

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0187:
"In Playing NT Contracts the Critical Importance
of 'Unblocking' Entry into the Hand Holding a
'Long' Suit with 'Low' Cards That Can be
'Promoted' into '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. The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" question is drawn from "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-2 **Lesson B-14**. Note that across repeated play "**BBO Bridge Master**" may change some Hands in given lessons. Esther may have altered some cards in some 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 2 Lesson B-14

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (5)

S: 3 2
H: 6 5 4
D: 7 6 5
C: K Q 8 7 6

WEST (6)

S: K Q T 9 8 7
H: 8 7
D: 8
C: J 5 4 3

EAST (9)

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

SOUTH (20)

S: A J
H: A K 3 2
D: A 4 3 2
C: A 9 2

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2NT	PASS	3NT	PASS
PASS	PASS		

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Spade King thus promising a "long" Spade holding that includes the Spade Queen.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy comes "down" what N/S "winners" does Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What possible cards can Declarer SOUTH see that can be "promoted" into vitally-needed additional winners?
3. What "danger" must Declarer SOUTH strenuously avoid in order to "make" his **3NT** contract?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0187_a1.pdf