

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0271:
"Running an '*Elimination Endplay*' Against an
Opponent Who Bid '*Unusual 2NT*'
During the Auction"**

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-22** 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-22

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (8)

S: J T 9 8 7 5
H: Q 7
D: Q 4 3
C: Q J

WEST (11)

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

EAST (3)

S: K 6 4 3 2
H: 9 8
D: 8 6 5
C: 6 4 2

SOUTH (18)

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

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 C *	2 NT **	3 S	PASS
4 H	PASS	5 H	PASS
6 H	PASS	PASS	PASS

**Esther is not convinced that SOUTH's Hand was "strong" enough to make this 2C opening bid.*

***WEST is making an "Unusual 2NT"² bid which shows 5 cards in both Minors both with good "Suit Quality".*

WEST leads his Trump Heart Jack.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy has been exposed what "losers" should Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What distribution does Declarer SOUTH expect WEST to hold?
3. Where should Declarer SOUTH "win" Trick #1? Why?

² Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see "Esther Bridge Convention Lesson #8: 7 '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/q0271_a1.pdf