



ENGLISH CHESS FEDERATION

CHESS SKILLS

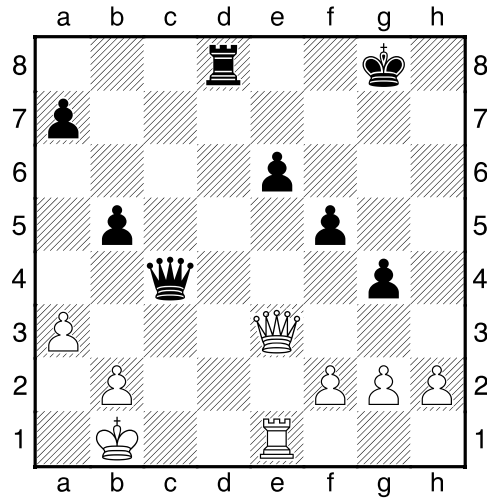
**The Double Attack
(or Fork)**

Adapted from the Chess Skills leaflets,
produced for the British Chess Federation by JE Littlewood and RA Furness.

Developed from the Tactics for Juniors sheets
originally prepared by RG Wade, R Bott and S Morrison.

Double Attack or Fork

When one of your pieces attacks not just one but two of your opponent's pieces.



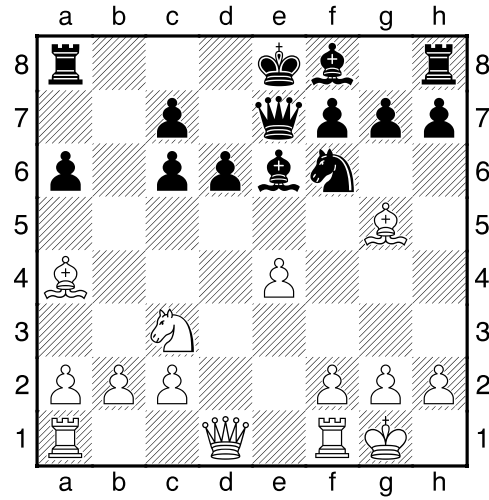
White plays his Queen to g5, with a double attack on the Black King and Rook.

After the King moves, White plays, 2. Qxd8, winning the Rook.

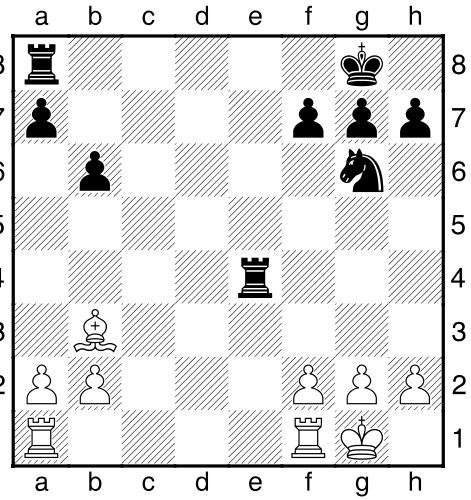
Find the Double Attack

In these positions, the player to move has an immediate double attack.

