

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0434:
"Bridge Bidding: Do You Have a 'Partnership Agreement' to Cover Your Opening a 3-Level Preempt in 4th Seat Versus In Any Other Seat?"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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The ideas and example presented here are drawn from Mike Lawrence's excellent article, "A Bidding Understanding", published in the June, 2026 ACBL Bridge Bulletin (p. 56). ACBL members can access digital copies of ACBL Bridge Bulletin by logging on to the ACBL website. Esther may have altered some of the cards in the example bridge Board.

About Mike Lawrence

Michael S. Lawrence (1940-) is an American bridge player, teacher and prolific writer. In 1968 Mike joined the "Dallas Aces" bridge team that won the bridge "Bermuda Bowl" in 1970, 1971, and 1987. Mike has won **16** North American Bridge Championships. He also was "Runner Up" in **2** more Bermuda bowls and in **14** North American Bridge Championships. He has published more than **30** bridge books several of which have won bridge book-of-the-year awards.

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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.

Dealer: **SOUTH**

Vul: **E/W**

NORTH (9)

S: Q J 8

H: A J 5 3

D: J 7 6 5

C: 4 2

WEST (10)

S: K 5 3 2

H: Q T 8 6

D: K 9 3

C: Q 3

EAST (12)

S: A T 4

H: 9 4

D: 2

C: A K J T 9 7 5

SOUTH (9)

S: 9 7 6

H: K 7 2

D: A Q T 8 4

C: 8 6

Bidding

SOUTH

PASS

PASS

WEST

PASS

???

NORTH

PASS

EAST

3C

1. How does the seat you are sitting in affect what your opening pre-empt bid "shows"?
2. What does EAST's opening pre-empt bid of 3C "show"?
3. What should WEST bid at his 2nd turn to bid within the auction?

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

https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0434_a1.pdf