

## Card Play Worksheets:

- 1 Planning the Play at no-trump
- 2 The Hold-up
- 3 Common Card Combinations
- 4 Planning the Play at a Trump Contract
- 5 Elimination and Endplay
- 6 Counting
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- 8 Loser-on-loser Play
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- 13 Making Deductions
- 14 Planning: checking for pitfalls
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# Card Play Worksheet 1: Planning the play at no-trump

- 1 Count your sure tricks
- 2 Choose a Work Suit where you can establish the extra tricks you need
- 3 Give up tricks that must be lost early, while you still control the other suits
- 4 Check for pitfalls – how often must you lose the lead? Any problems with entries?

## Plan the play in 3NT

<b>Dealer</b>	♠ 765			
<b>South</b>	♥ A65			
<b>Love All</b>	♦ 96			
	♣ QJ1094			
	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N				
W   E				
S				
	♠ AK42			
	♥ K83			
	♦ A1073			
	♣ K2			

West North East South

1♠

Pass 2♠ Pass 2NT

Pass 3NT All Pass

Lead: ♥Q

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Dealer</b>	♠ K3			
<b>South</b>	♥ Q52			
<b>NS Vul</b>	♦ KJ987			
	♣ 654			
	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N				
W   E				
S				
	♠ A64			
	♥ AJ			
	♦ 1053			
	♣ AKQJ10			

West North East South

1♣

Pass 1♦ Pass 2NT

Pass 3NT All Pass

Lead: ♠5

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Dealer East</b>	♠ 86			
<b>EW Vul</b>	♥ J52			
	♦ AKQ43			
	♣ 976			
	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N				
W   E				
S				
	♠ AQ4			
	♥ KQ4			
	♦ 10987			
	♣ AQ2			

West North East South

Pass 1♦

Pass 3♦ Pass 3NT

All Pass

Lead: ♠J

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Dealer</b>	♠ K			
<b>North</b>	♥ J5			
<b>Game All</b>	♦ QJ1084			
	♣ AK975			
	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N				
W   E				
S				
	♠ AQ4			
	♥ A10632			
	♦ 96			
	♣ 832			

West North East South

- 1♦ Pass 1♥

Pass 2♣ Pass 2NT

Pass 3NT All Pass

Lead: ♠5

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet 1: Planning the play at no-trump – Teachers' Notes

1. Count your sure tricks
2. Choose a Work Suit where you can establish the extra tricks you need
3. Give up tricks that must be lost early, while you still control the other suits
4. Check for pitfalls – how often must you lose the lead? Any problems with entries?

<b>Dealer South</b>		♠ 765	
<b>Love All</b>		♥ A65	
		♦ 96	
		♣ QJ1094	
♠ Q3		N	♠ J1098
♥ QJ1072		W	♥ 94
♦ J854		E	♦ KQ2
♣ 87		S	♣ A653
		♠ AK42	
		♥ K83	
		♦ A1073	
		♣ K2	

West North East South  
 1♠  
 Pass 2♠ Pass 2NT  
 Pass 3NT All Pass  
 Lead: ♥Q

5 Sure Tricks, 2x♠s, 2x♥s, 1x♦s  
 Establish 4 more tricks in clubs.

**Play high cards from the short hand first - ♣K**  
**Keep an entry to dummy.** Win ♥K at Trick 1.  
 (You do not want them to switch to diamonds)

<b>Dealer South</b>		♠ K3	
<b>NS Vul</b>		♥ Q52	
		♦ KJ987	
		♣ 654	
♠ 108752		N	♠ QJ9
♥ K764		W	♥ 10983
♦ A2		E	♦ Q64
♣ 98		S	♣ 732
		♠ A64	
		♥ AJ	
		♦ 1053	
		♣ AKQJ10	

West North East South  
 1♣  
 Pass 1♦ Pass 2NT  
 Pass 3NT All Pass  
 Lead: ♠5

8 Sure Tricks, 2x♠s, 1x♥s, 5x♣s  
 You could establish 1 diamond quickly with a good guess, but if you guess wrong opponents may establish enough spades to beat you.  
 You can **ensure** an extra trick in hearts by leading out ace, then jack.  
 Keep ♠K as an entry: win trick 1 with ♠A

<b>Dealer East</b>		♠ 86	
<b>EW Vul</b>		♥ J52	
		♦ AKQ43	
		♣ 976	
♠ J1093		N	♠ K752
♥ 987		W	♥ A1063
♦ J65		E	♦ 2
♣ K53		S	♣ J1084
		♠ AQ4	
		♥ KQ4	
		♦ 10987	
		AQ2	

West North East South  
 Pass 1♦  
 Pass 3♦ Pass 3NT  
 All Pass

Lead: ♠J  
 7 Sure Tricks, 2x♠s, 3x♦s, 1x♣s  
 You can make at least 1 extra trick in diamonds, **but note the potential blockage.**  
 Establish 2 extra tricks in hearts  
 Do not duck ♠K at trick 1- they may switch to clubs

<b>Dealer North</b>		♠ K	
<b>Game All</b>		♥ J5	
		♦ QJ1084	
		♣ AK975	
♠ 109652		N	♠ J873
♥ KQ7		W	♥ 984
♦ K32		E	♦ A75
♣ Q6		S	♣ J104
		♠ AQ4	
		♥ A10632	
		♦ 96	
		♣ 832	

West North East South  
 - 1♦ Pass 1♥  
 Pass 2♣ Pass 2NT  
 Pass 3NT All Pass

Lead: ♠5  
 6 Sure Tricks, 3x♠s, 1x♥s, 2x♣s  
 Work Suit is not always the one with most cards!  
 Diamonds has 2 losers, but will establish 3 tricks  
 Playing on clubs will establish just 2 tricks – and 1 extra loser.

## Card Play Worksheet 2: The Hold-Up

**The Rule of Seven:** Add the number of cards held by declarer and dummy and deduct from seven  
This tells you the number of times you must hold up  
*Do not hold up longer than necessary*

**Note:** You may need to hold up with two stoppers when you have to give up the lead twice

### Holding up to kill a defender's long suit

♠ K72 ♥ A65 ♦ 92 ♣ AQ1083 <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table> ♠ AQ9 ♥ K73 ♦ A105 ♣ J952	N	W E	S
N			
W E			
S			

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♦6. East plays ♦Q.

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hold up? \_\_\_\_\_

How many times? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ 764 ♥ QJ97 ♦ A52 ♣ AQ10 <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table> ♠ AQ2 ♥ 1086 ♦ K987 ♣ KJ6	N	W E	S
N			
W E			
S			

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♠J. East plays ♠K

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hold up? \_\_\_\_\_

How many times? \_\_\_\_\_

### Two examples of deciding whether to hold-up or not: the Danger Hand

**Note:** There are two possible reasons for considering one opponent to be the *Danger Hand*:

- 1) he has enough winners to cash to defeat you
- 2) he can lead through your honour card

♠ J7 ♥ A753 ♦ 92 ♣ AQ1095 <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table> ♠ AK543 ♥ K6 ♦ AJ3 ♣ J82	N	W E	S
N			
W E			
S			

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♦5. East plays ♦Q

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hold up? \_\_\_\_\_

How many times? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ K105 ♥ Q109 ♦ 92 ♣ AJ975 <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table> ♠ AQJ3 ♥ AJ85 ♦ AJ4 ♣ Q8	N	W E	S
N			
W E			
S			

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♦5. East plays ♦Q

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hold up? \_\_\_\_\_

How many times? \_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet 2: The Hold-Up – Teacher’s Notes

**The Rule of Seven:** Add the number of cards held by declarer and dummy and deduct from seven  
 This tells you the number of times you must hold up  
*Do not hold up longer than necessary*

**Note:** You may need to hold up with two stoppers when you have to give up the lead twice

### Holding up to kill defenders long suit

	♠ K72	
	♥ A65	
	♦ 92	
	♣ AQ1083	
♠ J863	N W   E S	♠ 1054
♥ J94		♥ Q1082
♦ KJ864		♦ Q73
♣ 6		♣ K74
	♠ AQ9	
	♥ K73	
	♦ A105	
	♣ J952	

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♦6

A simple hold-up: if East has 3 diamonds and ♣K he will have no diamond left to play, if diamonds break 4-4 there is no problem. Hold up till the third round

