

- 1) 10 diamonds – I want a heart switch –the 10 is a high card duh and asks for the highest suit of those remaining excluding trumps. So of the choice of clubs or hearts we have asked for a heart.
- 2) This time a club is better than a heart ( yes we have Ace hrts but we are likely to always be able to enjoy that) a club lead though may get us 2 x tricks
- 3) Well ...their 5 diamonds was their lowest card – they must want clubs. I lead a club NB such signals don't come with bangs and whistles –they are quiet but usually clear and u need to be looking out for them.
- 4) 2Sp.
- 5) i) Double – a penalty double is best/likely to be most profitable/is most fun  
ii) 2NT- 11/12 ish with heart stops  
I have to question really why you *wouldn't* double but still ... 2NT is o.k.  
[ I was playing with someone this week who , after she opened the bidding and had a response from me, heard the opponents bid 4C. My partner who held AKQJ clubs declined to double. Words fail me. [ though they didn't at the time ] ]
- 6) Here I might expect the good student to go wrong and the ..(shall we say ?) *the dilettante* to do better.

The correct play is to carry on with the K diamonds.

Partner's low signal of the 5 normally says that they neither have a doubleton nor have the Q. They might have for instance either of these holdings :1095 or a single 5; Well if they do have either of those , the continuation of the K diamonds will work very well. ( in the first instance the declarer MUST have a now bare Q diamonds and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> , having seen partner show out , you carry on with a 3<sup>rd</sup> diamond and give partner a ruff. NB you know the Q is expected to fall as you have five diamonds.

Some of you will have seen the AKJ diamonds and concluded from partner's low 5 that it was the declarer who held the Q diamonds; you will have said therefore that a switch to a spade or heart was in order. That often is the case and if this had been the leader's hand ( below) you would have been more on the right lines.

543  
9876  
AKJ  
K98

I think I had better pause and let some of that sink in but quiz me further if u want.

- 6) (a) = [ ii ] NB you plan to ruff three hearts with three trumps.

You cannot therefore afford to draw any trumps.

Your ten tricks will be the 5 x trumps in declarer's hand + the Ace hearts + Three ruffs in dummy + 1 x club. ( it will be important to return to declarer's hand with diamond ruffs each time you want to ruff a heart )

- (b) = (iii).

I hope u don't feel cheated by this answer and claim that (ii) above is just as good.

For starters you were told you had to choose different answers.....

It is quite important to recognise that you can draw 1 x round of trumps before setting up the ruff in dummy and that is the hallmark of the good player and not the dilettante.