

Counsel for the Defence! 55: Quiz

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 7 6 5

♥ 10 4 3 2

♦ 5 4

♣ Q 6 3



♠ A 9 8 4 2

♥ A K 6

♦ 8 7

♣ 9 5 4

West North East South

Pass 1♥ 1♠

2♥ 3♥¹ 4♥ Dbl

All pass

1. constructive S raise

Q1: You have choices in the auction at your second turn: would you have doubled or done something different?

Q2: What are your thoughts about the opening lead?

Say you choose to lead the A♠, and see Trick 1 going: A♠: A♠-5♠-3♠-5♥

Q3: Do you regret the opening lead decision?

Declarer cashes two top diamonds from hand:

Trick 2: Declarer leads A♦: A-8-4-3

Trick 3: Declarer leads K♦: K-7-5-6

At Trick 4, declarer leads 2♦ from hand, and you have to decide whether to ruff or not.

Q4: If you do ruff, then with which trump, and how do you proceed? If you choose to discard, then what do you discard and what is your general plan?

Post Mortem

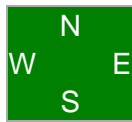
Q5: What would the upshot have been of leading A♥,K♥,6♥ at the first three tricks have been?

Q6: What are your thoughts about each player's bidding decisions?

Q7: Could declarer have played better?

Q8: How would you have fared in a spade contract?

Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul



♠ 8 4
♥ 9 2
♦ A J 10 8 3
♣ K 8 7 2

♠ A J 10 9 6
♥ 3
♦ 7 5 4
♣ A Q J 9

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dbf
All pass			

Q1: Do you agree with the take-out double by South on the second round of bidding? When partner passes this, what is going on?

Partner leads a small spade, won by your Ace - Trick 1: 5♠: 5-4-A-2

Q2: What continuations do you consider at this point?

Suppose you choose the J♠, Trick 2 going: J♠: J♠-K♠-6♥-8♠

Q3: What is the remaining spade position?

Q4: How many minor suit cards does declarer have at most?

At Trick 3, partner continues with the 10♣, declarer playing the King from dummy which you win - Trick 3: partner leads 10♣: 10-K-A-3

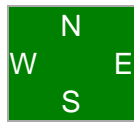
Q5: What is your defensive plan from here?

Post Mortem

Q6: Would you have overcalled Two Hearts with the West hand?

Q7: If the opponents had stayed out of the auction, where would NS have ended up, and how would that have played?

Board 3
 South Deals
 E-W Vul



♠ J 6
 ♥ Q 10 7 4
 ♦ Q 5
 ♣ A 10 9 3 2

♠ K 5 4 2
 ♥ A 9 5 3
 ♦ J
 ♣ Q J 7 5

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

1. 19-20
2. Stayman

Q1: Would you have opened the bidding with the South hand?

Q2: Now that you see the dummy, how many points does partner hold?

Partner kicks off with the 10♠, dummy playing the Jack and you the King, declarer playing low.

Trick 1: partner leads 10♠: 10-J-K-3

Q3: What do you know about the spade position?

You continue with a low spade, declarer winning - Trick 2 you lead 2 ♠: 2-A-7-6

Declarer cashes the club King, then tries a small club to dummy's 10 which you win.

Trick 3: Declarer leads K♣: K-6-2-7

Trick 4: Declarer leads 8♣: 8-4-10-J

Q4: What is the remaining club position?

You persist with spades at Trick 5: you lead 5 ♠: 5 ♠-Q♠-8♠-4 ♥

Q5: What is the remaining spade position?

Now declarer plays a diamond to the Queen in dummy dropping your singleton Jack: Trick 6 - declarer leads 4 ♦: 4-2-Q-J

Declarer cashes the A♣ on the table: Trick 7 - dummy leads A♣: A♣-5♣-6♥-2♥

At Trick 8, declarer leads a low heart from table - Trick 8: dummy leads 7♥: 7-?

Q6: How do you defend from here?

Post Mortem

Q7: Do you agree with partner's choice of lead?

Q8: Do you agree with the opposition bidding?

Q9: How could declarer have played better?