	♠ 764	
	♥ QJ97	
	♦ A52	
	♣ AQ10	
♠ J10983	N W   E S	♠ K5
♥ K2		♥ A543
♦ Q103		♦ J64
♣ 854		♣ 9732
	♠ AQ2	
	♥ 1086	
	♦ K987	
	♣ KJ6	

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♠J

When East plays ♠K – hold up. Win the next spade. You must give up the lead twice in hearts - leave East without a spade to lead when he wins ♥A. (Again, no danger if spades break 4-4)

**Note:** There are two possible reasons for considering one opponent to be the *Danger Hand*:

- 1) he has enough winners to cash to defeat you
- 2) he can lead through your honour card

### 2 examples of deciding whether to hold-up or not: the Danger Hand

	♠ J7	
	♥ A753	
	♦ 92	
	♣ AQ1095	
♠ 962	N W   E S	♠ Q108
♥ J94		♥ Q1082
♦ K10654		♦ Q87
♣ 63		♣ K74
	♠ AK543	
	♥ K6	
	♦ AJ3	
	♣ J82	

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♦5. East plays ♦Q

The Work Suit is clubs, you will finesse into East. Hold up twice so he has no diamonds left

	♠ K105	
	♥ Q109	
	♦ 92	
	♣ AJ975	
♠ 872	N W   E S	♠ 964
♥ K62		♥ 743
♦ K10753		♦ Q86
♣ 64		♣ K1032
	♠ AQJ3	
	♥ AJ85	
	♦ AJ4	
	♣ Q8	

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♦5. East plays ♦Q

The Work Suit is hearts and you will finesse into West. Win ♦A – if West gets in ♦J prevents him from running the suit.

# Card Play Worksheet 3: Common Card Combinations

How would you play these suits in order to avoid unnecessary losers?

♦ J976	♦ KQ94	♦ AQ97	♦ AJ654	♦ AKQ42
♦ AQ8532	♦ A10652	♦ K8642	♦ K8732	♦ 10983
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Safety plays.** What is the best line for

- a) losing no tricks in the suit
- b) avoiding losing two tricks in the suit

♣ AQ653	♣ KJ43	♣ AQ63	♣ Q8765	♣ J105
♣ 8742	♣ A962	♣ J542	♣ A10432	♣ AK432
a) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
b) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

How do you plan the play of these hands?

♠ J103  
♥ 74  
♦ AQ954  
♣ Q86

N
W   E
S

♠ AKQ  
♥ A53  
♦ K106  
♣ 5432

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♥K

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

♠ 862  
♥ AQ10  
♦ KJ62  
♣ 542

N
W   E
S

♠ AK  
♥ KJ5  
♦ Q53  
♣ A9876

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♠Q

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Examine the small cards - try to avoid blockages.

**Ensure your contract** at aggregate or teams scoring: at **match points** safety plays can be an expensive luxury

## Worksheet 3: Common Card Combinations – Teacher’s Notes

Playing cards in the right order to avoid unnecessary losers:

♦ J976	♦ KQ94	♦ AQ97	♦ AJ654	♦ AKQ42
♦ AQ8532	♦ A10652	♦ K8642	♦ K8732	♦ 10983
Run J – guards against K10x in E (missing 3, K10x)	Cash K – guards against Jxxx in either hand	Cash K. You can pick up J10xx in W but not E	Cash K. You can pick up Qxx in W	Play 10 to A - avoid blockage

**Safety plays:** the best line for a) losing no tricks in the suit  
b) allowing yourself to lose one trick to avoid losing two

♣ AQ653	♣ KJ43	♣ AQ63	♣ Q8765	♣ J105
♣ 8742	♣ A962	♣ J542	♣ A10432	♣ AK432
a) Finesse Q Play for 2-2 break	Finesse J (do not cash A in case W has singleton Q)	Finesse Q (hope for Kx in W)	Cash A, hoping for singleton K	Cash A, run J
b) Cash A. Then lead towards Q. (avoid losing to stiff K)	Cash K. Then low towards 9. Picks up Q10xx in either hand. (Cash A/K in hand with J if you can afford 1 loser, not 2)	Cash A. Then low towards J.	Low towards Q picks up KJx in either hand.	Low to J (4 tricks unless E has 5♣s)

### Hands where the best play matters

♠ 86	♠ J103	♠ 97542			
♥ KQ1092	♥ 74	♥ J68			
♦ J872	♦ AQ954	♦ 3			
♣ K9	♣ Q86	♣ AJ107			
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	
N					
W E					
S					
	♠ AKQ				
	♥ A53				
	♦ K106				
	♣ 5432				

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♥K

7 Sure tricks, 2 extra from diamonds  
Play ♦A, then ♦K. When East shows out you can finesse against West’s Jx. You must **unblock** ♦10 on the first round or you cannot get to dummy.

**Note:** Examine the small cards.  
Try to avoid blockages.

Ensure your contract at aggregate or teams scoring: at match points safety plays are an expensive luxury

♠ QJ953	♠ 862	♠ 1074			
♥ 982	♥ AQ10	♥ 7643			
♦ A9	♦ KJ62	♦ 10874			
♣ KJ3	♣ 542	♣ Q10			
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	
N					
W E					
S					
	♠ AK				
	♥ KJ5				
	♦ Q53				
	♣ A9876				

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♠Q

6 Sure tricks.  
Clubs are too slow – if you give up the lead twice you will lose at least 2x♠s, 2x♣s and ♦A. The only hope is to establish 3x♦s.  
Lead twice towards KJxx in case West has Ax

## Card Play Worksheet 4: Planning a Trump Contract

### Count your losers – and your winners

**Note:** Making a plan involves counting your tricks as well as your losers.  
 Before drawing trump make sure you will have enough tricks once they are drawn  
 If you need to establish a side suit it is usually best to attend to that first

♠ AJ97
♥ KJ5
♦ J1054
♣ Q5
N W E S
♠ KQ104
♥ AQ7
♦ KQ3
♣ J64

♠ K103
♥ 62
♦ AQ3
♣ 97532
N W E S
♠ AQJ95
♥ AJ3
♦ 974
♣ AK

Contract: 4♠  
 Lead: ♥2  
 How many losers? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Which 10 tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Draw trump now or later? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

Contract: 4♠  
 Lead: ♣Q  
 How many losers? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Which 10 tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Draw trump now or later? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** The reason for drawing opponents' trump is to stop them ruffing your winners.  
 Some reasons for not drawing trump immediately are:

- 1) You need to take ruffs in the short hand
- 2) You need to keep a trump to control a side suit while you establish some tricks
- 3) There is a more urgent matter to attend to (usually taking a discard)
- 4) You do not have enough winners outside the trump suit

### Two hands where drawing trump must wait

♠ AJ3
♥ 65
♦ QJ1092
♣ A83
N W E S
♠ KQ1096
♥ Q73
♦ K5
♣ K52

♠ QJ3
♥ Q54
♦ KQ4
♣ 10975
N W E S
♠ A72
♥ AK7
♦ 9
♣ KQJ832

Contract: 4♠  
 Lead: ♣Q  
 How many losers? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Which 10 tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Draw trump now or later? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

Contract: 5♣  
 Lead: ♠10  
 How many losers? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Which 11 tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Draw trump now or later? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_



## Worksheet 4: Planning a Trump Contract – Teacher’s Notes

### Count your losers – and your winners

**Note:** Making a plan involves counting your tricks as well as your losers.

Before drawing trump make sure you will have enough tricks once they are drawn

If you need to establish a side suit it is usually best to attend to that first

	♠ AJ97				
	♥ KJ5				
	♦ J1054				
	♣ Q5				
♠ 52	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 863
N					
W E					
S					
♥ 2		♥ 1098643			
♦ 98762		♦ A			
♣ A9873		♣ K102			
	♠ KQ104				
	♥ AQ7				
	♦ KQ3				
	♣ J64				

Contract: 4♠

Lead: ♥2

3 losers in the minors. 7 Sure Tricks, 3 more will be established in diamonds. Draw trump – this lead is very suspicious!

