

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0068:
"As Declarer, Estimating Opponents' HCPs (1)
During the Auction, and (2) Later During Play:
Why This Is So Important"¹**

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen²

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Sitting NORTH as Dealer you hold:

NORTH (13)
S: A T 6 3
H: Q 4
D: 9 7 2
C: A Q J 9

SOUTH (12)
S: K J 5 2
H: A K J
D: 8 6 3
C: T 3 2

Bidding

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1C	PASS	1S	PASS
2S	PASS	3NT	PASS
???			

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¹ These ideas are drawn from Phillip Adler's excellent article, "Bridge Play 101", in the April, 2024 issue of the [ACBL Bridge Bulletin](#).

² As noted in an article in the Winter/Spring, 2024 article in [The American Bridge Teachers' Association \(ABTA\) Journal](#), https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA_1_24.pdf, Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

Questions #1-#2

1. *Sitting SOUTH, would you have made this **3NT** second response bid?*
2. *What would you sitting NORTH bid in response to Partner SOUTH, having shown 4 Spades, after your "supportive" **2S** bid showing 4 Spades, after SOUTH on his second response bids **3NT**?*

To see Esther's **suggested answer**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0068_a1.pdf