

CHESS TIPS FOR JUNIORS

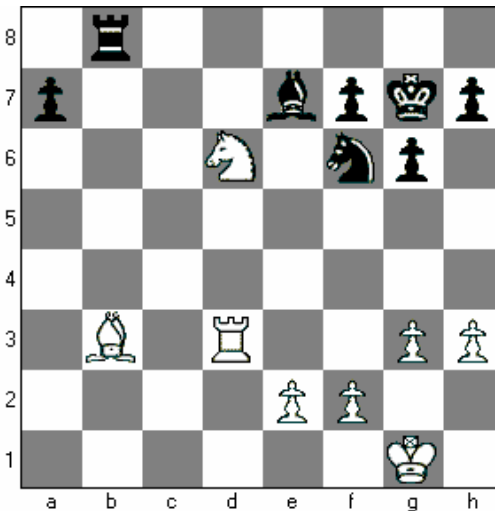
A series of leaflets for
young chess players

OVERLOADING

9 Overloading

We all suffer from overloading. For example you may have lots of homework to do, a friend coming round to see you, a TV programme you wanted to watch....

The same fate can befall a chess piece - it can have too much to do at the same time. Look at this example:



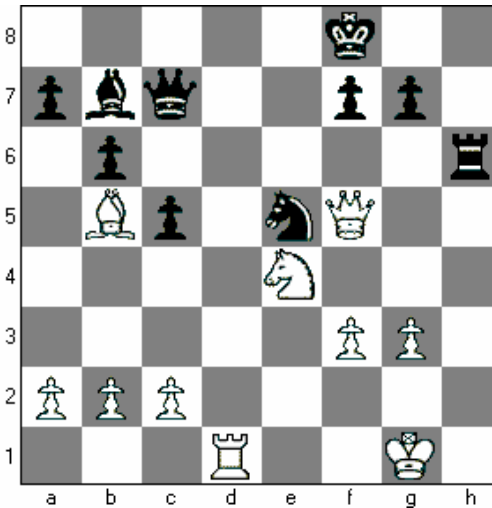
The White rook is overloaded because it has to guard both the bishop on b3 and the knight on d6.

Black can play Bxd6, winning a piece.

If you see that one of your opponent's pieces is overloaded (has too much to do) then you should act quickly. The chance may not occur again.

Keep aware of how your opponent's pieces are protecting each other. Look for pieces (often queens or rooks) that are protecting more than one piece (or important square) at the same time.

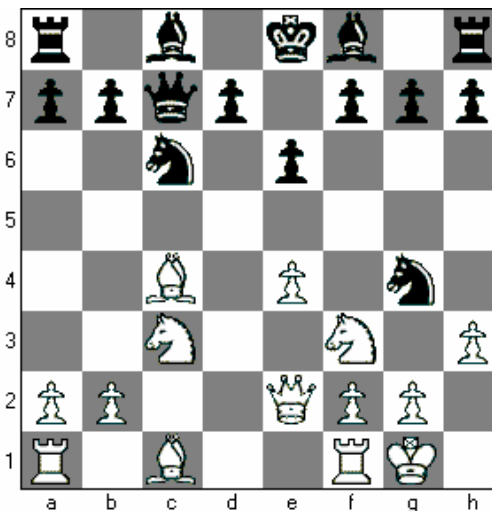
Here's another example:



The Black queen is overloaded. It is protecting the knight on a5, as well as guarding the d8 square.

White plays 1. Qxe5! After ... Qxe5, White checkmates with 2. Rd8+ Ke7, 3. Re8++

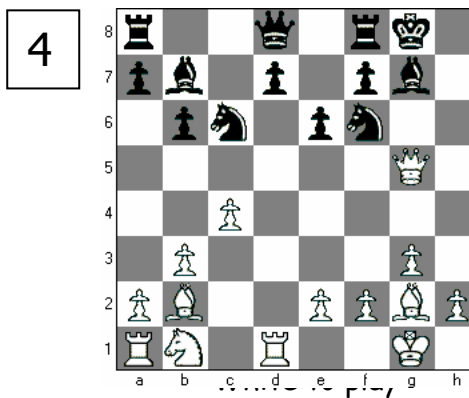
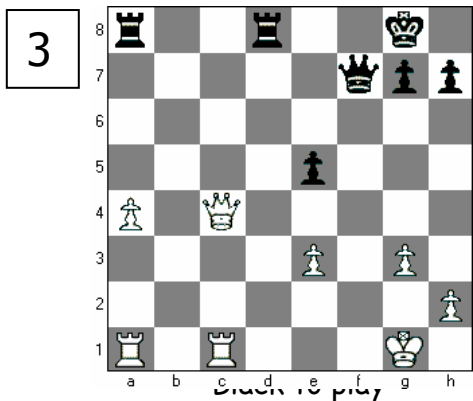
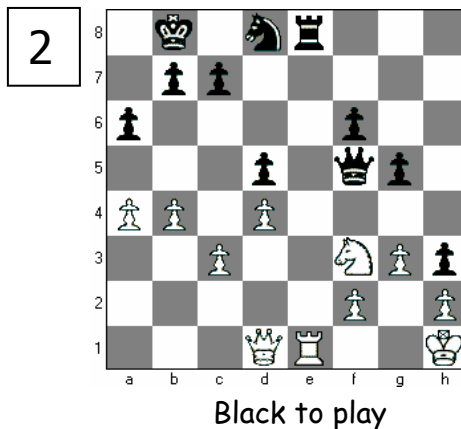
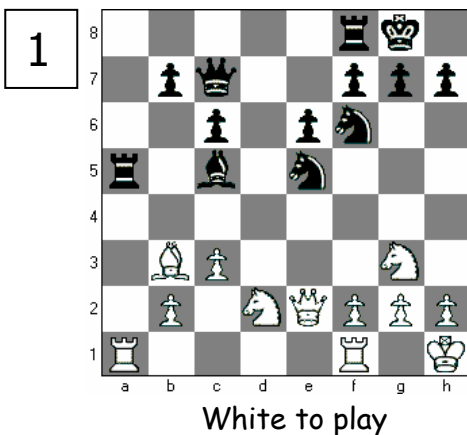
In the following position, see if you can spot the White piece that is overloaded. How can you (as Black) take advantage of that fact?



The White knight is overloaded because it has to prevent Qh2 checkmate, as well as protecting the squares d4 and e5.

Black now plays Nd4, attacking the White queen. If Nxd4, then ... Qh2++

Now see if you can find how to win in the following positions
(answers below).



Answers:

1. Rxa5 (wins knight on e5)
2. ... Rxe1+ (then Q takes N on f3+, and checkmates)
3. ... Rd1+ (if rook takes, Qxc4. If Kg2, Qxc4 Rxc4, Rxa1)
- 4 Rxd7 (if ...Qxd7, Bxf6 forces checkmate)