	♠ K103				
	♥ 62				
	♦ AQ3				
	♣ 97532				
♠ 82	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 764
N					
W E					
S					
♥ K1084		♥ Q975			
♦ 1086		♦ KJ52			
♣ QJ104		♣ 86			
	♠ AQJ95				
	♥ AJ3				
	♦ 974				
	♣ AK				

Contract: 4♠

Lead: ♣Q

4 possible losers in the red suits. 9 Sure Tricks Ruff a heart in dummy – you have to play hearts before drawing trump

**Note:** The reason for drawing opponents’ trump is to stop them ruffing your winners.

Some reasons for not drawing trump immediately are:

- 1) You need to take ruffs in the short hand
- 2) You need to keep a trump to control a side suit while you establish some tricks
- 3) There is a more urgent matter to attend to (usually taking a discard)
- 4) You do not have enough winners outside the trump suit

### Two hands where drawing trump must wait

	♠ AJ3				
	♥ 65				
	♦ QJ1092				
	♣ A83				
♠ 84	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 752
N					
W E					
S					
♥ AJ94		♥ K1082			
♦ 864		♦ A73			
♣ QJ106		♣ 974			
	♠ KQ1096				
	♥ Q73				
	♦ K5				
	♣ K52				

Contract: 4♠

Lead: ♣Q

5 possible losers, 7 Sure Tricks. One heart ruff is not enough – you must establish diamonds. If you draw trump at once there are 3 heart losers. Play diamonds first. If they continue clubs draw trump ending in dummy and cash diamonds. If they play hearts ruff the third round, draw trump, cross to ♣A.

	♠ QJ3				
	♥ Q54				
	♦ KQ4				
	♣ 10975				
♠ 10985	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K64
N					
W E					
S					
♥ 1062		♥ J983			
♦ J8653		♦ A1072			
♣ 4		♣ A6			
	♠ A72				
	♥ AK7				
	♦ 9				
	♣ KQJ832				

Contract: 5♣

Lead: ♠10

3 possible losers, 5 Sure Tricks. Trick 1 goes ♠10-♠J-♠K-♠A. If you play trump East will win and play another spade. You will lose 3 tricks. Play diamonds first – you can cross to ♥Q to discard ♠2 before playing trump. Establish a discard first.

# Card Play Worksheet 5: Elimination and Endplay

Common features:

lots of trump  
*mirror distribution*  
 no long suit to establish  
 a suit you would prefer not to handle yourself

Some of the card combination you would rather **they** opened up:

Q95	A103	K103	AJ7	K76
A103	Q74	A94	1042	J42

Two examples where it does not matter which opponent is forced to open up the key suit

♠ AQ872 ♥ 32 ♦ KJ6 ♣ A65 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N                      W   E                      S                 </div> ♠ K109543 ♥ A10 ♦ A102 ♣ K8
--

Contract: 6♠  
 Lead: ♣Q  
 Plan \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

♠ 1097432 ♥ 84 ♦ A3 ♣ Q86 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N                      W   E                      S                 </div> ♠ AKQ65 ♥ AKJ ♦ 92 ♣ J43
--

Contract 4♠  
 Lead ♦Q  
 Plan \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Two examples where you want to endplay a specific opponent.

♠ AQ10 ♥ KQJ32 ♦ K6 ♣ A65 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N                      W   E                      S                 </div>
--

♠ 753  
 ♥ A10764  
 ♦ AQ  
 ♣ KQ8

Contract: 6♥  
 Lead: ♦J  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

♠ QJ984 ♥ J8 ♦ AK3 ♣ 872 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N                      W   E                      S                 </div>
---

♠ AK1052  
 ♥ A5  
 ♦ QJ10  
 ♣ AKJ

Contract: 6♠  
 Lead: ♥K  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Possible pitfalls:** Be sure not to run out of trump!  
 You need at least one trump in *each* hand when you give up the lead  
 (It is usually wrong to take ruffs in the long trump hand!)

## Worksheet 5: Elimination and Endplay – Teachers’ Notes

Common features:

lots of trump  
*mirror distribution*  
 no long suit to establish  
 a suit you would prefer not to handle yourself

Some of the card combination you would rather *they* opened up:

Q95	A103	K103	AJ7	K76
A103	Q74	A94	1042	J42

Two examples where it does not matter which opponent is forced to open up the key suit

♠ AQ872 ♥ 32 ♦ KJ6 ♣ A65	N W   E S	♠ 6 ♥ Q9875 ♦ ????? ♣ 742
♠ J ♥ KJ64 ♦ ??? ♣ QJ1093		♠ K109543 ♥ A10 ♦ A102 ♣ K8

Contract: 6♠  
 Lead ♣Q

Draw trump, ruff dummy’s third club, play ♥A and another. Whoever wins must play diamonds or give a ruff and discard.

♠ 1097432 ♥ 84 ♦ A3 ♣ Q86	N W   E S	♠ 8 ♥ 10953 ♦ K8754 ♣ K97
♠ J ♥ Q762 ♦ QJ106 ♣ A1052		♠ AKQ65 ♥ AKJ ♦ 92 ♣ J43

Contract 4♠  
 Lead ♦Q

Win, draw trump, ♥AK, ruff ♥J, exit with a diamond. Whoever wins is endplayed  
 Remember – *Second Hand Low* in clubs

Two examples where you want to endplay a specific opponent.

♠ AQ10 ♥ KQJ32 ♦ K6 ♣ A65	N W   E S	♠ KJ42 ♥ 85 ♦ 9732 ♣ 1093
♠ 986 ♥ 9 ♦ J10854 ♣ J742		♠ 753 ♥ A10764 ♦ AQ ♣ KQ8

Contract: 6♥  
 Lead: ♦J  
 Draw trump, cash all diamond and club winners ending in South. Play to ♠10. Smile at East.

♠ QJ984 ♥ J8 ♦ AK3 ♣ 872	N W   E S	♠ 76 ♥ 10963 ♦ 8542 ♣ 1093
♠ 3 ♥ KQ742 ♦ 976 ♣ Q654		♠ AK1052 ♥ A5 ♦ QJ10 ♣ AKJ

Contract: 6♠  
 Lead: ♥K  
 Win ♥A, draw trump, cash diamonds, play ♥J. Never finesse unless you need to!

**Possible pitfalls:** Be sure not to run out of trump!  
 You need at least one trump in *each* hand when you give up the lead  
 (It is usually wrong to take ruffs in the long trump hand!)

## Card Play Worksheet 6: Counting

**Note** There are three things to count during the play: *tricks, distribution and points*  
 Counting is the one single skill that gives the expert his edge.  
 It allows you to form a picture of the unseen hands, thus eliminating many guesses  
 Counting is an *acquired skill* – you have to practise. But it is not so difficult – anyone can do it  
 It becomes easier if you keep making the effort

### Discovering the distribution before making a key decision in another suit.

♠ KJ72			
♥ Q52			
♦ AJ5			
♣ 853			
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ AQ1094			
♥ J4			
♦ K107			
♣ KQJ			

Contract: 4♠  
 Lead: ♥A  
 (West overcalled 2♥. He plays ace, king and another heart ruffed by East with ♠6.)

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

♠ AQ5			
♥ 86			
♦ AQ105			
♣ KQJ2			
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ KJ3			
♥ AQ3			
♦ K84			
♣ A1093			

Contract: 7NT  
 Lead: ♥4  
 (East opened 3♥, which explains the lead.)

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Counting the Points and Making Deductions from the Bidding

<b>Dealer</b>	♠ 8643		
<b>West</b>	♥ 752		
	♦ J63		
	♣ J73		
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
	♠ KQ		
	♥ AQ4		
	♦ 75		
	♣ AKQ962		

West	North	East	South
1NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2♦ <sup>2</sup>	3♣
All Pass			

<sup>1</sup>12-14      <sup>2</sup>transfer to hearts

Lead: ♦A  
 West starts by playing ♦AKQ and South ruffs

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Dealer</b>	♠ 10653		
<b>North</b>	♥ K64		
	♦ AJ4		
	♣ K104		
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
	♠ AKJ72		
	♥ 73		
	♦ Q105		
	♣ AJ3		

West	North	East	South
-	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠

Lead: ♥J  
 South ruffs the third round of hearts.

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet 6: Counting – Teachers' Notes

**Note** There are three things to count during the play: *tricks, distribution and points*  
 Counting is the one single skill that gives the expert his edge.  
 It allows you to form a picture of the unseen hands, thus eliminating many guesses  
 Counting is an *acquired skill* – you have to practise. But it is not so difficult – anyone can do it  
 It becomes easier if you keep making the effort

### Discovering the distribution before making a key decision in another suit.

	♠ KJ72			
	♥ Q52			
	♦ AJ5			
	♣ 853			
♠ 853		♠ 6		
♥ AK10873		♥ 96		
♦ 9		♦ Q86432		
♣ A109		♣ 7642		
	♠ AQ1094			
	♥ J4			
	♦ K107			
	♣ KQJ			

Contract: 4 ♠

Lead: ♥A

(West overcalled 2♥. He plays ace, king and another heart ruffed by East with ♠6.)

