



Lesson 20 – Quiz Answers

Defensive Card Play

Q 1 Partner is on lead against 3NT by South. He leads ♥ 6. What should you play on this if dummy contributes the ♥ 2?

Dummy

♥ Q 8 2

♥ 6 is led

you hold ♥ K T 4

A 1 Use the Rule of 11. $11 - 6 = 5$. Declarer has only 1 card higher than the ♥ 6. Partner has probably led the 4th highest card of a long suit headed by at least one honour. This is NT so the honour might be the Ace or the Jack or he might have both. Save your King to capture dummy's Queen. Play the ♥ T.

Q 2 Your partner is on lead against South's 3NT contract. Partner leads the ♥ K. What should you play from your hand?

Dummy

♥ 8 5

♥ K is led

you hold ♥ 9 6 4

A 2 Partner's lead will be from a 4+ card suit headed by ♥ K Q J or possibly ♥ K Q T missing the Jack. If his holding is the latter, he needs your help. Should he continue the suit or switch? Do you have anything in the suit to help? He is looking for ♥ A or the ♥ J. You have no useful card to help him so discourage – by playing the ♥ 9 'High for Hate' If partner is missing the Jack, he needs you to return the suit when you can so that Declarer's Jack is captured.

Q 3 Your partner is on lead against South's 3 NT contract. Partner leads the ♥K. You play the ♥4 and South wins with the ♥A. Which card should you play when you gain the lead?

Dummy

♥ 8 5

♥K is led

you hold ♥J 6 4

A 3 Return partner's suit. Play the ♥J. Be aware of the possibility of blocking partner's long suit. If you play the ♥4 your ♥J will block him on the next trick. Remember 'High cards from the short hand first'. Your hand is the short hand.

Q 4 You are West playing against South's 3NT contract. Your partner led ♥Q which was won by South with the Ace. Declarer cashes 4 rounds of spades, (East having only a singleton). South now runs off 5 diamond tricks starting in dummy and ending in South. You have to find 3 discards. Which 3 cards should you (West) keep?

♠ JT 8 7

♥ K 3

♦ AKQ 6

♣ KT 4

Dummy

♠ 6 4 3 2

♥ 7 6 5 2

♦ 5 4

♣ A 9 8

You - West

A 4 You have to choose between hearts and clubs. Partner led ♥Q so has the ♥J. Obviously you must keep ♣A. Keep two hearts so you still have one to lead back to partner once the ♥K has gone.

Q 5 South is in 4♥. Partner leads the ♣J which you win with the ♣A, Declarer dropping the ♣Q. What do you lead now?

♠	K T 4		
♥	A K Q T		
♦	Q 7 5		
♣	K 9 7		
Dummy		♠	Q 7 3
		♥	J 4
		♦	K 9 6 3
		♣	A 5 4 3
			You – West

A 5 Give nothing away. Clearly partner holds the ♣T so there is no point in returning his suit into the ♣K 9 in dummy. A lead of either **diamonds** or a **spade** looks hazardous as you have an isolated unsupported honour in both suits. The only safe lead is a trump.

Q 6 You are West with this hand against South's 4♠. Partner led the ♣2. You won the trick with the ♣A. During the bidding South bid **spades** twice so you know he has 5 of them. What are you going to do now?

♠	K 9 4 3		
♥	Q 6 4		
♦	A K Q J 4		
♣	K		
Dummy		♠	8 6
		♥	A J 7 5
		♦	8 5
		♣	A T 7 4 3
			You – West

A 6 It looks as though South will win 5 **spade** tricks and 5 **diamonds** – just look at those fantastic **diamonds** in dummy. Declarer will win 10 tricks and enough for his contract with just those two suits. Time to get **ACTIVE**. You need to lead a small **heart**. I know – don't lead away from an Ace in a suit

contract but here you have to keep your ♥A to cover dummy's ♥Q. This is not as risky a lead as it looks. If partner has the ♥K you might be able to defeat the contract but only if you attack **now**. You are hoping for something like this:-

	♠ K 9 4 3 ♥ Q 6 4 ♦ A K Q J 4 ♣ K	
	Dummy	
♠ 7 2 ♥ K 9 3 ♦ T 7 3 2 ♣ Q 9 6 2		♠ 8 6 ♥ A J 7 5 ♦ 8 5 ♣ A T 7 4 3 You – West
	♠ A Q J T 5 ♥ T 8 2 ♦ 9 6 ♣ J 8 5	

If East does not have that ♥K, you have given Declarer one extra trick but if he does have it you might be able to defeat the contract if you get you attack in straight away.

ACTIVE defending is called for.