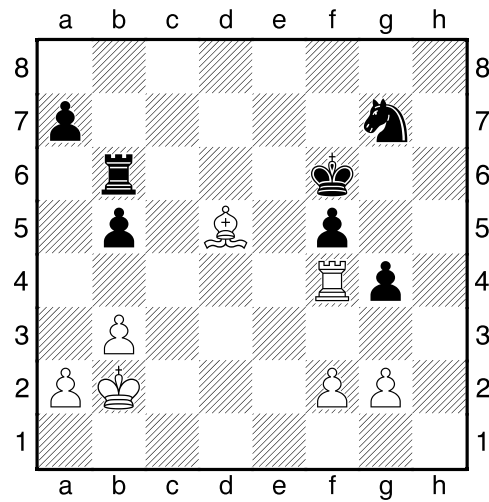
1. White to move



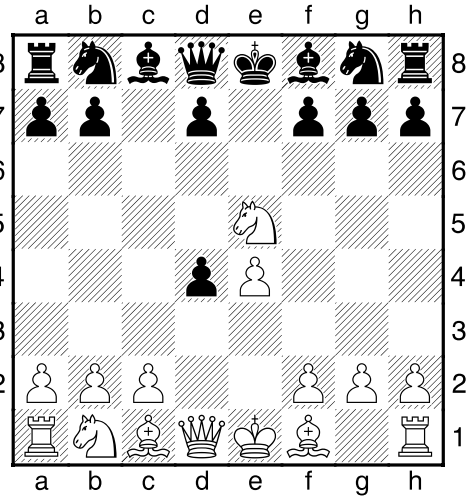
2. White to move



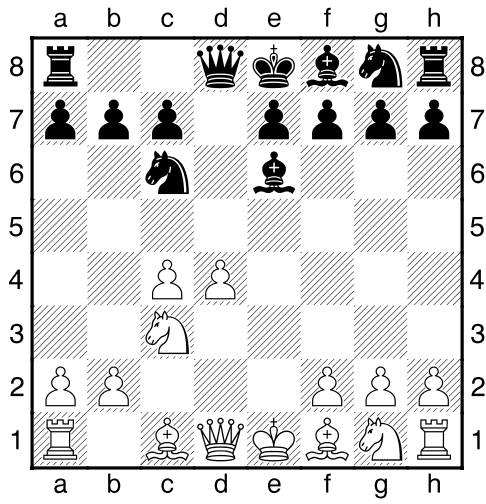
3. Black to move



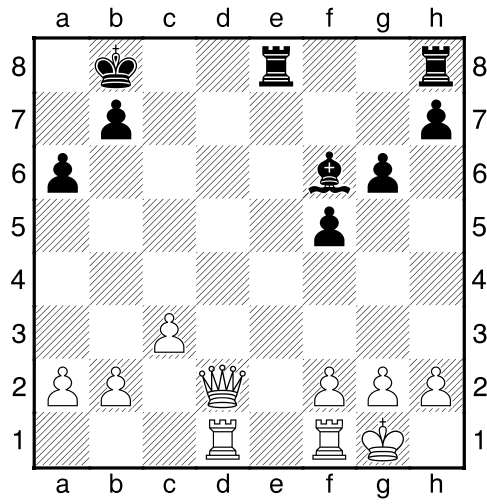
4. Black to move



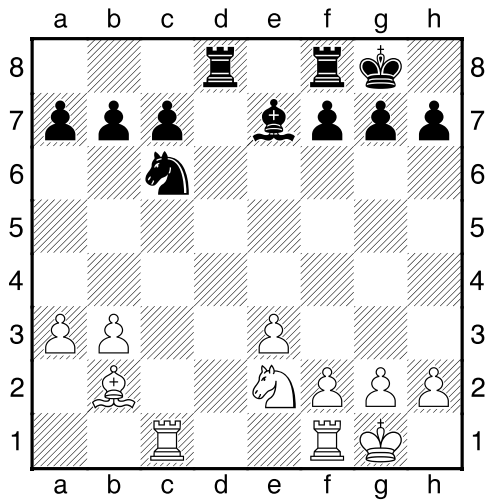