Overruff, draw trump and play **clubs** to get a count in that suit. When West turns out to be 3-6-1-3 your diamond guess becomes a sure thing.

	♠ AQ5			
	♥ 86			
	♦ AQ105			
	♣ KQJ2			
♠ 987642		♠ 10		
♥ 4		♥ KJ109752		
♦ J963		♦ 72		
♣ 85		♣ 764		
	♠ KJ3			
	♥ AQ3			
	♦ K84			
	♣ A1093			

Contract: 7NT

Lead: ♥4

(East opened 3♥, which explains the lead.)

Leave diamonds till last. Cash everything else and you discover that East has just 2 diamonds.

Play ♠A, ♦K and take the **marked finesse** against West's Jack

### Counting the Points and Making Deductions from the Bidding

<b>Dealer</b>	♠ 8643			
<b>West</b>	♥ 752			
	♦ J63			
	♣ J73			
♠ J1075		♠ A92		
♥ K8		♥ J10963		
♦ AKQ8		♦ 10942		
♣ 1084		♣ 5		
	♠ KQ			
	♥ AQ4			
	♦ 75			
	♣ AKQ962			

West North East South

1NT<sup>1</sup> Pass 2♦<sup>2</sup> 3♣

All Pass

<sup>1</sup>12-14 <sup>2</sup>transfer to hearts

Lead: ♦A

West starts by playing ♦AKQ and South ruffs

Draw trump and play spades. When East has ♠A

West needs ♥K to make up 12 HCP. No point in taking a finesse that must lose, try for doubleton king.

<b>Dealer</b>	♠ 10653			
<b>North</b>	♥ K64			
	♦ AJ4			
	♣ K104			
♠ 98		♠ Q4		
♥ J1092		♥ AQ85		
♦ 9876		♦ K32		
♣ Q65		♣ 9872		
	♠ AKJ72			
	♥ 73			
	♦ Q105			
	♣ AJ3			

West North East South

- Pass Pass 1♠

Pass 3♠ Pass 4♠

Lead: ♥J

South ruffs the third round of hearts.

When East turns up with ♠Q and ♦K that makes 11 HCP, he cannot have ♣Q as well because he did not open the bidding

## Card Play Worksheet 8: Loser on Loser Play

2 examples of giving up an unnecessary trick to establish more than one

♠ A874 ♥ K63 ♦ K94 ♣ KQJ	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W		E		S		
N											
W		E									
	S										
♠ KQJ1093 ♥ A92 ♦ A832 ♣ -											

Contract: 6♠  
 Lead: ♥Q  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

♠ - ♥ KQ9764 ♦ AK32 ♣ 653	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W		E		S		♠ A9764 ♥ 3 ♦ Q1098 ♣ 1094
N											
W		E									
	S										
♠ QJ1082 ♥ 5 ♦ J76 ♣ KJ82	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W		E		S		♠ K53 ♥ AJ1082 ♦ 54 ♣ AQ7
N											
W		E									
	S										

Contract: 6♥  
 Lead: ♠Q  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Which hand will win the lead? \_\_\_\_\_

**Common features:** tricks you are guaranteed to make once a high card is knocked out  
 lots of losers to discard

2 examples of a loser-on-loser endplay

♠ AQ109 ♥ AK87 ♦ K6 ♣ 653	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W		E		S		♠ 754 ♥ 532 ♦ J9732 ♣ 109
N											
W		E									
	S										
♠ 6 ♥ J1094 ♦ 10854 ♣ KJ72	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W		E		S		♠ KJ832 ♥ Q6 ♦ AQ ♣ AQ84
N											
W		E									
	S										

Contract: 6♠  
 Lead: ♥J  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

♠ J6 ♥ AQJ ♦ 8542 ♣ K854	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W		E		S		♠ 987532 ♥ 753 ♦ J109 ♣ J
N											
W		E									
	S										
♠ KQ104 ♥ 10982 ♦ K63 ♣ 63	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	N			W		E		S		♠ A ♥ K64 ♦ AQ7 ♣ AQ10972
N											
W		E									
	S										

Contract: 6♣  
 Lead: ♠K  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Note** the similarities with Elimination Play.  
 You must remove all safe exit cards before putting the right opponent on lead

## Worksheet 8: Loser on Loser Play – Teachers' Notes

2 examples of giving up an unnecessary trick to establish more than one

	♠ A874										
	♥ K63										
	♦ K94										
	♣ KQJ										
♠ 6	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 52
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ QJ104		♥ 875									
♦ 106		♦ QJ75									
♣ A97632		♣ 10854									
	♠ KQJ1093										
	♥ A92										
	♦ A832										
	♣ -										

Contract: 6♠  
Lead: ♥Q

Win ♥A (keep entries to dummy) draw trump ending in North, play ♣K and discard a heart. West wins, but now you can discard 2 diamonds on ♣QJ

	♠ -										
	♥ KQ9764										
	♦ AK32										
	♣ 653										
♠ QJ1082	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A9764
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 5		♥ 3									
♦ J76		♦ Q1098									
♣ KJ82		♣ 1094									
	♠ K53										
	♥ AJ1082										
	♦ 54										
	♣ AQ7										

Contract: 6♥  
Lead: ♠Q

Discard a club from dummy at Trick 1. East wins ♠A, but you can throw another club on ♠K and ruff 2 clubs and 1 spade in dummy.

**Common features:** tricks you are guaranteed to make once a high card is knocked out  
lots of losers to discard

2 examples of a loser-on-loser endplay

	♠ AQ109										
	♥ AK87										
	♦ K6										
	♣ 653										
♠ 6	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 754
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ J1094		♥ 532									
♦ 10854		♦ J9732									
♣ KJ72		♣ 109									
	♠ KJ832										
	♥ Q6										
	♦ AQ										
	♣ AQ84										

Contract: 6♠  
Lead: ♥J

Win ♥Q (high card from short hand), draw trump, cash ♦AK, play ♥AK discarding 1 club, play last ♥ and **discard another club**. West is endplayed

**Note** the similarities with Elimination Play.  
You must remove all safe exit cards before putting the right opponent on lead

	♠ J6										
	♥ AQJ										
	♦ 8542										
	♣ K854										
♠ KQ104	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 987532
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 10982		♥ 753									
♦ K63		♦ J109									
♣ 63		♣ J									
	♠ A										
	♥ K64										
	♦ AQ7										
	♣ AQ10972										

Contract: 6♣  
Lead: ♠K

Win ♠A, draw trump, cash 3 hearts ending in dummy play ♠J and discard ♦7 to endplay West. (Note: the diamond pips are not good enough for an elimination)

# Card Play Worksheet 15: Trump Control

## Loser-on-loser and Trump Control

♠ A42			
♥ 1072			
♦ Q10853			
♣ K10			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ KQ10765			
♥ 65			
♦ A7			
♣ AQJ			

West	North	East	South
-	-	1♥	Dbl
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West leads partner's suit, ♥Q and another, East wins trick 2 with ♥J and continues with ♥A. What is your plan? Do you ruff? If not, why not? What card would you play instead of ruffing?

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♠ AQ10			
♥ 1083			
♦ AQ10			
♣ J954			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ KJ86			
♥ 5			
♦ KJ953			
♣ A63			

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♦
1♥	2♥	3♥	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West leads ♥AK, East signals an even number. Should you ruff in the longer trump hand? What is your plan? Do you ruff? If not, why not? What card would you play instead of ruffing?

---



---



---

## Setting up a side suit before drawing trump to keep control

♠ 2			
♥ 1072			
♦ KQJ53			
♣ K654			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ AK9765			
♥ J			
♦ 10742			
♣ A2			

Contract: 3♠

West leads ♥AK. How do you plan the play? (If you cash ♠AK everybody follows)

---



---



---

♠ Q63			
♥ J74			
♦ Q10954			
♣ A7			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ 9			
♥ AK853			
♦ KJ2			
♣ K983			

Contract 4♥

West leads ♠J and continues ♠s. How do you plan the play? What are the possible pitfalls?

