

CHESS CLASS HOMEWORK Class 8.

Tactics practice problems for beginners and all who want to develop their skills, board vision, and ability to ‘find the right move’.

General Questions: 1. What is ‘unguarded’? 2. Can you attack it? Do you want to attack it? 3. Are there open lines – diagonal or vertical – leading to the enemy king? 4. Can you ‘check’ the enemy king? Do you want to do that? 5. If you make the move you are thinking of, what will be the response from the other person? 6. Is your move a forcing move or is it a move he ‘could’ ignore? 7. Is your king open to attacks? Will your opponent have a move or two to begin an attack on you?

Tactics they can learn online and that we will cover in classes: (((Books: Chess Tactics for Kids and How to Beat Your Dad at Chess – both by Murray Chandler see www.alibris.com for lowest prices I have found.)))

1. Fork 2. Pin 3. Skewer 4. Discovered Attack 5. Destroying the Guard 6. Deflection 7. Decoy
 8. Square-vacating . 9. Line-vacating 10. Zwischenzug (an ‘In-Between-Move’ one makes before moving in the main line)
 11. Desperado 12. ZugZwang At the end of each tactic, be sure you work out “how to win the game from here” so that you don’t end up in a position you have no clue how to play.

On the homepage, green bar, is the word ‘learn’ and under that, you can find basic materials, along with daily puzzles, and lots of other things to do, including game of the week, with analysis commentary about objectives on each move.

Chess is 99% tactics, learn more about those each week. These are ‘homework lessons I prepared for those interested to work on each week.

Chess coach.

1. 64921 Think KNIGHT STEPS, FORKS, Mating threats, and notice: e2 is not guarded. What is your move after white just played Qc3 ?

You play BLACK



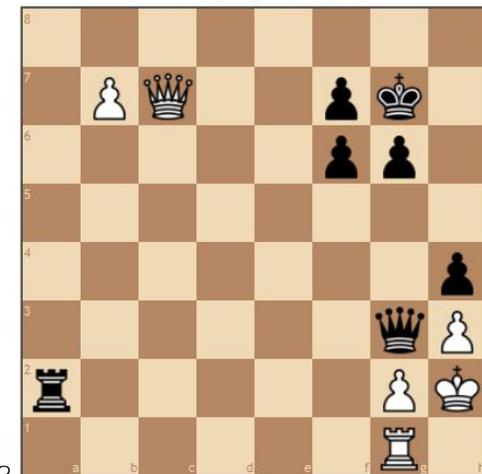
2. 64656 Think Knight Steps, White’s King can NOT MOVE, White’s queen is exposed, and e2 is not guarded. What ideas does this give you?

You play BLACK



3. 55653 Consider for BOTH SIDES: White could have drawn this game, but a close and personal “CHECK” caused momentary panic, failure to LOOK AT THE WHOLE BOARD, and Kh1 simply loses the game. What is your move after Kh1 ? If you were white, what is your move

You play BLACK



instead?

4. 59610 Interesting position for black to work on. How will you present major problems to white? You need one more piece involved. Think: Exposed check.

You play BLACK



5. 64267 White just moved his h rook to the central file. But that is an error. If only his knight weren't pinned, he could fork black's rooks. What is your move for black?

You play BLACK



6. 51310 White just retreated his queen when it was not attacked. What does he have that cannot move? If you found the f2 pawn, you may find an attacking idea as well.

You play BLACK



7. 57761 Think Knight Steps, checks are 'forcing moves', and what pieces are not guarded? White just played c2 to c3 to force black's knight to move. What do you see here for black? Knight steps.

You play BLACK



8. 52304 Double value:
1. After 1. f3 why can't black take the f pawn exf3
2. After 1. ... Bg4, why can white play 2. fxe4?