5. White to move



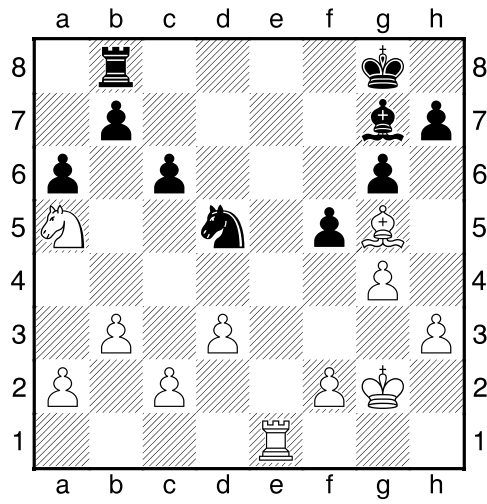
6. White to move



7. Black to move

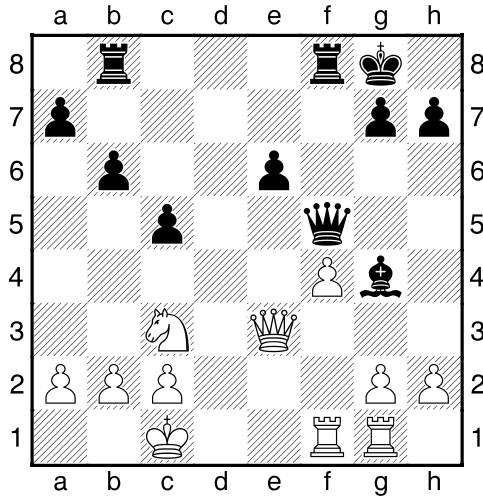


8. Black to move

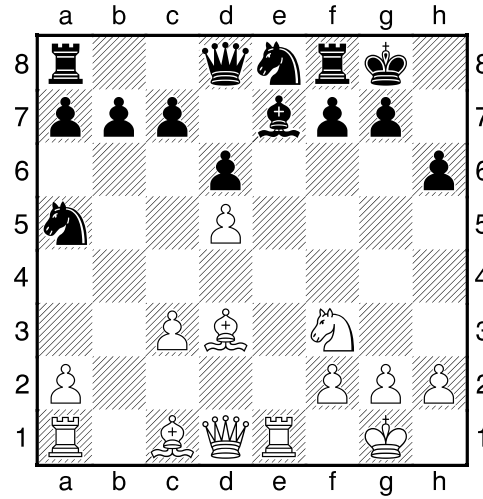


In these four positions,
the player to move has a forcing move, with a double attack to follow.

