

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0045:
"Hand Evaluation as 'Responder' Is
a Multi-Stage Process!"**

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Knoxville 499er
Board #5 1/3/24
Dealer: WEST
Vul: N/S

<i>WEST (12)</i>	<i>EAST (9)</i>
<i>S: 8</i>	<i>S: K T 9 7 6 5</i>
<i>H: 9 6 3</i>	<i>H: T 2</i>
<i>D: A K Q T 6</i>	<i>D: --</i>
<i>C: K 9 5 3</i>	<i>C: A Q T 7 2</i>

Bidding

<i>WEST</i>	<i>NORTH</i>	<i>EAST</i>	<i>SOUTH</i>
<i>1D</i>	<i>PASS</i>	<i>1S</i>	<i>PASS</i>
<i>???</i>			

WEST's opening bid under Partnership Agreement shows (1) 4+ Diamonds and (2) a good Ron Klinger "Suit Quality Test {'SQT'}Score"¹. WEST's bid is based on meeting the requirements

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¹ The Ron Klinger "SQT Score" is computed by adding together (1) the number of cards in the Suit plus (2) the number of Honors, including the Ten, held in the Suit. Normally, a Suit bid at a level *no higher* than the "SQT SCORE" – 6 is makeable.

of Marty Bergen's "**Rule of 20**"², given that (1) **12** HCPs + (2) **9** cards in WEST's longest 2 Suits = 12 + 9 = **21**. One **Cardinal Principle of Bridge** is "**Never make a bid unless you also see a second bid!**" WEST sees a second bid of either (1) **2D**, showing an extra 5th card, or (2) **2C**, showing a 2-Suited Hand.

EAST holds 9 HCPs, which means that EAST knows that E/W together hold ~13 + 9 = **22** HCPs, which is sufficient to make a part-score bid in a Suit, assuming the Partnership finds a "fit". Holding 4+ Spades, with the King and the Ten, EAST's **1S** response shows 4+ Spades.

1. What should **WEST's** second bid be?
2. What should **EAST's** second bid be?

To see Esther's **suggested answer**, CLICK:
<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0045 a.pdf>

² Within the "**Esther Bridge Lessons**", see: "**Lesson #25: 40 or so Bridge Bidding/Play 'Rules'**" [MISCELLANEOUS/ MULTIPLE], and/or "**Lesson #43: Are the 'Rule of 20' and the 'Law of Total Tricks' Both Broken?**".