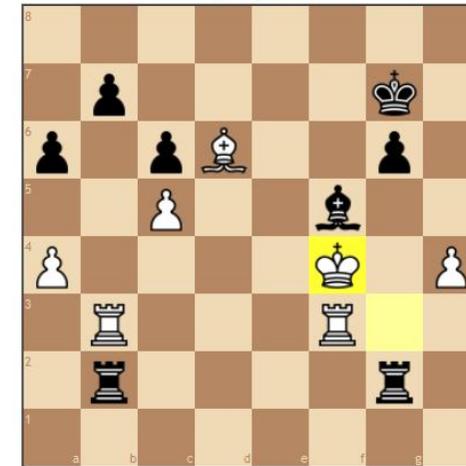
Work it out before you look at the answers.

You play WHITE



9. 55130 White's king is in a bind. But, after you find the moves: 1. ... Rg4+ (if 2. Ke5 Re4#) 2. Ke3 is Rxb3 the best move for black or is there a better one? When you find a good move, always look for a better one, there may be one there.

You play BLACK



10. 54573 rated above master level. This one is good. One move that devastates black.

You play WHITE



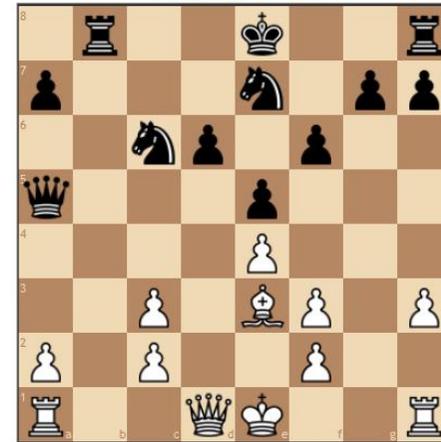
11. 55737 also rated at master level. amazing move for black. Several threats arise immediately after black's first move. What is it?

You play BLACK



12. 47920 Black has left a pawn 'hanging' in the center. IF White takes it, what is black's best move? (hint: Think of a Fork).

You play BLACK



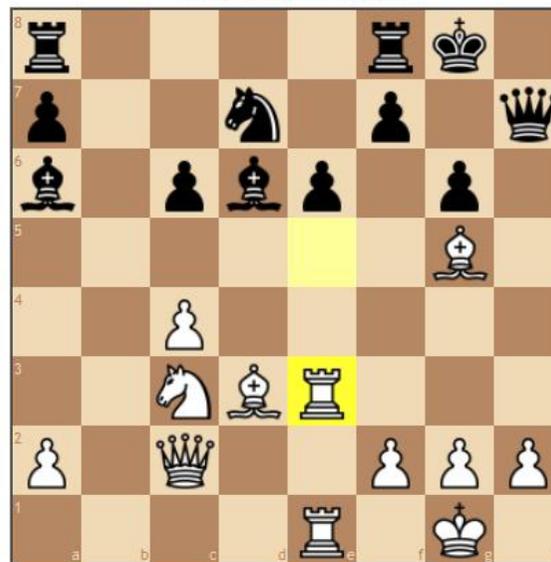
13. 67213 black just moved his bishop to save it. What is your move now? Hint: pins and forks. A 'royal family fork' is always satisfying.

You play WHITE



14. 65606 Think: what does he have that is not guarded right now? Is there a way to attack it? How? (think FORK)

You play BLACK



15. 59297 If white takes your bishop (removing the guard on d3, what is your move? Think carefully.

You play BLACK



16. 48337 Black just moved his king. What is your move? Also, what are the next 3 moves and how are you going to deal with his bishops?

You play WHITE



17. 57843 Black just took a pawn, placing white into check. What is your move after either Be2 or Qe2?

You play BLACK



18. 61542 Mating attack, following white's error in leaving to take the e pawn with his e rook.

