

Counsel for the Defence! 69: Quiz

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul



♠ Q 10 8 3 2
♥ Q J 10 8
♦ 8 6
♣ 10 6

♠ K 6
♥ K 6 5 4 2
♦ A Q
♣ Q J 9 5

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

Q1: Would you have taken any further action in the auction after West's overcall?

Partner leads 7♥, dummy playing the 8♥.

Q2: What are the possible layouts of the heart suit?

Q3: Should you play the King or a low heart at Trick 1?

Trick 1 completes: 7♥: 7-8-2-9

At Trick 2, declarer plays a small spade from hand, putting in the Ten from dummy - Trick 2 starts 5♠ from declarer: 5-4-10-?

Q4: What are your general thoughts about the defence?

Q5: How specifically do you play now?

Post Mortem

Q6: Do you agree with the other players' decisions in the bidding?

Q7: Could declarer have made the contract?

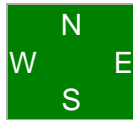
Q8: What would the upshot of playing the K♥ at Trick 1 have been?

Board 2

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 8 6 5 3
♥ J 9 8 6
♦ K Q 9
♣ A Q



♠ Q 10 9
♥ K 10 4 3
♦ 6 4 2
♣ 10 7 4

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

1. 12-14

You plump for a fourth highest lead of 3♥, declarer winning with dummy's six, while partner discards a discouraging club.

Trick 1: you lead 3♥: 3♥-6♥-2♣-2♥

Q1: Is this to be another entry in your almanac of all-time killer leads?

Q2: What do you know about declarer's hand?

Q3: How many points does your partner hold?

Declarer continues with the Ace, then Queen of clubs from dummy.

Trick 2: dummy leads A♣: A-5-8-4

Trick 3: dummy leads Q♣: Q-3-9-7

Now declarer continues hearts. You decide to withhold your King on the next round, declarer continuing the suit.

Trick 4: dummy leads J♥: J♥-6♣-5♥-4♥

Trick 5: dummy leads 9♥: 9♥-5♦-7♥-?

Q4: Which high cards can you place with declarer? Which high cards might partner hold?

Q5: How do you defend from here?

Post Mortem

Q6: Do you agree with the opponents' bidding decisions?

Q7: Could the contract have made?

Q8: How would they have fared in a heart game?

Board 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K 4

♥ Q 6 3

♦ A Q 9 8 4 3

♣ 3 2



♠ A Q J 9 6

♥ A J 10

♦ J 10

♣ 8 6 5

West	North	East	South
			1♠
2♦	4♠ ¹	5♣	All pass

1. weak, good S fit

Q1: Would you have opened 1♠ as stated, or 1NT?

Q2: Would you have taken any further action in the auction?

Q3: What opening leads do you consider, and which do you choose?

Suppose you opt for the A♠ and see the first trick go A♠: A-4-10-3

Q4: What are your general thoughts about the defence?

Q5: Has partner helped you?

Q6: How do you continue from here?

Post Mortem

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

Q8: How could you have messed up the defence?

Q9: How would you have fared in a Four Spades contract?