---



---



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# Worksheet 15: Trump Control – Teachers Notes

## Loser-on-loser and Trump Control

	♠ A42																
	♥ 1072																
	♦ Q10853																
	♣ K10																
♠ J98	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>		N			W				E						S	♠ 3
	N																
	W																
		E															
		S															
♥ Q8		♥ AKJ943															
♦ 962		♦ KJ4															
♣ 97653		♣ 842															
	♠ KQ10765																
	♥ 65																
	♦ A7																
	♣ AQJ																

	♠ AQ10																
	♥ 1083																
	♦ AQ10																
	♣ J954																
♠ 9754	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>		N			W				E						S	♠ 32
	N																
	W																
		E															
		S															
♥ AKQ62		♥ J975															
♦ 64		♦ 872															
♣ Q1052		♣ K87															
	♠ KJ86																
	♥ 5																
	♦ KJ953																
	♣ A63																

West leads ♥Q and another, East plays ♥J, ♥A  
 If you ruff the third heart low West will overruff  
 If you ruff high West must make a trump trick.  
 The answer is not to ruff at all: discard your diamond  
 loser instead to avoid the defensive *trump promotion*.

West leads ♥AK  
 The 4-3 fit is always fragile! Discard club losers  
 Do not shorten your trump if you can help it.  
 Discard ♣63 on ♥KQ, then you can win any  
 switch, and draw trump. If they play a fourth heart  
 you ruff in the short hand

Two different reasons for not ruffing:     avoiding a costly overruff  
   keeping trump length with an opponent, not *losing trump control*

Common features:     inevitable losers to discard  
   (Note that in the second example you discard clubs *even if they are winners!*)

## Setting up a side suit before drawing trump to keep control

	♠ 2																
	♥ 1072																
	♦ KQJ53																
	♣ K654																
♠ 84	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>		N			W				E						S	♠ QJ103
	N																
	W																
		E															
		S															
♥ AK984		♥ Q653															
♦ A98		♦ 6															
♣ J103		♣ Q987															
	♠ AK9765																
	♥ J																
	♦ 10742																
	♣ A2																

	♠ Q63																
	♥ J74																
	♦ Q10954																
	♣ A7																
♠ J1084	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>		N			W				E						S	♠ AK752
	N																
	W																
		E															
		S															
♥ Q62		♥ 109															
♦ A6		♦ 873															
♣ Q1052		♣ J64															
	♠ 9																
	♥ AK853																
	♦ KJ2																
	♣ K983																

Contract:     3♠

West leads ♥AK. If you ruff, cash ♠AK and play  
 another spade East draws 2 more rounds and  
 plays a third heart, removing your last trump.  
 West has two hearts to cash when he wins ♦A.  
 You can afford 2 trump losers – play diamonds  
 after 2 rounds of trump

Contract 4♥

West leads ♠J and continues ♠s. If you ruff and  
 play 3 rounds of trump West wins ♥Q and plays  
 another spade, removing your last trump before  
 you have established diamonds. Leave them with  
 winning trump and play your side suits. West can  
 cash ♥Q when he wins ♦A, but you still have  
 one heart to guard the spades

## Card Play Worksheet 7: The Duck

### Ducking to keep contact with dummy:

♠ 85			
♥ 532			
♦ AK7542			
♣ 32			
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ AJ10			
♥ AK10			
♦ 86			
♣ AJ984			

Contract: 3NT

Lead: ♠3.

Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you win Trick 1? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ A42			
♥ Q64			
♦ J2			
♣ A9642			
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ KQJ963			
♥ AK7			
♦ A7			
♣ 73			

Contract: 6♠

Lead: ♠8 (*lucky they did not lead ♦s!*)

Losers? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** always check *entries* to the hand where you need to establish a long suit.  
If you can afford one loser duck with eg AKQxx opposite xx, or even xxx.  
Consider ducking even at a suit contract.

### Ducking to keep the Danger Hand off lead.

♠ A9			
♥ A1053			
♦ 92			
♣ J10965			
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ 54			
♥ KQ762			
♦ K84			
♣ AQ2			

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2♠	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Lead: ♠K.

Losers? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you win Trick 1? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan \_\_\_\_\_

### Ducking for the tempo – the Bath Coup

♠ K74			
♥ 653			
♦ A43			
♣ AQJ4			
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			
♠ A10952			
♥ AJ4			
♦ K9			
♣ 1093			

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠

Lead: ♥K

Losers? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you win Trick 1? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan \_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet 7: The Duck – Teachers' Notes

### Ducking to keep contact with dummy:

	♠ 85	
	♥ 532	
	♦ AK7542	
	♣ 32	
♠ Q9632	N W E S	♠ K74
♥ J976		♥ Q84
♦ J10		♦ Q93
♣ Q6		♣ K1075
	♠ AJ10	
	♥ AK10	
	♦ 86	
	♣ AJ984	

Contract: 3NT

Lead: ♠3. East plays ♠K and you win to ensure 2 spade tricks. Your only chance is to establish diamonds. You must let the defence win the first round to preserve an entry to dummy

**Note:** always check *entries* to the hand where you need to establish a long suit.

If you can afford one loser duck with eg AKQxx opposite xx, or even xxx.

Consider ducking even at a suit contract.

	♠ A42	
	♥ Q64	
	♦ J2	
	♣ A9642	
♠ 8	N W E S	♠ 1075
♥ 10852		♥ J93
♦ K863		♦ Q10954
♣ KJ85		♣ Q10
	♠ KQJ963	
	♥ AK7	
	♦ A7	
	♣ 73	

Contract: 6♠

Lead: ♠8 (*lucky they did not lead ♦s!*)

Your only hope is to establish clubs. You must duck the first round to ensure you have enough *entries*. (Now ♣A, ruff, ♠A, ruff, ♥Q- cash)

### Ducking to keep the Danger Hand off lead.

	♠ A9	
	♥ A1053	
	♦ 92	
	♣ J10965	
♠ KQ763	N W E S	♠ J1082
♥ 94		♥ J8
♦ A753		♦ QJ106
♣ K3		♣ 874
	♠ 54	
	♥ KQ762	
	♦ K84	
	♣ AQ2	

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2♠	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Lead: ♠K.

**Do not win ♠A.** East can drop ♠J to promise ♠10. When West wins ♣K he puts partner in to lead ♦Q through your king. Duck and East has no entry

### Ducking for the tempo – the Bath Coup

	♠ K74	
	♥ 653	
	♦ A43	
	♣ AQJ4	
♠ J8	N W E S	♠ Q63
♥ KQ109		♥ 872
♦ 8762		♦ QJ105
♣ 652		♣ K87
	♠ A10952	
	♥ AJ4	
	♦ K9	
	♣ 1093	

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠

Lead: ♥K

This time you duck because if West continues hearts you have 2 tricks, and if he switches you can establish a long club for a heart discard.

## Card Play Worksheet 12: Crossruffing and Dummy Reversal

A *complete crossruff* is rare: typical features are:

singletons in both hands  
a shortage of outside tricks  
high trump that cannot be overruffed

A *partial cross ruff* is more common: in a 4-4 fit you may draw 2 rounds of trump then start ruffing

**Remember:** if you must give up the lead do so **before you start to crossruff**

**Cash outside winners first**, or opponents will discard that suit and eventually ruff them

Ruffing in both hands is dangerous: if possible prefer to ruff in one hand, then draw trump

**If defending against a crossruff:** lead trump whenever you get the chance

♠ A863
♥ KJ105
♦ A865
♣ 3
N W E S
♠ 5
♥ AQ96
♦ K32
♣ AQ872

Contract: 6♥

Lead: ♠K

Losers? \_\_\_\_\_

Winners? \_\_\_\_\_

How many tricks do you need from trump? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ 93
♥ 9652
♦ KQJ
♣ AK74
N W E S
♠ A1084
♥ A1084
♦ A62
♣ 85

Contract: 4♥

Lead: ♠K

Losers? \_\_\_\_\_

Winners? \_\_\_\_\_

How many tricks do you need from trump? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ AQ94	♠ 75	♠ J83
♥ 94	♥ J86	♥ 10752
♦ 763	♦ QJ109	♦ 82
♣ QJ108	♣ AK32	♣ 9765
N W E S		
♠ K1062		
♥ AKQ3		
♦ AK54		
♣ 4		

Contract: 6♦

Lead: ♣Q

Losers? \_\_\_\_\_

Winners? \_\_\_\_\_

How many tricks do you need from trump? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ 984	♠ QJ10	♠ 76
♥ Q96	♥ J102	♥ K873
♦ KQJ4	♦ A853	♦ 9762
♣ 1085	♣ KQ7	♣ 942
N W E S		
♠ AK532		
♥ A54		
♦ 10		
♣ AJ63		