You play BLACK



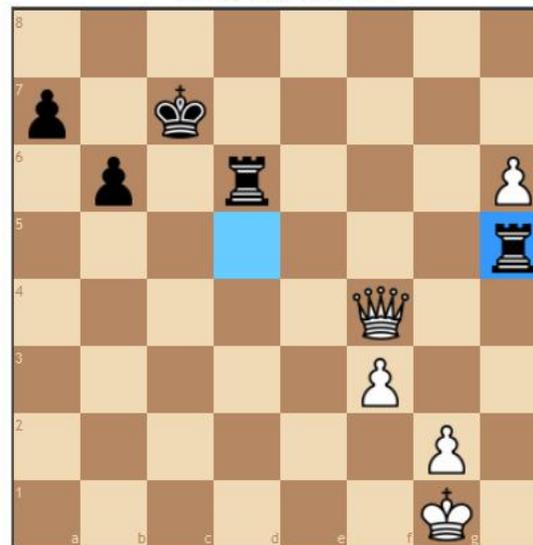
19. 101602 Black has pinned your queen. What do you play? And after black takes your knight, what then?

You play WHITE



20. 84806 Think of the tactic called Fork. A check/fork is more effective.

You play WHITE



21. 88346 Black just took your knight on d5, now your knight is pinned to your queen – or is it? What tactic do you see here? Remove defender?

You play WHITE



22. 87371 White just escaped check, but what happens next? find forcing moves for black. Notice white's rook is exposed on d4... ideas?

You play BLACK



23. 95675 black just took your bishop on a3. What is your answer to that?

You play WHITE



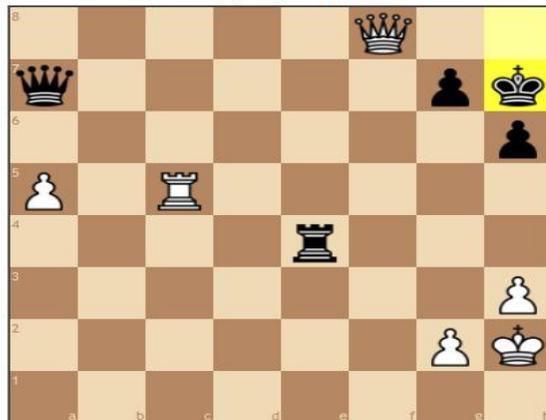
24. 64794 White just moved his knight. What do you see that is not guarded? Hint: Think Knight steps.

You play BLACK



25. 104732 getting harder now. Think FORK, but also think – How can I advance my outside passed pawn?

You play WHITE



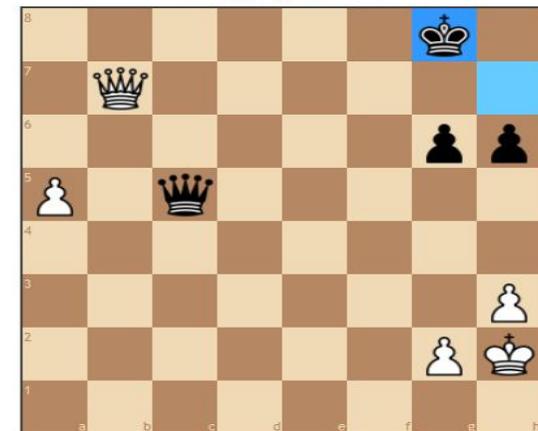
26. 104732 Continued. Now how do you deal with your vulnerable diagonal, b8-h2 to prevent black from draw by repetition?

You play WHITE



27. 104732 cont. You checked him from b7, now what? Think of advancing your pawn, AND keeping black's queen off the vulnerable diagonal.

You play WHITE



ANSWERS to Lesson 8.

