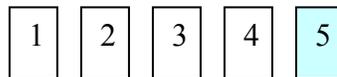


Mystic Richard

You need to have two people who have learnt the trick. The thinking behind it is quite complex, so we have only done this with the older age groups.

1. Audience member shuffles the pack and deals out 5 cards to person B.
2. Person B says confidently that he can “psychically” transmit the identity of one of the cards to “Mystic Richard” (Person A)

How Person B must arrange the cards.



- Any five cards must have a suit featured more than once
- Place the cards of repeating suit in Positions 2 and 5
- Mystic Richard will have to guess **card 5**. By looking at **card 2**, he will immediately know the suit of **card 5**.
- Now **cards 1,3 and 4** will tell Person A how many places he needs to count on from **card 2**, in order to get to **card 5's** place value. (For example if **card 2** is the 3 of hearts and **card 5** is the 6 of hearts, he must count on 3 places.)
- **Card 2** and **card 5** can be arranged so that you only ever need to add on a maximum of 6 to **card 2** in order to get **card 5**. (Assuming the pack is cyclic, so if you add 3 to the King of Hearts, this will give you the 3 of Hearts)
- Now place **cards 1,3 and 4** in order, according to the table below. Assume Ace is low.

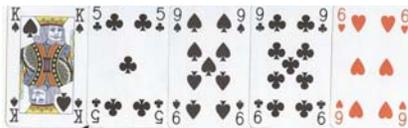
Order of Cards 1,2 and 3	How many you should count on from Card 2, to get to Card 5
Low Medium High	1
Low High Medium	2
Medium Low High	3
Medium High Low	4
High Low Medium	5
High Medium Low	6

- If **cards 1,3 and 4** contain a repeating value (e.g. 2 Kings) then we need to use Bridge Order. Clubs < Diamonds < Hearts < Spades

3. Now Mystic Richard simply needs to look at the first four cards and he will be able to work out the identity of the fifth card. (If person B has arranged them correctly!)

Example

Suppose you select the cards below.



The Spades are repeated, as well as the Clubs, so you have a choice. I would put the 5 of Clubs in the 2nd Position and the 9 of Clubs in the 5th Position. This means I need to add 4 to the 5 of clubs in order to get the 9 of Clubs.

I therefore need to put the other three cards in the position: medium high low. (Nine, King, Six)



Mystic Richard is now ready to work out what the fifth card is.

Discussion with the class:

Some pupils will probably not believe you that this can be done for any combination of cards