

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0137:
"Correctly Bidding a 2-Suited
Distributional Hand: A Quiz for Beginners"**

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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Knoxville **499er** 4/11/25

Dealer: **WEST**

Vulnerability: **BOTH**

	NORTH (8)	
	S: 7 4 3	
	H: A 9 4	
	D: A T 9 7 4 3	
	C: 9	
WEST (8)		EAST (11)
S: A		S: T 8 6 5
H: Q 8 7 6		H: 3
D: J 8 5		D: Q 6 2
C: J T 7 6 3		C: A K Q 5 2
	SOUTH (13)	
	S: K Q J 9 2	
	H: K J T 5 2	
	D: K	
	C: 8 4	

Bidding

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
PASS	PASS	1C	???

Why did EAST open the bidding? *First*, EAST holds **11** HCPs, which is almost 13 HCPs. *Second*, EAST holds **5** Clubs with the top **3** "touching" Honors. *Third*, EAST's Clubs have a Ron Klinger "Suit

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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 in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

Quality Test ('SQT') Score" of (1) 5 cards plus (2) **3** Honors (including the Ten if EAST had held the Ten): $5 + 3 = 8$. An "SQT Score" of 8 will support a Suit contract set up to the $8 - 6 = 2$ level. *Fourth*, you should never make an initial bid unless at the time make your 1st bid you can "see" a plausible 2nd bid that you can make, and here EAST can clearly re-bid his Clubs at his next turn within the auction if he wishes to do so. *Fifth*, by bidding EAST is making a "lead-directing" suggestion to his Partner about what Partner should lead, which is generally helpful.

1. *What should EAST bid at his 1st turn within the auction?*

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0137_a1.pdf