

Here are answers to December 12's Declarer Play -- Eliminating Losers quiz,

from William Root's How to Play a Bridge Hand, Page 260.:

East Deals

<p>♠ A K 5          ♥ K 10 8          ♦ 7 4          ♣ Q 9 6 3 2</p> <p><i>West</i></p>	<p>♠ 4          ♥ A 9 4 3          ♦ A 8 2          ♣ A K J 7 5</p> <p><i>South</i></p>	<p>Quiz Hand 1</p> <table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	<p><i>North</i></p> <p><i>East</i></p> <p>1 ♣     Pass          6 ♣     All pass</p> <p>3 ♣<sup>1</sup>     Pass</p> <p>1. limit raise          6 ♣ by East          Lead: ♦ Q</p>
N						
W     E						
S						

How does Declarer avoid losing both a ♥ trick and a ♦ trick? Plan the play, trick by trick.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Win ♦ A, small from Dummy.  | 2 Win ♣ A, small from Dummy             |
| 3 Win ♣ K, small from Dummy   | 4 ♠ 4 to ♠ A in Dummy                   |
| 5 ♠ K from Dummy, discard ♦ 2 from hand   | 6 ♠ 5 from Dummy, ruff with ♣ 5 in hand |
| 7 ♦ 8 from hand, ♦ 7 from Dummy, opponents win. The defender who wins must lead a ♥ or give you a ruff (in your hand) and sluff (Dummy's third heart), so, as the ♥ honors are split, you win the remaining tricks. |   |

East Deals

<p>♠ Q 8 7 6          ♥ 7 6 3          ♦ 8 7 5 2          ♣ 10 4</p> <p><i>West</i></p>	<p>♠ A K          ♥ A 9 4          ♦ A K Q 9          ♣ A Q 6 2</p> <p><i>South</i></p>	<p>Quiz Hand 2</p> <table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	<p><i>North</i></p> <p><i>East</i></p> <p>3 NT     All pass</p> <p>3 NT by East          Lead: ♥ 5</p>
N						
W     E						
S						

Where are Declarer's tricks? How will he get them? *Declarer has only eight tricks, needs help for #9.*

If ♦s break 3-2, there are 8 winners in hand, but no way to get to Dummy's ♠ Q.

Play ♥ 3 from Dummy; East plays the ♥ Q. What now?

Plan the play, trick by trick.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 ♥ 3 from Dummy, ♥ 4 from hand, N wins ♥ Q | 2 North returns ♥ 10, WIN ♥ A in hand.   |
| 3 ♠ A from hand, low from Dummy             | 4 ♠ K from hand, low from Dummy  |
| 5 ♦ A from hand, low from Dummy             | 6 ♦ K from hand, low from Dummy  |
| 7 ♦ Q from hand, low from Dummy             | 8 ♦ 9 from hand, low from Dummy  |
| 9 ♥ 9 from hand, low from Dummy, S wins     | South wins the next two ♥ tricks, but then must lead a ♠ to Dummy's Q or a ♣ to Declarer's ♣ AQ, giving Declarer the last two tricks and the contract. |

Quiz Hand 1 N-S hands:

North: ♠ J 10 7 6 2, ♥ Q 7 2, ♦ K 9 5 3, ♣ 8     South: ♠ Q 9 8 3, ♥ J 6 5, ♦ Q J 10 6, ♣ 10 4

Quiz Hand 2 N-S hands:

North: ♠ J 10 9 2, ♥ Q 10, ♦ 4 3, ♣ J 9 8 5 3     South: ♠ 5 4 3, ♥ K J 8 5 2, ♦ J 10 6, ♣ K 7