

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0014:
"How on Defense to Tell Partner
Your Preferred Lead from Partner"**

Bruce Thompson

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Bidding

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1C	PASS	1S	PASS
2S	PASS ¹	PASS	PASS ²

EAST (8)

S: J 8
H: 9 8 5 4
D: A J T 2
C: T 9 7

Your Partner, WEST, leads the Ace of Hearts, thus promising the King, and to lead the King of Hearts second, unless the Dummy once down shows a Heart void or singleton. The Dummy here does not hold

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¹ N/S doubtless invoked the *very, very important* "Rule of 5" to determine whether or not to bid higher than 2S. For more on the very important "Rule of 5", within the "Esther Bridge Lessons", see: "Lesson #7: The 'Rule of 5'".

² Esther is quite *adamant* that you should do everything you can to not let Opponents play a 2H or a 2S contract, if at all possible. Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons", see: "Lesson #39: Do NOT Let Opponents Play a 2H or 2S Contract...!" A 2-level contract in a Minor yields a relatively modest Bridge Score, but a 2-level bid in a Major yields a better Bridge Score, and in this bidding sequence is almost certainly makeable! Here, EAST does not hold a Suit of sufficient Suit Quality to support an Overcall. However, WEST, sitting in the "balancing" position, should have overcalled if at all possible

a Heart void or singleton, but does hold a Heart doubleton. Therefore, the card you play on the Heart Ace does not here answer WEST's question, "Partner, can you take the **3rd** Heart Trick with either (1) the Queen, or (2) by ruffing?"

Instead, your job now is to tell your Partner, WEST, your "Suit Preference" for his lead on the 3rd Trick. *How can you show Partner your "Suit Lead Preference" by what Heart cards you play on the first 2 Tricks?*

To see Esther's **suggested answer**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0014_a.pdf