

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0214: "A Series of 'Real Deal' Bidding Challenges"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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

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Esther says...

"When Bidding, Coping With Unusual Distributions..."

1. One thing that makes bridge interesting, fascinating, and/or *addictive* is that bridge Boards are randomly dealt and therefore, *anything* can happen.
2. For example, unusual distributions can happen.
3. For example, you may be dealt a Hand in which all 13 of your cards are in a SINGLE Suit!
4. Statistically, if you play duplicate bridge, as invented in 1925 by Harold "Mike" Vanderbilt, the great grandson of the shipping and railroad tycoon Cornelius Vanderbilt,
https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/br_hist.pdf
if you play twice a week in competitions involving 26 Boards, you will be dealt a Hand containing 13 cards all in a single Suit, roughly once every 60,000 years.
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/taverham/Probabilities.pdf>
But, it could happen tomorrow, or twice in a week! It's BRIDGE. It's RANDOM.
5. And you need to be prepared to bid CORRECTLY when unusual things happen!

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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, the purported ACBL Double Triple Emerald Gold Platinum LifeMaster with 20+ million ACBL MasterPoints, in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So, this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

Knoxville 499er 08/19/25 Board #12

Dealer: **WEST**

Vul: **N/S**

NORTH (16)

S: A T 3

H: A K T 5

D: Q T 9 3

C: K 2

WEST (13)

S: J 5 2

H: J

D: A K J 8 6 4

C: Q J 5

EAST (5)

S: K Q

H: 8 7 2

D: 7 5 2

C: 9 8 7 6 4

SOUTH (6)

S: 9 8 7 6 4

H: Q 9 6 4 3

D: --

C: A T 3

Bidding

WEST

1**D**

PASS

NORTH

1**NT**

???

EAST

PASS

SOUTH

2**D**

1. What should NORTH bid at his 2nd turn within the auction?

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

https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0214_a1.pdf