Contract: 6♠

Lead: ♦K

Losers? \_\_\_\_\_

Winners? \_\_\_\_\_

How many tricks do you need from trump? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Always look at the play from both sides: consider ruffing losers in either the South or North hands

## Worksheet 12: Crossruffing and Dummy Reversal – Teachers' Notes

A *complete crossruff* is rare: typical features are:

singletons in both hands  
a shortage of outside tricks  
high trump that cannot be overruffed

A *partial cross ruff* is more common: in a 4-4 fit you may draw 2 rounds of trump then start ruffing

**Remember:** if you must give up the lead do so **before you start to crossruff**

**Cash outside winners first**, or opponents will discard that suit and eventually ruff them

Ruffing in both hands is dangerous: if possible prefer to ruff in one hand, then draw trump

**If defending against a crossruff:**

lead trump whenever you get the chance

	♠ A863	
	♥ KJ105	
	♦ A865	
	♣ 3	
♠ KQJ7	N	♠ 10942
♥ 4	W E	♥ 8732
♦ J974	S	♦ Q10
♣ KJ64		♣ 1095
	♠ 5	
	♥ AQ96	
	♦ K32	
	♣ AQ872	

Contract: 6♥

Lead: ♠K

Hard to see any source of tricks in a plain suit. Make all your trump separately, ruffing spades and clubs. *Cash* ♦AK *early* in case a defender can discard diamonds while you are ruffing.

	♠ 93	
	♥ 9652	
	♦ KQJ	
	♣ AK74	
♠ KQJ6	N	♠ 752
♥ KJ3	W E	♥ Q7
♦ 8753	S	♦ 1094
♣ Q6		♣ J10932
	♠ A1084	
	♥ A1084	
	♦ A62	
	♣ 85	

Contract: 4♥

Lead: ♠K

3 spade losers and 2 trump. 7 sure tricks. Duck the lead, win the next spade and duck a trump. Win the return, cash ♥A, then crossruff spades and clubs – a *partial crossruff*.

	♠ 75	
	♥ J86	
	♦ QJ109	
	♣ AK32	
♠ AQ94	N	♠ J83
♥ 94	W E	♥ 10752
♦ 763	S	♦ 82
♣ QJ108		♣ 9765
	♠ K1062	
	♥ AKQ3	
	♦ AK54	
	♣ 4	

Contract: 6♦

Lead: ♣Q

There are 2 spade losers. You can discard a spade from dummy on a heart. You have 4 heart tricks and 2 clubs – you need 6 trump tricks. Win ♣A, ruff a club with ♦K, cross to ♦Q, ruff a club with ♦A, draw trump and cash winners.

	♠ QJ10	
	♥ J102	
	♦ A853	
	♣ KQ7	
♠ 984	N	♠ 76
♥ Q96	W E	♥ K873
♦ KQJ4	S	♦ 9762
♣ 1085		♣ 942
	♠ AK532	
	♥ A54	
	♦ 10	
	♣ AJ63	

Contract: 6♠

Lead: ♦K

2 losers, 11 winners. Can you find an extra trump trick? Ruff 3 diamonds in the South hand! ♦A, diamond ruff, ♠10, diamond ruff high, spade to Jack, diamond ruff high, ♣K, draw trump with ♠Q, discarding a heart from South, cash clubs. A *dummy reversal!*

**Note:** Always look at the play from both sides: consider ruffing losers in either the South or North hands

# Card Play Worksheet 11: Planning Your Entries

## Preserving entries where they are needed

♠ A104
♥ K865
♦ A973
♣ A2
N
W E
S
♠ 976
♥ A7
♦ 8652
♣ QJ109

Contract: 1NT  
 Lead: ♥Q  
 Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Entry to your established winners? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ 832
♥ Q5
♦ KQ53
♣ 6542
N
W E
S
♠ AQJ10
♥ J106
♦ AJ84
♣ KQ

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♣7  
 Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Entry to your established winners? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Checking on entries is an essential part of the preliminary plan.  
 You need to keep entries in the hand where you plan to cash long tricks  
 and in the hand opposite your finesses

## Creating entries by overtaking and unblocking

♠ A52
♥ 65
♦ J74
♣ A9832
N
W E
S
♠ KQ4
♥ AK7
♦ 108532
♣ KQ

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♥Q  
 Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Best play for the tricks you need? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Entry to your winners? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ Q104
♥ KQ1092
♦ 743
♣ 105
N
W E
S
♠ AJ3
♥ J5
♦ AK82
♣ AQ63

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♠5  
 Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Entry to your established winners? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Play to Trick 1? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Beware of false economy with your big cards!

## Worksheet 11: Planning Your Entries – Teachers' Notes

### Preserving entries where they are needed

	♠ A104										
	♥ K865										
	♦ A973										
	♣ A2										
♠ KJ8	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q532
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ QJ102		♥ 943									
♦ Q4		♦ KJ10									
♣ 7643		♣ K85									
	♠ 976										
	♥ A7										
	♦ 8652										
	♣ QJ109										

Contract: 1NT  
Lead: ♥Q

5 Sure Tricks, you can establish 2 more in clubs.  
Finessing will not do the job!  
Play ♣A (high card, short hand) and another.  
Win ♥K at Trick 1. You need ♥A as an entry.

	♠ 832										
	♥ Q5										
	♦ KQ53										
	♣ 6542										
♠ 95	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K764
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ K874		♥ A932									
♦ 106		♦ 972									
♣ AJ973		♣ 108									
	♠ AQJ10										
	♥ J106										
	♦ AJ84										
	♣ KQ										

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♣7

6 Sure Tricks and you cannot afford to lose the lead  
You need to finesse spades, perhaps 3 times.  
Cross to ♦K, then ♦Q, save ♦4 to cross to ♦5 on  
the fourth round for your third finesse.

**Note:** Checking on entries is an essential part of the preliminary plan.  
You need to keep entries in the hand where you plan to cash long tricks  
and in the hand opposite your finesses

### Creating entries by overtaking and unblocking

	♠ A52										
	♥ 65										
	♦ J74										
	♣ A9832										
♠ 973	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J1086
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ QJ1082		♥ 943									
♦ AQ9		♦ K6									
♣ 104		♣ J765									
	♠ KQ4										
	♥ AK7										
	♦ 108532										
	♣ KQ										

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♥Q

8 Sure Tricks. Diamonds are too slow, so try clubs.  
If you cash ♣KQ and cross to your only entry, ♠A,  
you need clubs 3-3. If you *overtake* ♣Q and play  
♣9 you have enough tricks when ♣s are 3-3, *and*  
*also when someone has Jx or 10x.*

**Note:** Beware of false economy with your big cards!

	♠ Q104										
	♥ KQ1092										
	♦ 743										
	♣ 105										
♠ K9752	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 86
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 86		♥ A743									
♦ Q106		♦ J95									
♣ KJ4		♣ 9872									
	♠ AJ3										
	♥ J5										
	♦ AK82										
	♣ AQ63										

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♠5

5 Sure Tricks. Hearts are the Work Suit. But East  
will hold up ♥A and you need an entry.  
To ensure a slow entry in spades you must win  
Trick 1 with ♠A. If you win it cheaply East holds  
up in hearts and West can keep you out of dummy.

# Card Play Worksheet 10: Avoidance and the Danger Hand

Techniques for keeping one hand off lead:

♠ 6543 ♥ KJ3 ♦ 65 ♣ A753 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 50px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N W   E S                 </div> ♠ AK1092 ♥ A1094 ♦ K4 ♣ K8
---

♠ K43 ♥ Q7 ♦ 9843 ♣ AK62 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 50px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N W   E S                 </div> ♠ A9 ♥ K63 ♦ AK765 ♣ 984
---

Contract: 4♠  
 Lead: ♣Q  
 Why keep East off lead? \_\_\_\_\_  
 How do you play the majors? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♥4  
 Try ♥Q from dummy. It scores!  
 Why keep East off lead? \_\_\_\_\_  
 How do you tackle diamonds? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** There are 2 possible reasons for keeping one hand off lead: it has tricks to cash  
 it can lead through an Honour  
 Keep it out by finessing/ducking into the other hand – but only when you can afford the loser!

