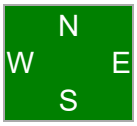
Well I Do Declare! 106: Quiz

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ A J 10
♥ 10 9 6 2
♦ K 6 3
♣ A 10 7



♠ 8 5 2
♥ A Q J 7 3
♦ A 7
♣ K 5 3

West	*North*	*East*	*South*
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			

Explanatory bidding note: NS were playing a strong NT (were they playing a weak NT, North would clearly have opened 1 NT)

Q1: Given the above, do you agree with the stated NS bidding sequence?

West leads J♦, and you see no reason to delay drawing trumps, so you win in dummy and table the 10♥. When this wins you finish drawing trumps.

Trick 1: West leads J♦: J-K-9-7
Trick 2: Dummy leads 10♥: 10-5-3-4
Trick 3: Dummy leads 2 ♥: 2 ♥-8♥-Q♥-5 ♦
Trick 4: You lead A♥: A♥-4 ♦-6 ♥-K♥

Q2: Do you agree with declarer's play thus far?

Q3: Do you agree that there is an inevitable club loser, and that the key suit to plan around is spades in which you would like to hold your losers to just one?

Q4: One fair possibility in spades is to take the double finesse: how exactly would you plan the play to achieve this, and what are the odds of success (ie holding your losers in spades to just one)?

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Q5: How can you improve on the above line? (in fact if you are feeling cocky, then you can claim a total of 11 tricks right now)

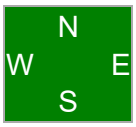
Post Mortem

Q6: How was the defence?

Q7: Why was Four Hearts Plus One only worth 50% or so of the matchpoints?

Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A 7
♥ Q 10 7 3
♦ 8 4
♣ A K Q 8 5



♠ K Q 6 5
♥ A 9 6
♦ A Q 6 3
♣ 4 3

West	*North*	*East*	*South*
		Pass	1 NT[1]
Pass	3 NT	All pass	

1. 15-17

Q1: Do you agree with the NS bidding sequence?

West leads J♣ which you win in dummy, and you decide to cash another top club. When both opponents follow you decide to cash the third top club and are surprised and delighted when the clubs turned out to be 3-3.

Trick 1: West leads J♣: J-A-2-3
Trick 2: Dummy leads K♣: K-6-4-9
Trick 3: Dummy leads Q♣: Q♣-7 ♣-3 ♦-10♣

Q2: How many tricks are you now guaranteed?

Q3: What are your options for more tricks?

Q4: Do you cash the length club tricks now, or hold them in reserve and why?

Q5: Suppose, rightly or wrongly, you make a move toward the heart suit - there are different options for attacking it. Which do you choose?

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Rightly or wrongly (!) you decide to cash the Ace and play low toward table - you put in the Ten and East wins the Jack (rats!). East continues a diamond and you take a winning finesse?

Trick 4: Dummy plays 3 ♥: 3-2-A-4
Trick 5: You lead 6 ♥: 6-5-10-J
Trick 6: East leads 5 ♦: 5-Q-7-4

Q6: How many tricks are you now guaranteed?

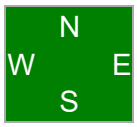
Q7: Are there chances for one more, and how do you play from here?

Post Mortem

Q8: How was the defence?

Board 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ Q J 7 2
♥ K 7 3 2
♦ K
♣ A K Q 10



♠ A 9 5
♥ A J 9
♦ A Q 10 3
♣ 8 7 2

West	*North*	*East*	*South*
			1 NT[1]
Pass	2 ♠[2]	Pass	2 NT[3]
Pass	6 NT	All pass	

1. 15-17
2. McKendrick
3. min

Explanatory Bidding Note: the McKendrick convention is a nice tool in response to 1 NT. The way it works is that 2 Spades (usually) denies a 4 card major and is either used as an invitational bid to game, or a way of arriving at 3-of-a-minor. Opener continues with either 2 NT (min) or 3 Clubs (max) and responder then places the contract.

Q1: Given the above, do you agree with the NS bidding sequence?

West leads 7 ♦, the first trick completing 7-K-5-3

Q2: In each suit, how many definite and potential tricks to you have?

Q3: The spade suit is particularly interesting as there are different ways to attack the suit: what are they and what are their relative pros and cons?

Q4: Considering the whole hand, what is the best order of play to give yourself the best chances of making?

Q5: Tough bonus question: what are your odds of success?

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Post Mortem

Q6a: Supposing North had decided to start with Stayman and found no 4 card major in South; how would he have continued?

Q6b: Supposing North had started with Stayman and South did hold a 4 card major (e.g. swap the re suit holdings) then how might North have continued?

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