

# Esther "Pop" Quiz #0095: "Play on Defense When You are 'On Lead'"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen<sup>1</sup>

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Board #18

Knoxville 499er 10/02/24

DLR: **EAST**

Vul: **N/S**

NORTH (13)

**S:** J 6

**H:** K 8 5 4 2

**D:** A K 3 2

**C:** Q 8

WEST (10)

**S:** A Q T 8 2

**H:** T 7

**D:** J 6 4

**C:** K T 6

EAST (8)

**S:** 9 7 5

**H:** A 9

**D:** T 9 8 7 5

**C:** A 3 2

SOUTH (7)

**S:** K 4 3

**H:** Q J 6 3

**D:** Q

**C:** J 9 7 5 4

### Bidding

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
PASS	PASS	1 <b>S</b>	2 <b>H</b>
2 <b>S</b>	3 <b>H</b>	PASS	PASS
3 <b>S</b>	PASS	PASS	4 <b>H</b>
PASS	PASS	PASS	

*EAST leads the Spade 9 because WEST's 1**S** opening is "lead directing." Declarer "ducks" in the SOUTH Dummy, and WEST takes Trick #1 with his Spade Queen.*

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<sup>1</sup> 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](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.

On Tricks #1 - #4 N/S win 1 Trick, while E/W win 3 Tricks. On Trick #5 WEST leads his Club 6 toward EAST's Club Ace. At this point the SOUTH Dummy has been exposed, the N/S contract has been set, and the players now hold:

	NORTH (13)	
	<b>S:</b>	
	<b>H:</b> K 8 5 4	
	<b>D:</b> A K 3	
	<b>C:</b> Q	
WEST (10)		EAST (8)
<b>S:</b> T 8 2		<b>S:</b> 5
<b>H:</b> T		<b>H:</b> 9
<b>D:</b> J 6		<b>D:</b> T 9 8 5
<b>C:</b> K T		<b>C:</b> 3 2
	SOUTH (7)	
	<b>S:</b> K	
	<b>H:</b> J 6 3	
	<b>D:</b>	
	<b>C:</b> J 9 7 5	

1. EAST on lead on Trick #6 at this Table led his Spade 5. Was this EAST's best lead?

To see Esther's **suggested answer**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0095\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0095_a1.pdf)