

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0480:
"As Declarer Missing a Trump Queen,
Is It Better to Attend to
(1) the '*Principle of Symmetry*', OR
(2) the Principle '*Eight Ever, Nine Never*', OR
(3) '*Listen to the Auction*'?"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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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/rpc.htm>

The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" is based on the 3/19/89 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Is the Principle of Symmetry Valid". The bridge Board used in this article is a "Real Deal" played by Florida octogenarian Vernon Pope in the September, 1988 Royal Viking Pairs 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: **SOUTH**

Vul: **NONE**

NORTH (9)

S: --

H: 6 3

D: K J T 9 6 5

C: A J 9 8 2

WEST (8)

S: K J 9 3

H: A 7 5

D: 8 7 3 2

C: 6 4

EAST (7)

S: 7 6 5 4 2

H: Q J T 9

D: Q 4

C: Q 3

SOUTH (16)

S: A Q T 8

H: K 8 4 2

D: A

C: K T 7 5

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 C	PASS	1 D	PASS
1 S	PASS	3 D	PASS
3 NT*	PASS	5 C	PASS
6 C	PASS	PASS	PASS

*SOUTH's 3**NT** bid is not suggesting a **NT** contract and instead merely "shows" a Heart "stopper".

WEST leads his Heart Ace and all the other players "follow".

1. After Trick #1 Declarer SOUTH must not "lose" any other Tricks or his 6**C** contract fails. On what does Declarer SOUTH's 6**C** contract succeeding turn on?
2. What bridge principle(s) should Declarer SOUTH consider when formulating his "Line of Play"?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0480_a1.pdf