

8. Skewer (Difficulty level: Easy)

The skewer is a position in which the opponent's two pieces are in the same line. It is a tactic that can be only performed by a long-range piece (pieces that attack in a straight line - horizontal line, vertical line or diagonal) i.e. Bishop, Rook or Queen.

When there is an attack against a higher valued piece, it must move to safety but behind lower valued piece will be exposed and it can be captured.

There are 2 types of skewer:

1. Absolute Skewer

It's a position where the opponent is forced to move the higher valued piece and give up the lesser valued piece because in absolute skewer the higher valued piece is always a king.



Diagram 8.1

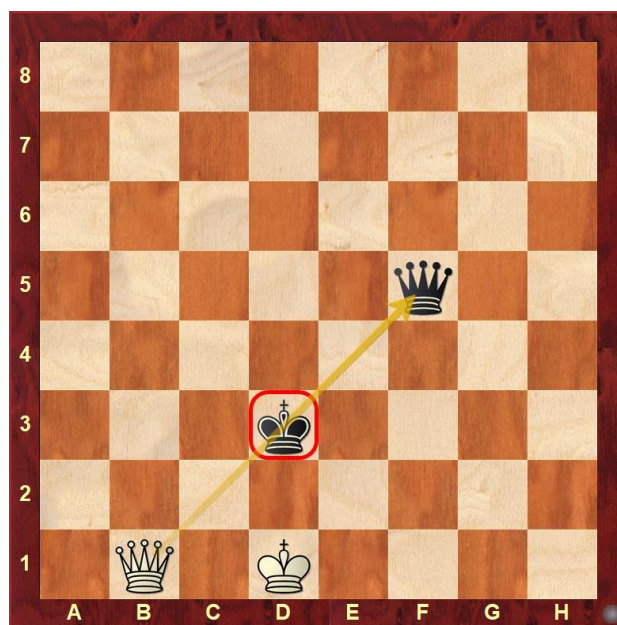


Diagram 8.2

In the above diagram 8.1, we can observe that the black king at d3 and the black queen at f5 are in the same diagonal. Later, in diagram 8.2 the white queen at c1 moves to b1 and performs an absolute skewer by attacking the black king in such a way that the opponent has to save the king, and therefore white can capture the black queen at f5.

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2.Relative Skewer

It's a position where the opponent is likely to move the higher valued piece and give up the lesser valued piece behind it but the choice is still available either to move the higher valued piece or ignore it.