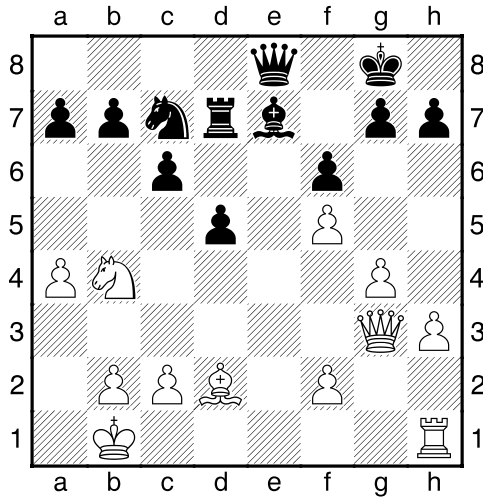
9. White to move



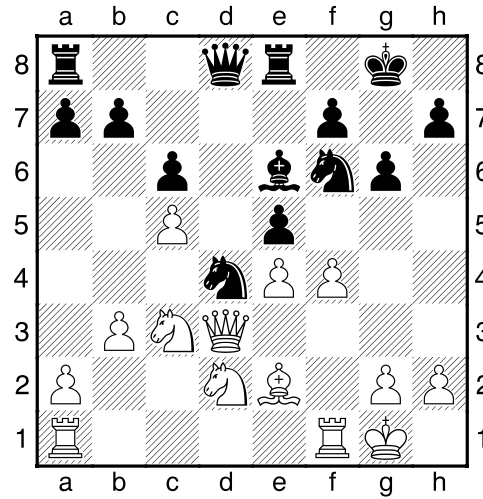
10. White to move



11. Black to move

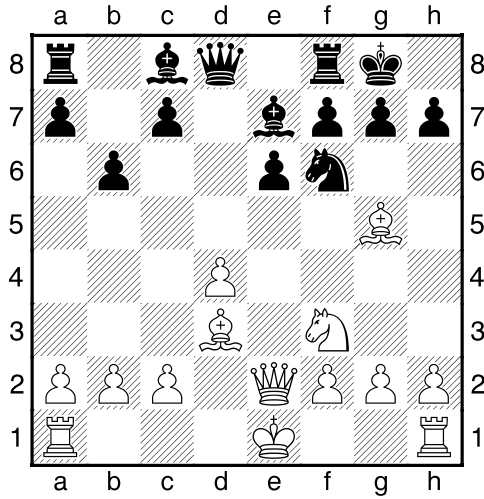


12. Black to move

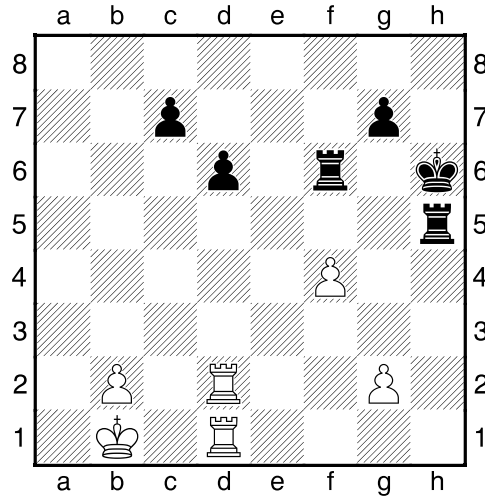


**In these four positions,
the double attack could be on the first, second or even third move!**

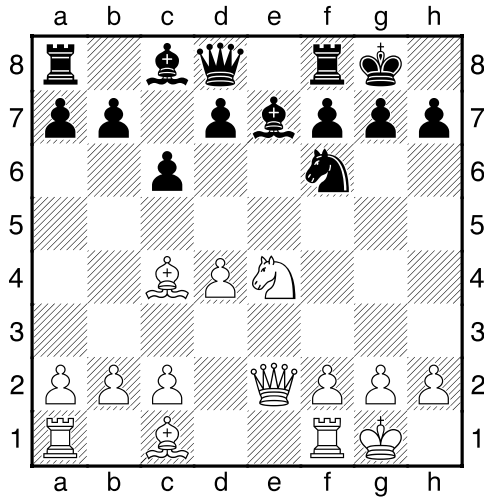
13. White to move



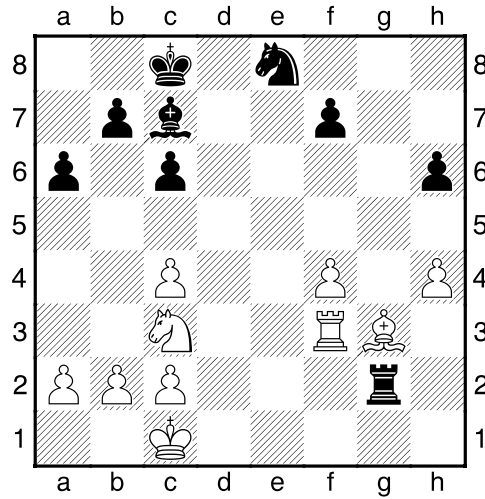
14. White to move



15. Black to move



16. Black to move



Answers

1. Bxc6+ with a double attack on the Black King and Rook.
2. Bd5 forking the two Black Rooks.
3. Ke5 with a double attack on the White Rook and Bishop.
4. Qa5+ forking the White King and the Knight on e5.
5. d5 with a double attack on the Black Knight and Bishop.
6. Qd6+ attacking the King and Bishop.
7. Rd2 attacking the White Bishop and Knight.
8. Bc3 forking the White Rook and Knight.
9. 1 h3 attacks the Black Bishop, which moves to the safety of h5. White then forks the Bishop and Queen with 2 g4.
10. 1 Qa4 attacks the Knight on a5. It has no safe square to move to, so Black protects it by b6. White then plays 2 Qe4, threatening Qh7 checkmate and Qxe7, winning a bishop.
11. 1... Bxb4 2 Bxb4 Qe4 forking the White Bishop on b4 and the Rook.
12. 1... Nxe2+. If White replies 2 Nxe2, Black plays Qxd3. If White replies 2 Qxe2, Black plays Qd4+ forking the King and unprotected Knight on c3.
13. 1 Bxf6 Bxf6 (or gxf6) 2 Qe4 threatens mate on h7 and the Black rook on a8.
14. g4 attacks the Black rook. Where ever it moves, White then plays g5+, forking the King and other Rook.
15. 1... Nxe4 2 Qxe4 d5 forking the White Queen and Bishop (not 1... d5, else 2 Nxf6+ Bxf6 3 Bd3)
16. 1... Rxf3 2 Rxf3 Bxf4+ with a double attack on the White King and Rook.