

Python challenge - Poker scores



Your challenge is to create a Python script that solves this poker scoring problem. You will need to submit your answer, as well as the code you have written, at least 24 hours before your scheduled call.

All decisions about how you write your code, and how you prepare it for submission, are up to you.

In the card game poker, a hand consists of five cards and are ranked, from lowest to highest, in the following way:

- **High Card:** Highest value card.
- **One Pair:** Two cards of the same value.
- **Two Pairs:** Two different pairs.
- **Three of a Kind:** Three cards of the same value.
- **Straight:** All cards are consecutive values.
- **Flush:** All cards of the same suit.
- **Full House:** Three of a kind and a pair.
- **Four of a Kind:** Four cards of the same value.
- **Straight Flush:** All cards are consecutive values of same suit.
- **Royal Flush:** Ten, Jack, Queen, King, Ace, in same suit.

The cards are valued in the order: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Jack, Queen, King, Ace.

If two players have the same ranked hands then the rank made up of the highest value wins; for example, a pair of eights beats a pair of fives (see Hand 1 below). But if two ranks tie, for example, both players have a pair of queens, then highest cards in each hand are compared (see Hand 4 below); if the highest cards tie then the next highest cards are compared, and so on.

Consider the following five hands dealt to two players:

Hand	Player 1	Player 2	Winner
1	5H 5C 6S 7S KD Pair of Fives	2C 3S 8S 8D TD Pair of Eights	Player 2
2	5D 8C 9S JS AC Highest card Ace	2C 5C 7D 8S QH Highest card Queen	Player 1
3	2D 9C AS AH AC Three Aces	3D 6D 7D TD QD Flush with Diamonds	Player 2
4	4D 6S 9H QH QC Pair of Queens Highest card Nine	3D 6D 7H QD QS Pair of Queens Highest card Seven	Player 1
5	2H 2D 4C 4D 4S Full House With Three Fours	3C 3D 3S 9S 9D Full House with Three Threes	Player 1

The file, **poker.txt**, contains one-thousand random hands dealt to two players. Each line of the file contains ten cards (separated by a single space): the first five are Player 1's cards and the last five are Player 2's cards. You can assume that all hands are valid (no invalid characters or repeated cards), each player's hand is in no specific order, and in each hand there is a clear winner.

How many hands does Player 1 win?