

Counsel for the Defence 93 – Quiz

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q 10 8 4

♥ 3

♦ A 9 7 2

♣ Q 3 2



♠ K 7 5 2

♥ Q 10 6 5

♦ 5 3

♣ J 10 4

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 NT	Pass	6 NT	All pass

Q1: What do you make of the opposition's bidding sequence, and in particular the 4 NT call?

Q2: What leads do you consider and which do you choose?

If you opt for J♣, then Trick 1 goes J♣: J-Q-K-A

Q3: Declarer plays off 4 winning diamonds, and you must find two discards - what are they to be?

Trick 2: declarer plays K♦: K-5-2-6

Trick 3: declarer plays 4♦: 4-3-A-8

Trick 4: dummy plays 7♦: 7♦-J♦-Q♦-6♥

Trick 5: declarer plays 10♦: 10♦-4♣-9♦-6♣

Q4: Now declarer leads J♠ from hand - do you cover?

Post Mortem

Q5: With all hands in sight, what are your thoughts about their bidding?

Q6: If the spades in NS broke 3-3 would the contract have made?

Board 2 ♠ A Q 6 3
 East Deals ♥ 10
 N-S Vul ♦ 7 4 3
 ♣ J 10 8 3 2

N	
W	E
S	

♠ J 7 2
 ♥ A J 9 8
 ♦ A Q J 8 2
 ♣ 9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1NT ¹	All pass

1. 12-14

Q1: In this partnership we were playing that both 2C and 2D overcalls of 1NT were artificial, and that if you wish to compete naturally in a minor you have to overcall at the 3 level: given this, do you agree with South's Pass?

Q2: What opening leads do you consider, and which do you choose?

If you try the Q♦, then this loses to declarer's King, after which declarer takes the top two clubs then switches to spades taking a losing finesse.

Q3: Once you see the dummy, you can count up partner's points - what is the strength of his hand?

Trick 1: you lead Q♦: Q-3-6-K
 Trick 2: declarer leads A♣: A-9-2-5
 Trick 3: declarer leads K♣: K♣-2 ♠-3 ♣-6 ♣

Q4: Do you agree with South's suggested discard?

Trick 4: declarer leads 4♠: 4-7-Q-K

Q5: What are your thoughts about the club position?

Partner returns the 10♦, declarer following with the 9

Trick 5: partner leads 10♦-9-?

Q6: What are your general thoughts about the defence, and how specifically do you play from here?

Post Mortem

Q7: How was declarer's line of play?

Q8: Supposing our side declared in a heart contract, how many tricks would we have made?

Board 3
 South Deals
 E-W Vul



♠ A J 10 4
 ♥ 3 2
 ♦ A Q 10 8 4
 ♣ A 5

♠ 7
 ♥ A K Q J 9 4
 ♦ K J 7 2
 ♣ K 3

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

Q1: You pick up a super hand, and are mightily disappointed when partner cannot find any response to your 1 ♥ opening bid; only to be further disappointed when the opposition bid up to 4 ♠: do you agree with the stated South actions, and in particular would you have taken any action on your third call?

Partner leads your suit, and you take two heart tricks noting that partner started with a singleton.

Trick 1: partner leads 7 ♥: 7-2-J-5
 Trick 2: you lead A ♥: A ♥-6 ♥-2 ♣-3 ♥

Q2: What is the remaining heart position?

Q3: What is your general plan for the defence, and how do you continue at Trick 3?

Say you continue with another top heart, declarer ruffing in dummy. Then declarer draws trumps in three rounds (partner having started with three small spades), and runs the Q ♣ from hand

Trick 3: you lead K ♥: K ♥-8 ♥-4 ♣-4 ♠
 Trick 4: dummy leads A ♠: A-7-3-2
 Trick 5: dummy leads J ♠: J ♠-4 ♥-6 ♠-5 ♠
 Trick 6: dummy leads 10 ♠: 10 ♠-7 ♦-K ♠-9 ♠
 Trick 7: declarer leads Q ♣: Q-7-5-?

Q4: How do you defend from here?

Post Mortem

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

Q6: Could declarer have made the contract?