

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0350:
"As Declarer 'Unblocking' a 'Long' Suit to
(1) Maintain an Entry or
(2) Take More 'Winners' "**

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 B-24** 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 B-24

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (13)

S: A Q
H: 8 7 6 4
D: A K 7 6 5 4
C: 4

WEST (6)

S: 6 4
H: A 9
D: Q J T 9
C: K 7 6 5 3

EAST (9)

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

SOUTH (8)

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

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 S*	PASS	4 S	PASS
PASS	PASS	PASS	

*N/S by Partnership Agreement only open with a pre-empt bid if one Partner holds a "weak" Hand and either (1) 2 of the "top" 3 Honors or (2) 3 of the "top" 5 Honors.

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Heart Ace as the "top" of a doubleton and EAST plays his Heart King to signal a preference for a Heart to be led on Trick #2. E/W "win" 3 Heart Tricks "off the top" with WEST discarding a "low" Club on Trick #3. On Trick #4 EAST leads a 4th Heart which Declarer SOUTH ruffs and WEST discards a 2nd "low" Club.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. On Trick #5 Declarer SOUTH leads his "low" Club for a ruff in the NORTH Dummy as 1 way of eliminating a "loser". Which Trump Spade should Declarer SOUTH play from the NORTH Dummy of Trick #5?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0350_a1.pdf