

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0358:**  
**"As Declarer Playing a Suit Contract Do NOT**  
**(1) 'Draw' *Too Many* Trump or**  
**(2) 'Crossruff' *Too Much*"**

**Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen<sup>1</sup>**

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-2 **Lesson D-03** 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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<sup>1</sup> 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](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 2 Lesson D-03**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (18)

**S:** 9 8  
**H:** A  
**D:** A K Q J T 9  
**C:** A 6 5 3

WEST (8)

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

EAST (7)

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

SOUTH (7)

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

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 <b>S</b> *	PASS	5 <b>S</b> *	PASS
6 <b>S</b>	PASS	PASS	PASS

\*N/S by Partnership Agreement are bidding pre-empts such that SOUTH's 2**S** opening bid shows **6** cards in the pre-empt Suit, a "weak" Hand, and either (1) **2** of the "top" **3** Suit Honors or (2) **3** of the "top" **5** Suit Honors.

\*\*NORTH's bid as Responder is "invitational" to a slam Spade bid.

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Heart King from his "longest and strongest" Suit and promises "touching" Honors.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what N/S "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What features of the 2 Hands that Declarer SOUTH controls should Declarer SOUTH note?
3. What E/W Spade "split" will be **required** for Declarer SOUTH to "make" his 6**S** contract? What E/W Spade "split" is the most-likely "split" of E/W's **5** Spade cards? How relevant are the probabilities of the various possible 5-card Trump Spade "splits"?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0358\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0358_a1.pdf)