

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0075 for **Beginners:
"It Helps to #1, 'Listen to the Auction', and
#2, *THINK*, in Order to Play Good Defense"**

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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Board #17 499er 06/13/24

Dealer: **NORTH**

Vul: **NONE**

		NORTH (11)		
		S: J 4 3		
		H: A 4 2		
		D: T 7		
		C: A Q 8 7 6		
	WEST (6)		EAST (12)	
	S: K 8 7 2		S: A Q T	
	H: 9		H: 8 5	
	D: K 6 5 4		D: A Q 9 8 3 2	
	C: 9 5 3 2		C: T 4	
		SOUTH (11)		
		S: 9 6 5		
		H: K Q J T 7 6 3		
		D: J		
		C: K J		

Bidding

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
PASS	1 D	2 H	3 D
3 H	4 D	4 H	5 D
PASS	PASS	5 H	PASS
PASS	PASS		

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¹ 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.

"Most players agree that **defensive play is the most difficult phase of bridge** [emphasis added]. Bidding can become pretty well standardized between any pair of players, and even two players who have no common bidding system can generally coordinate their ideas of bidding to such an extent that they will have some notion of what each is doing. The play of the Declarer is comparatively simple, for he always manipulates half the cards in the deck..., all of which he can see. The player on the Defending Side has no such advantage. He can see his own thirteen cards, and he can see the Dummy's thirteen cards. But the only cards he can play as he chooses are his own thirteen, and he cannot see his Partner's hand at all." (Louis H. Watson, 1958, Watson's Classic Book on the Play of the Hand at Bridge, p. 159)

Question #1

1. Was WEST's 2nd bid of 5D reasonable?

To see Esther's **suggested answer**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0075_a1.pdf