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Esther "Pop" Quiz #0528: "As Declarer Playing a 4H Contract and the Opponents Hold (1) the Trump Q,x,x,x, (2) the Diamond A,Q,J,T, and (3) the Club K,Q,J: Can You Overcome a 'Trump Stack'?"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen[1]

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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 11/12/89 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "The Vanishing Trump Trick".

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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 ***(13)***
S: *K 9*
H: *A K 2*
D: *K 8 4*
C: *9 7 5 4 3*

WEST ***(10)***
S: *J 7 3*
H: *Q 7 6 3*
D: *Q J T 2*
C: *K J*

EAST ***(6)***
S: *T 8 6 5 4*
H: *--*
D: *A 9 7 6 5*
C: *Q T 8*

SOUTH ***(11)***
S: *A Q 2*
H: *J T 9 8 5 4*
D: *3*
C: *A 6 2*

Bidding

EAST	*SOUTH*	*WEST*	*NORTH*
PASS	*1**H****	*PASS*	*2**NT****
PASS	*3**H***	*PASS*	*4**H***
PASS	*PASS*	*PASS*	

******* *SOUTH bids 1**H** because he meets the requirements of Marty Bergen's "**Rule of 20**":*
https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/rules.pdf
*and he has a Ron Klinger "**Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score**":*
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0100_q.pdf
*of (1) **6** cards plus (2) **2** Honors (including the Ten because SOUTH holds at least **1** Honor higher than the Ten), or 6 + 2 = **8**. This "**SQT Score**" will generally support a Suit contract set no higher than the 8 = 6 = **2** level.*

******** *NORTH's bid is not a "**Jacoby 2NT**" bid:*
https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/jacoby2NT.pdf
and instead shows a "big" and balanced Hand.

*WEST leads the Diamond Queen as the "top" of a "touching" Honor sequence in a "long" unbid Suit and this lead "held" on Trick **#1**. On Trick **#2** WEST led his Jack and Declarer SOUTH ruffed. On Trick **#3** Declarer SOUTH led a "low" Trump Heart to the NORTH Dummy's Heart King "winner". EAST discarded a Spade.*

1. *Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer NORTH see?*

2. *Should Declarer SOUTH continue "drawing" Trump? What "Line of Play" should Declarer SOUTH follow?*

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0528_a1.pdf