

Counsel for the Defence 91 – Quiz

Board 1
West Deals
None Vul



♠ A 10 5
♥ A J
♦ 7 5 4 3
♣ J 8 6 4

♠ 7 6 3
♥ Q 8 7 6
♦ K 8
♣ K Q 10 7

West	North	East	South
1♠ ¹	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All pass		

1. 5+

West quickly arrives in a spade game, your side having nothing to contribute to the auction.

Partner leads the Q♦, which declarer wins.

Declarer now draws trumps in 3 rounds (partner having started with 1) as partner discourages clubs.

Trick 1: Partner leads Q♦: Q-3-8-A

Trick 2: West leads K♠: K-4-5-3

Trick 3: West leads 2♠: 2♠-2♣-A♠-6♠

Trick 4: Dummy leads 10♠: 10♠-7♠-8♠-3♠

Q1: What is the remaining spade position?

Q2: There is a rather subtle inference you can make about the heart position, despite this suit not having been either mentioned in the auction nor played on! - which is what? (note - you will have to credit West, whose play is usually ineffable, with some nous to make this deduction)

Declarer now plays a diamond from the dummy which you are compelled to win.

Trick 5: Dummy leads 4♦: 4-K-9-2

Q3: What is going on in the diamond suit, and why is declarer playing on it?

Q4: What interesting play do you now make to try and thwart the contract?

Post Mortem

Q5: Do you agree with the opponents' bidding decisions?

Q6: With sight of all the cards, could declarer have taken a better line?

Board 2
West Deals
N-S Vul



♠ Q 10 7 4 3
♥ 9 7 3 2
♦ 6 3
♣ A Q

♠ A 5
♥ 10 6
♦ A Q J 9 7 4
♣ 8 6 5

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

1. 12-14
2. spades

Q1a: Do you agree with the stated bidding decisions by South?

Q1b: Would you answer to the above have changed at a different vulnerability?

Partner leads 10♦ and you win the trick with the Ace.

Trick 1: Partner leads 10♦: 10-3-A-2

Q2: What are the possible diamond layouts?

Q3: Now you see the dummy, how many points does partner hold?

Q4: You have two main prospects for the defence, and cannot know at this point what is right - what are they?

Q5: Can you have your cake and eat it?

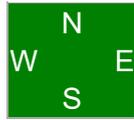
Q6: How exactly do you play now?

Post Mortem

Q7: Do you agree with the opponents' bidding decisions?

Q8: How would you have fared in a Diamond Contract?

Board 3
 South Deals
 E-W Vul



♠ 10 4
 ♥ K 10 8 2
 ♦ J 10 8 5
 ♣ A J 4

♠ 8 7 3
 ♥ Q 9 5 3
 ♦ K 7 4
 ♣ 10 6 2

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

Q1: Do you agree with South's bidding decisions?

Partner leads K♣ won by dummy's Ace.

Declarer immediately moves to spades losing a finesse to partner's King.

Partner goes into the tank and eventually hauls out a diamond, dummy playing the Jack as you cover and declarer wins.

Trick 1: partner leads K♣: K-A-2-8
 Trick 2: dummy leads 10♠: 10-3-6-K
 Trick 3: partner leads 3♦: 3-J-K-A

Q2: Why did partner not table the Q♣ at Trick 3?

Q3: Do you agree with the stated South decision to cover the Jack?

Now declarer turns to trumps, partner winning the Ace, after which partner persists with the diamonds.

Trick 4: declarer leads 4♥: 4-A-2-3
 Trick 5: partner leads 6♦: 6-5-7-9

Q4: You have the information to work out West's original shape, and hence the distribution of her remaining cards - which is what?

Q5: Which of the remaining unplayed honours can you place?

Declarer plays another trump round winning the King in dummy as partner discards, then leads a small trump off the table.

Trick 6: declarer leads 6 ♥: 6 ♥-7 ♠-K♥-5 ♥

Trick 7: dummy leads 8♥: 8-?

Q6: If you play carefully you have a lock on One Down - how do you proceed?

Post Mortem

Q7: Do you agree with the bidding decisions of the other players

Q7: How was partner's defence?

Q8: How was declarer's play?