

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0176:  
"As Dealer Opening 1H or 1S, After Partner Gives  
a 'Constructive' Response, Can You Correctly  
Apply the Bridge 'Rule of 5'?"**

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

To return to the "Esther Bridge Lessons," CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/index.html>

To return to the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes", CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz.html>

Editor's Note. The bridge "**Rule of 5**" was taught to Esther by the Savannah Bridge Club player/teacher whom some players call "Yoda". The "**Rule of 5**" says, "If you open 1H or 1S and your Partner gives you a "constructive" 2-level supportive response or 2H or 2S showing 6-10 HCPs and 3+ card "support", if you sum the number of Aces, Kings, and Queen you are "missing" across all 4 Suits and the sum is 5 or less, bid Game in your Major. If the sum is 7 or higher, PASS. If the sum is 6, you are "on the margin" of making a Game contract."

Esther has previously taught the "**Rule of 5**" in Esther Bridge Lesson #7: "**Esther Comments Once Again About Bidding Using the 'Rule of 5'**":

[https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/rule\\_5.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/rule_5.pdf)

She also discussed the "**Rule of 5**" in "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz #93:

[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0093\\_q.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0093_q.pdf)

Here Esther discusses the application of the "**Rule of 5**" with some actual recent "real deal" bridge Boards. Included are "**Double Dummy Analyses**" to determine *all possible contracts* that can be "made" by all 4 of the players on these Boards.

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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.

Knoxville 499err 6/23/25 Board #8

Dealer: **WEST**

Vul: **NONE**

NORTH (15)

**S:** K

**H:** Q 8 2

**D:** A 8 7

**C:** A Q 9 8 5 2

WEST (12)

**S:** A 9 5

**H:** A T 9 7 4

**D:** K 5

**C:** J 7 3

EAST (7)

**S:** Q J 8 7 4 3

**H:** K J 5

**D:** T 6

**C:** T 6

SOUTH (6)

**S:** T 6 2

**H:** 6 3

**D:** Q J 9 4 3 2

**C:** K 4

**Bidding**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

1**H**

PASS

2**H**

PASS

???

1. What should WEST bid at his 2<sup>nd</sup> turn within the auction?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:

[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0176\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0176_a1.pdf)