

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0306:
"Playing a 5C Contract as Declarer With a
'Pessimistic Mindset' and Using a 'Safety Play'
to Protect Against a Possible 'Trump Stack' "**

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-5 **Lesson B-04** 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 5 Lesson B-04

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (9)

S: 6 5 3
H: A 2
D: A J T 9 8
C: 7 6 4

WEST (6)

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

EAST (6)

S: 9 8 7
H: K 6 5 4
D: 7 5
C: Q J T 8

SOUTH (19)

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

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 C	PASS	1 D	PASS
2 S	PASS	3 C	PASS
3 D	PASS	3 H	PASS
5 C	PASS	PASS	PASS

On Trick #1 WEST leads his Heart Queen thus "promising" the Heart Jack and a "long" Suit or a Heart doubleton. Declarer SOUTH "wins" Trick #1 with the NORTH Dummy's Heart Ace. EAST and SOUTH "follow".

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed, how many "losers" should Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What existential threat must Declarer SOUTH consider?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0306 a1.pdf>