTH Dummy is now void in Diamonds because it will be best for WEST to adopt a "passive" defense² and any other lead will be dangerous.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy has been exposed what "losers" should Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What card should Declarer SOUTH play from the NORTH Dummy on Trick #2?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0269_a1.pdf

² Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see "Esther Bridge Dialogue Lesson #89": "Playing Active versus Passive Defense: What Are These Styles and When Should You Use One versus the Other?": https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/Act_Pass.pdf