## Loser-on-loser and avoidance

♠ KJ10 ♥ A5 ♦ 542 ♣ AK754 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 50px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N W   E S                 </div> ♠ AQ9754 ♥ 3 ♦ K63 ♣ 632
--

West	North	East	South
-	1♣	Pass	1♠
2♥	2♠	Pass	4♠

Lead: ♥K  
 Why keep East off lead? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Can you establish clubs safely? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## A Scissors Coup

♠ 1085 ♥ A62 ♦ K98 ♣ K1095 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 50px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">                     N W   E S                 </div> ♠ QJ9762 ♥ 73 ♦ - ♣ AQJ74
--

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	2♥	2♠
3♦	3♠	Pass	4♠
Db1	All Pass		

Lead: ♣2  
 What is this lead? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Can you keep East off lead? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

You will not run into a *Scissors Coup* every day! Nor should you go out of your way to look for clever plays. Improvement comes when you recognise the situation (usually after the play is over)  
 All the expert does is to recognise it in time.



# Worksheet 10: Avoidance and the Danger Hand – Teachers' Notes

## Techniques for keeping one hand off lead:

♠ J ♥ 872 ♦ A9832 ♣ QJ106	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ Q87 ♥ Q65 ♦ QJ107 ♣ 942
N					
W   E					
S					
♠ 6543 ♥ KJ3 ♦ 65 ♣ A753					
♠ AK1092 ♥ A1094 ♦ K4 ♣ K8					

Contract: 4♠  
Lead: ♣Q

East might lead ♦Q through your King. Keep him out by finessing trump: ♣K, ♠A, ♣A, spade to ♠10. Even if West wins and plays ♣J you can ruff and finesse hearts into West. If he has ♥Q as well you discard ♦5 from dummy and lose just 1 diamond

♠ J865 ♥ AJ942 ♦ 10 ♣ Q103	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ Q1072 ♥ 1085 ♦ QJ2 ♣ J75
N					
W   E					
S					
♠ K43 ♥ Q7 ♦ 9843 ♣ AK62					
♠ A9 ♥ K63 ♦ AK765 ♣ 984					

Contract: 3NT  
Lead: ♥4

You try ♥Q from dummy and it holds. Now you must keep East off lead. Play ♦3. If East plays ♦2 duck to West. If East plays high win, cross to ♣K and play another diamond, ducking if East plays ♦2.

**Note:** There are 2 possible reasons for keeping one hand off lead: it has tricks to cash  
it can lead through an Honour  
Keep it out by finessing/ducking into the other hand – but only when you can afford the loser!

## Loser-on-loser and avoidance

♠ 3 ♥ KQJ983 ♦ AQJ9 ♣ 108	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ 862 ♥ 10764 ♦ 1087 ♣ QJ9
N					
W   E					
S					
♠ KJ10 ♥ A5 ♦ 542 ♣ AK754					
♠ AQ9754 ♥ 3 ♦ K63 ♣ 632					

West	North	East	South
-	1♣	Pass	1♠
2♥	2♠	Pass	4♠

Lead: ♥K

You must establish clubs without letting East in to lead ♦10 through your K. Duck ♥K! Later discard a club on ♥A and establish length tricks in clubs with a ruff. You need dummy's trump as entries, heart, so delay drawing trump till you have done your work

You will not run into a *Scissors Coup* every day! Nor should you go out of your way to look for clever plays. Improvement comes when you recognise the situation (usually after the play is over)  
All the expert does is to recognise it in time.

♠ AK4 ♥ K10954 ♦ A743 ♣ 2	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ 3 ♥ QJ8 ♦ QJ10652 ♣ 863
N					
W   E					
S					
♠ 1085 ♥ A62 ♦ K98 ♣ K1095					
♠ QJ9762 ♥ 73 ♦ - ♣ AQJ74					

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	2♥	2♠
3♦	3♠	Pass	4♠
Dbl	All Pass		
Lead:	♣2		

If East gets in he can give West a club ruff. West wins the first round of trump and plays a heart. Win ♥A and play ♦K, discarding your second heart. Now West has 3 tricks but East has no entry!

# Card Play Worksheet 13: Making Deductions

## Clues from the bidding

♠ A74  
 ♥ 87  
 ♦ J103  
 ♣ Q10654  

N
W   E
S

 ♠ 9  
 ♥ AQ32  
 ♦ K5  
 ♣ AKJ932

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	5♣

Lead: ♠Q

You win ♠A and draw trump, which break 1-1.

How will you play diamonds? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ Q53  
 ♥ Q103  
 ♦ 1097  
 ♣ KJ85  

N
W   E
S

 ♠ AKJ962  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦ KJ8  
 ♣ A102

West	North	East	South
1NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	<sup>1</sup> 12-14

Lead: ♥A

East discourages with ♥2, West switches to trump

How will you play clubs? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Not everyone bids like you, but you can rely on some things:

if they do not open the bidding they do not have opening values

if they open 1NT they may be a point short, but rarely hold a point too many

Before tackling a suit where you have a choice of plays find out as much as you can about the other suits.

## Clues from the lead

♠ K1053  
 ♥ 853  
 ♦ KQ5  
 ♣ K63  

N
W   E
S

 ♠ AJ962  
 ♥ A8  
 ♦ A942  
 ♣ 92

West	North	East	South
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Lead: ♣J

You duck, West continues ♣10. East overtakes with ♣Q and plays ♥Q.

How do you play trump? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ 105  
 ♥ AKJ4  
 ♦ K1053  
 ♣ Q94  

N
W   E
S

 ♠ A9  
 ♥ Q763  
 ♦ AJ92  
 ♣ K53

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Lead: ♠2

You win and cash 4 hearts. West discards 2 clubs and 1 diamond.

How will you tackle diamonds? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**NB** When a hand that has preempted chooses to lead a plain suit it is often a singleton

When a 4-card suit is led against 3NT (with no clues from the bidding) it is usually the leader's longest suit.

When a hand that has supported its partner leads another suit it will often have the ace of partner's suit

# Card Play Worksheet 13: Making Deductions - Teachers Notes

## Clues from the bidding

♠ A74 ♥ 87 ♦ J103 ♣ Q10654	N W   E S	♠ K8632 ♥ 1064 ♦ A976 ♣ 8
♠ QJ105 ♥ KJ95 ♦ Q842 ♣ 7		♠ 9 ♥ AQ32 ♦ K5 ♣ AKJ932

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	5♣

Lead: ♠Q

When you draw trump you discover that West has a singleton. He has ♠QJ, yet has not opened, nor made a takeout double of 1♣. He will not have, ♥K *and* ♦A. When he has ♥K play East for ♦A

**Note:** Not everyone bids as you would, but you can rely on some things:

if they do not open the bidding they do not have opening values

if they open 1NT they may be a point short, but rarely hold a point too many

Before tackling a suit where you have a choice of plays find out as much as you can about the other suits.

## Clues from the lead

♠ 4 ♥ KJ109762 ♦ 87 ♣ J108	N W   E S	♠ K1053 ♥ 853 ♦ KQ5 ♣ K63
		♠ Q87 ♥ Q ♦ J1063 ♣ AQ754
		♠ AJ962 ♥ A8 ♦ A942 ♣ 92

West	North	East	South
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Lead: ♣J

You duck, clubs are continued, East wins and plays ♥Q. Take the trump finesse.

When a hand that has pre-empted chooses to lead a plain suit it is often a singleton

When a 4-card suit is led against 3NT (with no clues from the bidding) it is usually the leader's longest suit.

