

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0336:
"When Playing a Suit Contract as
Bridge Declarer What Is Your 'Primary Duty'?"**

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-1 Lesson A-26** which gives you the opportunity to see and *repeatedly practice* playing a given bridge Board. Esther may have altered some of the cards in the Hands.

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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 1 Lesson A-26

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (7)

S: 5 4 2

H: 7 6 5 4

D: Q J T

C: A 3 2

WEST (5)

S: J T 9 8

H: 3 2

D: A 6 5 4 2

C: 6 4

EAST (9)

S: Q 7 6

H: A K

D: 9 8 7

C: T 9 8 7 5

SOUTH (19)

S: A K 3

H: Q J T 9 8

D: K 3

C: K Q J

Bidding

SOUTH

1H

4H

WEST

PASS

PASS

NORTH

2H

PASS

EAST

PASS

PASS

At his **2nd** turn to bid within the auction SOUTH, invoking the "**Rule of 5**",² counts as "missing" "top" Honors **1** Spade, **2** Hearts, **1** Diamond, and **1** Club. Because $1 + 2 + 1 + 1 = 5$ SOUTH bids **4H** to set a Game contract.

WEST leads the Spade Jack on Trick **#1** thus promising (1) "touching" Spade Honors and (2) "long" Spades.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. After Declarer SOUTH "wins" Trick **#1** what "Line of Play" should SOUTH initially follow?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0336_a1.pdf

² Within the "**Esther Bridge Lessons**" see "**Esther Bridge Dialogue Lesson #5: The 'Rule of 5'**":
https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/rule_5.pdf