1. 1. ... Nf4 threatens mate, white MUST deal with the threat, 2. g3 allows Ne2+ forking king and queen. Always remain alert to potential forks from clever knight steps combined with serious threats.	2. 1. ... Nd4 attacks white's queen, forcing her to move. Notice that White's king cannot move at all, any check is checkmate – thus... after 2. Qh6 for instance, the threat of Ne2 is serious trouble for white. White is lost.	3. if you were white: 1. Qxg3 hxg3+ 2. Kxg3 Rb2 likely a drawn ending now. How? Work it out. And if you give in to momentary panic at the 'up close and personal check, moving your king in abject retreat to h1, you allow Qxc7 for a winning game for black.
4. 1. ... Qh3+ 2. Kg1 Rg6! And the exposed check tactic is now ready to spring on white. White's knight cannot move as it is the ONLY reason black cannot play Qh2#. But you DID see that, right?	5. Pins, Forks and Skewers – the knight is pinned, go ahead and increase 'pressure' on it by e5. White has no good answer and will lose his knight next.	6. of course. The h2 Bishop is poorly placed, and you can take advantage of the pin on the f2 pawn by playing 1. ... g3. The white bishop is history next. How would you respond to 2. b4 ? Qb6 or Qx3 ?
7. 1. ... Nd3+ (great that white's c pawn 'allows' this move now), Kd1 (forced), and Nxf2+ forking king and rook.	8. part 1: after f3 black cannot play exf3 because nothing guards the e7 rook. Part 2: after Bh5, fxe4 works because of the white knight guarding both e4 against Rxe4 and guarding f1 against Qxf1+.	9. 1. ... Rg4+ 2. Ke3 Re4+ 3. Kd3 Rxb3+ 4. Kd2 Rxf3 – winning both white's rooks is better than just one of them.
10. 1. Nb5!! Black's queen is totally trapped and will be lost soon.	11. 1. ... 0-0-0!! And white can resign. Why?	12. a Fork? What else do you see? exposed white queen? IF: 1. Qxd6?? Qxc3 Fork. 2. Ke2(save his a1 rook), Rd8 attacks white's queen. [if 3. Qc7 Nd4+ and Qxc7 next, black wins] if 3. Qe6 Rd2+ if 4. Bxd2 Nd4+ and white can win both rook and queen how?
13. right. Ne5+ forking King, Queen and a rook. The f pawn is pinned to the black king and cannot capture the knight. After 1. Ne5+ Ke7 2. Nxd7 Kxd7 how will you play to win this position for the rest of the game? Practice with a friend.	14. 1. ... Qxh2+ 2. Kf1 Qh1+ 3. Ke2 Qh5+ 4. Kf1 Qxg5 wins a piece. BUT How will you proceed to win this position now? Play it out several times until you are confident you can win this.	15. right. Rxe2+ recovering the minor piece, and leaving white with defective pawns – if Kd1 Qxf3 gxf3 Rxf2, if Kf1 instead, Rxf2+ wins white's queen on the exchange.
16. 1. Qxa8 Qb7+ 2. Qxb7 Bxb7+ 3. Kg1 but now what are you going to do against black? Play it out several times and learn from trying.	17. Is the move obvious enough? Qxh1 next for black's best move.	18. 1. Rb1+ 2. Kh2 Nxf2 and there is nothing white can do to stop the attack.
19. black could have taken your bishop, instead, he took your pawn on e4. What is your move now?	20. Of course. Simple enough. Qf7+ forking king and unguarded h5 rook. But you did see that, didn't you?	21. Nxf6+ (removes the knight defending the d5 bishop, and attacks the king), Bxf6 Qxd5 recovers the piece and creates an attack on black's d pawn. HOW will you play the rest of this position as white?
22. 1. Kd2 Bf4+ 2. Kd3 Qa6+ 3. Rc4 Be6 (doubles on the rook and there is also a pending threat of o-o-o+) Notice all white's moves were forced.	23. Rxc7 and suddenly, white is attacking BOTH black's a8 rook and his queen. How will you play after Rc8 ? what is white's next move and how will you win the game from here ?	24. Spotting the bishop, you play 1. ... Nd3+ 2. Kf1 Nxb2 3. Qc3 Nd3 and you have successfully snatched a piece. NOW how do you win the rest ?
25. Yes, +/FORK wins black's rook, but then what?	26. Qb7+ forces his king to the 8 th rank, then what?	27. Of course, Qb8+ followed by a6 and white cannot be stopped from queening the pawn.

Return to the position for number 25, and look at it until you "see" all the moves in your mind. NOW you are really learning to 'play chess'. It is a mind game, not a board game. Until you can 'see' the positions develop in your mind, you are not really playing chess.