

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0482:
***"'Listening to the Auction' Is the Key to
Successful Bidding and Play by the Declarer"***

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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

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

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

About Richard Pavlicek

Richard Pavlicek (1945-) has won **11** North American Bridge Championships, including a record-setting **3** straight wins in the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams, 1982-84, and again in 1990. He won the 1973 inaugural Grand National Teams tournament and repeated a win there in 1997. He has written or co-authored several bridge books, including with co-author William S. Root their 1981 book, Modern Bridge Conventions. From 1984 until 1990 Pavlicek was the Bridge Columnist for the Fort Lauderdale News and Sun-Sentinel. Esther particularly likes the Bridge Simulation Studies presented on his bridge website:

<https://www.rpbridge.net/rpsi.htm>

and his re-posts of his newspaper bridge columns:

<https://www.rpbridge.net/rpco.htm>

The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" is based on the 5/28/89 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Bidding Reveals Winning Finesse". This "Real Deal" bridge Board was played in the May, 1989 North American Junior Bridge Championships. Pavlicek's son, Rich, sat NORTH and his Partner sitting SOUTH was Mark Caplan.

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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: **WEST**

Vul: **N/S**

NORTH (9)

S: A 3 2

H: Q 9 6 4

D: Q J T 8 4

C: 3

WEST (9)

S: K J 8

H: 7

D: 6 3

C: K Q T 9 7 6 4

EAST (4)

S: T 9 7 6 5

H: T 8

D: K 9 7 5

C: J 8

SOUTH (18)

S: Q 4

H: A K J 5 3 2

D: A 2

C: A 5 2

Bidding

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
3 C *	PASS	PASS	3 H
PASS	4 NT	PASS	5 S **
DBL***	6 C ****	PASS	7 H
PASS	PASS	PASS	

*WEST's 3**C** preempt bid is based on WEST's Clubs having a Ron Klinger "Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score"² of (1) 7 Club cards plus (2) 3 Honors (including the Ten given that WEST held at least 1 Club Honor higher than the Ten) or $7 + 3 = 10$ which generally will support a Suit contract set no higher than the $10 - 6 = 4$ level.

**"Partner, I hold 3 Aces."

***This is a "Lead Directing DOUBLE" asking Partner EAST to lead a Spade at his 1st opportunity to do so.

****This is a "grand slam force" which asks Partner to bid 7**H** if he holds at least 2 of the "top" 3 Heart Honors.

WEST leads his Club King thus "promising" the Club Queen and all the other players "follow" with Declarer SOUTH "winning" with his Club Ace.

1. After the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers", if any, can Declarer SOUTH see?

² Within the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes" see: "Several Bidding Conundrums and A Centennial-Quiz Tribute to Ron Klinger and His 'Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score'":

https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0100_q.pdf

2. On what does Declarer SOUTH's success in making his 7^H contract depend?

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

https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0482_a1.pdf