

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0285:
"Executing a 'Dummy Reversal' Play
When Playing a Suit 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:

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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 D-07** 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 D-07

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (8)

S: 8 4 2
H: 7 4
D: K 5 4 2
C: A J 9 8

WEST (8)

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

EAST (13)

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

SOUTH (11)

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

Bidding

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

SOUTH invokes Marty Bergen's "**Rule of 20**"² to help determine whether to open by bidding 1**S**. Here SOUTH holds (1) **11** HCPs plus (2) $5 + 4 = 9$, and $11 + 9 = 20$, which Bergen suggested in the first few pages of his award-winning 1996 bridge book, Points Schmoints!, is sufficient to open.

After NORTH provides a "constructive" raise showing (1) **3+** Spade cards and (2) **7-11** HCPs SOUTH considers the "**Rule of 5**"² to help determine where to set the final contract. Here SOUTH is "missing" **2** of the "top" 3 Spades, **2** of the 3 "top" Hearts, **1** "top" Diamond given that SOUTH holds a Diamond singleton, and **2** of the 3 "top" Clubs. Because $2 + 2 + 1 + 2 = 7$ and $7 > 5$ and even > 6 , SOUTH sets the final contract at 2**S**.

WEST leads the Diamond Queen which heads a "touching" Honor sequence in a "long" Suit. SOUTH "ducks" in the Dummy on Trick **#1**.

² Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see "Some of the 40 or So Bridge Bidding/Play 'Rules'":
<https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/rules.pdf>

1. *After the NORTH Dummy is exposed how many "losers" does Declarer SOUTH see?*
2. *On Trick #2 WEST switches to Spades and leads the Trump Spade Queen which EAST "wins" with his Trump Spade Ace. On Trick #3 EAST returns a Trump Spade lead. What should Declarer SOUTH play from his "closed" (hidden) Hand on Trick #3?*

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0285_a1.pdf