



Lesson 2 – Quiz Answers

Q1 What are Top Tricks?

A1 *These are tricks declarer can win without losing the lead.*

Q2. What is meant by a 'work suit'?

A2. *The answer is in the question. A work suit is one in which declarer needs to do some work in order to establish extra tricks. Maybe, declarer only needs to lose one of defenders' top honours in order to gain extra tricks for himself. Sometimes, in a long suit, it may be necessary to lose more than one trick in order to gain more later.*

Q3. Why are you told to tackle your work suit before cashing your top tricks in the other suits?

A3. *So you retain control in all 3 other suits otherwise your opponents will take their winners in one of these other suits and you will be powerless to stop them!*

Q4 Declarer (West) is in a NT contract. How many top tricks are there?

Declarer (West)

♠ K 5 3

♥ A 5 3

♦ K J T 8 3

♣ 5 3

Dummy (East)

♠ A 6

♥ K 4 2

♦ Q 9 7

♣ A J 8 4 2

A4 *5 – 2 **spades** (Ace & King), 2 **hearts** (Ace & King), 0 **diamonds**, 1 **club** (Ace).*

Q5 In the hand above in Question 4, which is Declarer's work suit?

A5 *Diamonds – Declarer only needs to force out defenders' ♦A and then he can win 4 tricks in the suit. He has to lose one trick in order to gain 4.*

Q6 You are declarer (West) and hold this suit. In which order should you play the cards?

♣ K 3

West, Declarer

♣ A Q 8 4 2

East, Dummy

A6 *Play King (or small card from dummy to the King) first and then lead back to the high cards in dummy. Play high cards from the “short hand” first. The term “short hand” means the hand in which you hold the fewer cards – you have 2 cards in West and 5 in Dummy (East) so Declarer’s hand is the “short hand”.*

Q7 You, West, are Declarer – how should you play the suit below?

♥ 7 6 3

West

♥ A Q 9 4 2

East (Dummy)

A7 *Lead a heart from West towards Dummy. If the ♥K does not appear from North, play the ♥Q. If North holds the ♥K, Dummy will win this trick. If South holds the ♥K, your ♥Q will lose to the ♥K. You have taken a finesse. You have a 50% chance that the ♥K in the North hand.*

Q8 You, West, are Declarer – how should you play the suit below?

♥ 7 6 3

West

♥ K Q 5 4 2

East (Dummy)

A8 *Lead a heart from the West hand towards the high cards in Dummy. Once again, as in question 7, you are hoping that it is North who holds the high card – in this case the ♥A. If North has the ♥A your honour heart can win the trick. If you later repeat the process, leading from the West hand, it might be possible to win both the ♥K and the ♥Q. If South holds ♥A it will beat one of your honours.*

If you just lead out one of your honours there is no way in which you can win them both. This is a similar idea to playing a finesse. You have a 50% chance of making both high cards depending on which defender holds the Ace.