

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0516:
"A 'Difficult' Hand to Bid (and Play)"**

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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

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

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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 3/27/88 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Well Reasoned Gamble Wins". This "Real Deal" Board was played during a 1988 local Swiss Teams competition.

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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: **NONE**

NORTH (6)

S: 7 5 3 2

H: A Q 8 7 2

D: 5 3

C: 9 8

WEST (9)

S: A Q T 9 8 6

H: J 3

D: 4

C: Q 7 5 2

EAST (7)

S: J 4

H: T 9 6 4

D: K T 2

C: K T 6 4

SOUTH (18)

S: K

H: K 5

D: A Q J 9 8 7 6

C: A J 3

Bidding

WEST

2S

NORTH

PASS

EAST

PASS

SOUTH

???

1. If you were sitting SOUTH with this Hand what would your bid at your **1st** turn to bid within the auction?

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

https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0517_a1.pdf