When a player who has supported its partner leads another suit he will often have the ace of partner's suit

♠ 107 ♥ AK97 ♦ AQ65 ♣ 743	N W   E S	♠ Q53 ♥ Q103 ♦ 1097 ♣ KJ85
		♠ AKJ962 ♥ 4 ♦ KJ8 ♣ A102
		♠ 84 ♥ J8652 ♦ 432 ♣ Q96

West	North	East	South
1NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

<sup>1</sup>12-14

Lead: ♥A

East plays ♥2 and West switches to a trump Draw trump and test diamonds. West has ♥AK and ♦AQ, so cannot have ♣Q – that would make 15HCP

♠ K862 ♥ 8 ♦ Q876 ♣ AJ72	N W   E S	♠ 105 ♥ AKJ4 ♦ K1053 ♣ Q94
		♠ QJ753 ♥ 10952 ♦ 4 ♣ 1086
		♠ A9 ♥ Q763 ♦ AJ92 ♣ K53

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Lead: ♠2

Win and cash 4 hearts. West discards 2 clubs and 1 diamond. He must be 4-1-4-4: he would lead a 5-card suit if he had one. Play ♦A and finesse West for ♦Q

# Card Play Worksheet 14: Planning: Checking for Pitfalls

Not 'doing what comes naturally' if there is a better line

♠ J52
♥ 1032
♦ A97
♣ 9762
N
W   E
S
♠ AQ
♥ AQJ974
♦ K65
♣ A3

Contract: 4♥  
 Lead: ♦Q  
 Losers? \_\_\_\_\_  
 What is the danger? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Can you guarantee success? \_\_\_\_\_  
 How? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ A3
♥ QJ3
♦ KJ753
♣ 942
N
W   E
S
♠ K62
♥ A7
♦ 1098
♣ AKQJ10

Contract: 3NT  
 Lead: ♠Q  
 Sure Tricks? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Suit? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Can you guarantee success? \_\_\_\_\_  
 How? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** When you have made a plan look to see if there is a better one  
 You do not need to take a finesse just because it is there

**Even the most straightforward-looking contract can have hidden traps.**

♠ K52
♥ A954
♦ Q4
♣ Q832
N
W   E
S
♠ A73
♥ QJ1076
♦ KJ2
♣ A5

Contract: 4♥  
 Lead: ♠Q  
 Losers? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Can you guarantee success? \_\_\_\_\_

♠ 86
♥ 92
♦ AKQJ3
♣ J1075
N
W   E
S
♠ AK7432
♥ 854
♦ 1082
♣ A

Contract: 4♠  
 Lead: ♥K. East overtakes and switches to trump  
 Losers? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Can you guarantee success? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Always count your losers.  
 Try to imagine what might happen if opponents get on lead

## Card Play Worksheet 14: Checking for Pitfalls – Teachers Notes

Not 'doing what comes naturally' if there is a better line

	♠ J52	
	♥ 1032	
	♦ A97	
	♣ 9762	
♠ K874	N W   E S	♠ 10963
♥ K6		♥ 85
♦ QJ10		♦ 8432
♣ Q1084		♣ KJ5
	♠ AQ	
	♥ AQJ974	
	♦ K65	
	♣ A3	

Contract: 4♥

Lead: ♦Q

It looks normal to finesse trump – but if that loses they will clear diamonds. Win in hand, keeping ♦A as an entry to dummy. Play ♠A, then ♠Q to establish ♠J to discard a diamond

**Note:** When you have made a plan look to see if there is a better one  
You do not need to take a finesse just because it is there

	♠ A3	
	♥ QJ3	
	♦ KJ753	
	♣ 942	
♠ QJ1095	N W   E S	♠ 874
♥ K8		♥ 1096542
♦ 64		♦ AQ2
♣ 7653		♣ 8
	♠ K62	
	♥ A7	
	♦ 1098	
	♣ AKQJ10	

Contract: 3NT

Lead: ♠Q

To ensure 9 tricks win ♠K and play ♥A and a heart. Cards sometimes lie badly!

**Even the most straightforward-looking contract can have hidden traps.**

	♠ K52	
	♥ A954	
	♦ Q4	
	♣ Q832	
♠ QJ109	N W   E S	♠ 864
♥ 82		♥ K3
♦ A965		♦ 10873
♣ 1094		♣ KJ76
	♠ A73	
	♥ QJ1076	
	♦ KJ2	
	♣ A5	

Contract: 4♥

Lead: ♠Q

If you finesse trump at trick 2 they clear their spade trick. Win ♠K and play ♦Q to establish a discard.

	♠ 86	
	♥ 92	
	♦ AKQJ3	
	♣ J1075	
♠ 95	N W   E S	♠ QJ10
♥ KQJ6		♥ A1073
♦ 764		♦ 95
♣ K864		♣ Q932
	♠ AK7432	
	♥ 854	
	♦ 1082	
	♣ A	

Contract: 4♠

Lead: ♥K

East overtakes ♥A and switches to ♠Q  
Now you will not be able to ruff your 3rd heart in dummy. How to avoid 3 heart losers? Duck ♠Q!

**Note:** Always count your losers.  
Try to imagine what might happen if opponents get on lead

## Card Play Worksheet 9: The Finesse

A finesse involves leading towards one or more high cards in the hope that opponents' high cards will be well placed

**Finesse technique: how should we tackle these suits to make the maximum number of tricks?**

♥ AJ102                      ♥ AJ105                      ♥ 42                      ♥ AKJ104                      ♥ KQ83

♥ Q95                      ♥ Q43                      ♥ AKJ1073                      ♥ 753                      ♥ J64

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Variations on the Finesse: Indirect, Ruffing, 'Obligatory'**

♥ QJ6                      ♥ J2                      ♥ AQJ10                      ♥ KJ1094                      ♥ K873

♥ A753                      ♥ AQ73                      ♥ 7                      ♥ 3                      ♥ Q942

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

### The two-way finesse

♠ AK95 ♥ 75 ♦ AJ86 ♣ A62 <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table> ♠ Q10632 ♥ 86 ♦ K1073 ♣ K3	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			

Contract: 5♠ (West opened 3♥)

Lead: ♥K. *East overtakes and returns ♥10 to West's jack. West exits with a trump*

Who has ♦Q? \_\_\_\_\_

What should you do before tackling diamonds?  
\_\_\_\_\_

♠ K1087 ♥ K4 ♦ J432 ♣ K102 <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W   E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table> ♠ AJ9653 ♥ AQ ♦ AQ ♣ AQ9	N	W   E	S
N			
W   E			
S			

Contract: 6♠

Lead: ♥J

What could go wrong? \_\_\_\_\_

How should you tackle trump? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** The expert is always reluctant to take finesses: he prefers something better than 50% .  
 When you have a two-way guess postpone your decision as late as you dare – find out about the other suits. The hand with greater length is favourite to hold the high card  
 With a choice finesse into the safe hand, not the Danger Hand.

## Worksheet 9: The Finesse – Teachers’ Notes

A finesse involves leading towards one or more high cards in the hope that opponents’ high cards will be well placed.

**Finesse technique: how should we tackle these suits to make the maximum number of tricks?**

♥ AJ102	♥ AJ105	♥ 42	♥ AKJ104	♥ KQ83
♥ Q95	♥ Q43	♥ AKJ1073	♥ 753	♥ J64
Run 9, then Q to finesse 3 times if necessary	Low to J, then low towards 10 in case West has Kx	Finesse J, then 10 to pick up Qxxx Do not cash A!	Cash A first when you have 3 cards has Ax	Play towards KQ twice in case West

### Variations on the Finesse: Indirect, Ruffing, ‘Obligatory’

♥ QJ6	♥ J2	♥ AQJ10	♥ KJ1094	♥ K873
♥ A753	♥ AQ73	♥ 7	♥ 3	♥ Q942
Lead towards QJ twice.	Lead towards Jx	Play A then run Q (in a trump contract)	Play to Jack, then ruff finesse.	Play to K (or Q) If it wins duck next time

### The two-way finesse

♠ 4 ♥ KQJ9532 ♦ Q54 ♣ J8	♠ AK95 ♥ 75 ♦ AJ86 ♣ A62  <table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ J87 ♥ A10 ♦ 92 ♣ Q109754	
N						
W   E						
S						
	♠ Q10632 ♥ 86 ♦ K1073 ♣ K3					

Contract: 5♠ (West opened 3♥)  
Lead: ♥K

East overtakes and returns a heart.  
West wins and exits with a trump  
Draw trump, then play ♣KA ruff to get a count.  
West has 3 diamonds, play him for ♦Q.

♠ Q42 ♥ J1098 ♦ K865 ♣ J4	♠ K1087 ♥ K4 ♦ J432 ♣ K102  <table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ - ♥ 76532 ♦ 1097 ♣ 87653	
N						
W   E						
S						
	♠ AJ9653 ♥ AQ ♦ AQ ♣ AQ9					

Contract: 6♠  
Lead: ♥J

Start trump with ♠K. If East has Qxx you have a marked finesse. If West has Qxx cash ♠A, the other heart trick, and 3clubs. If West does not ruff throw him in with ♠Q.

**Note:** The expert is always reluctant to take finesses: he prefers something better than 50% .  
When you have a two-way guess postpone your decision as late as you dare – find out about the other suits.  
The hand with greater length is favourite to hold the high card  
With a choice finesse into the safe hand, not the Danger Hand.