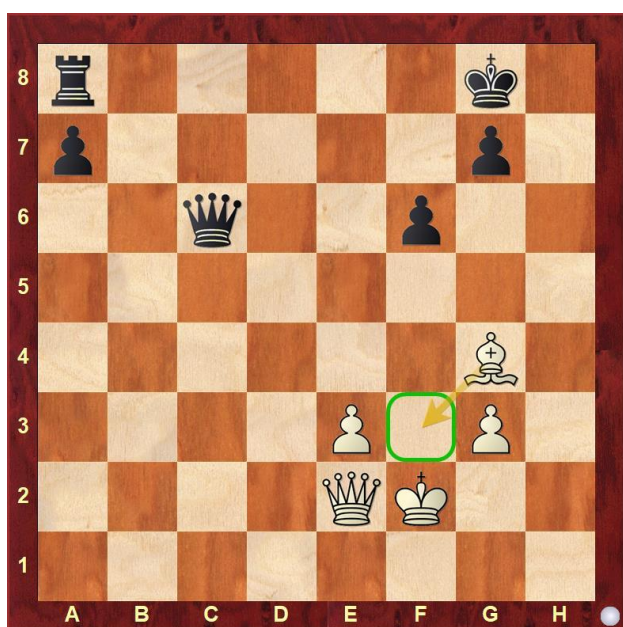


Diagram 8.3

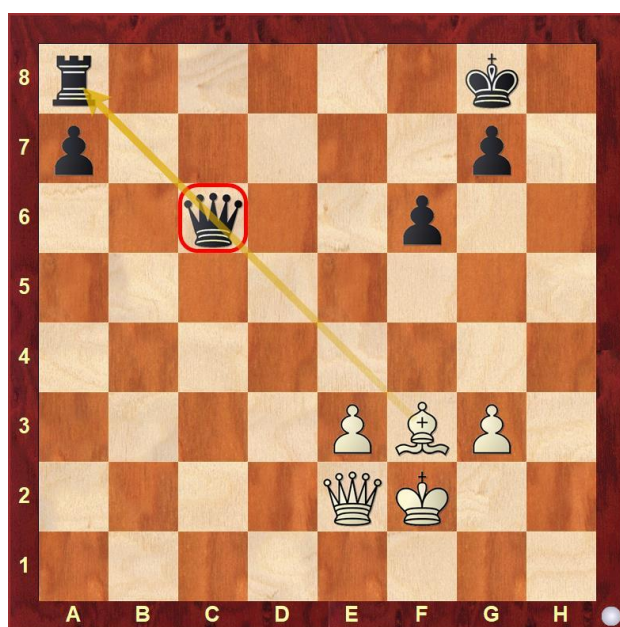


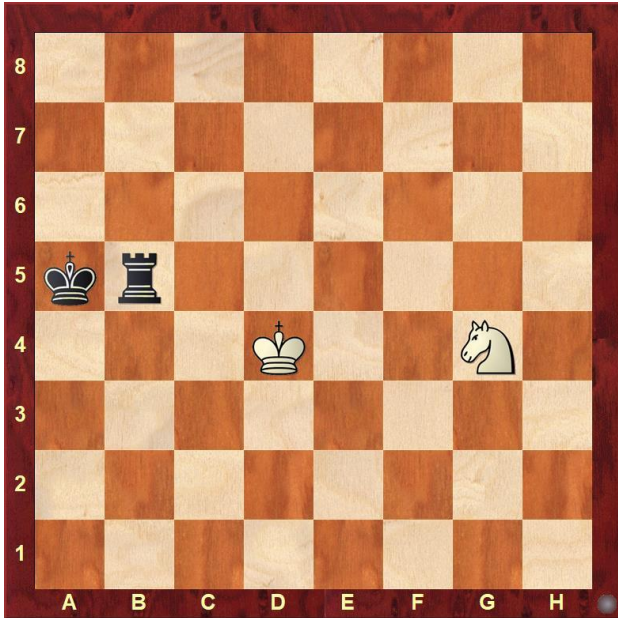
Diagram 8.4

In the above diagram 8.3, we can observe that the black queen at c6 and the black rook at a8 are in the same diagonal. Later, in diagram 8.4 the white bishop at g4 moves to f3 and performs a relative skewer by attacking the black queen in such a way that the opponent has to save the queen, and therefore white can capture the rook at a8.

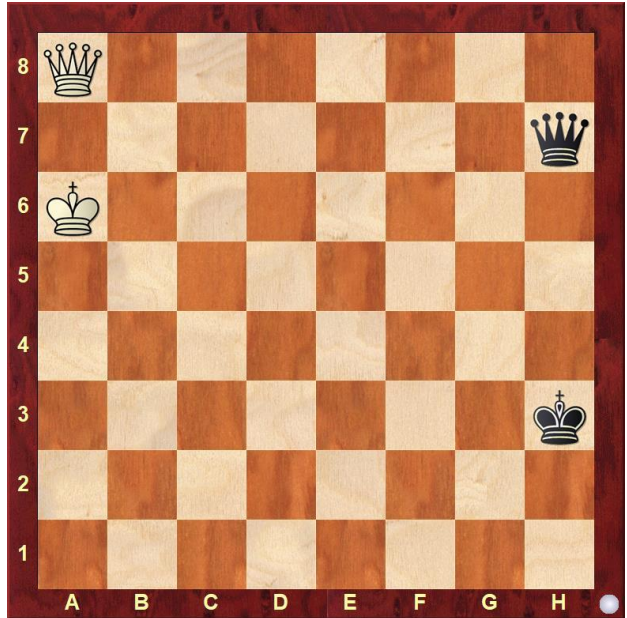
ADVANCED BEGINNER LEVEL

8. Skewer (Difficulty level: Easy) - Homework

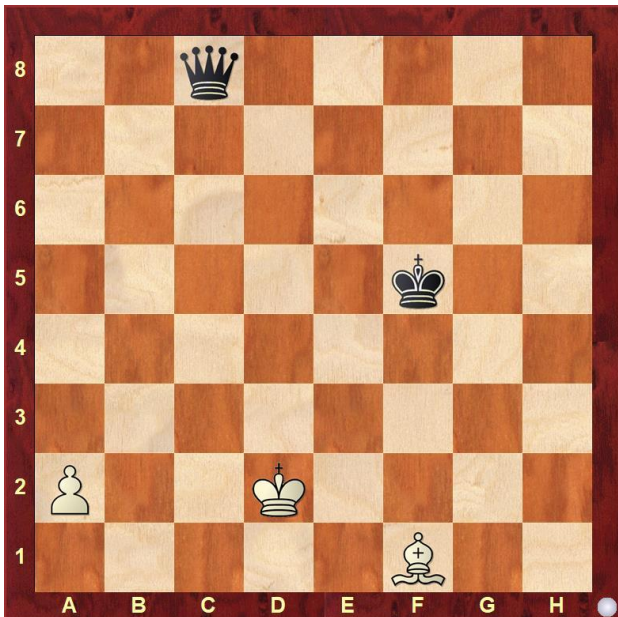
1. Black to play and find the skewer



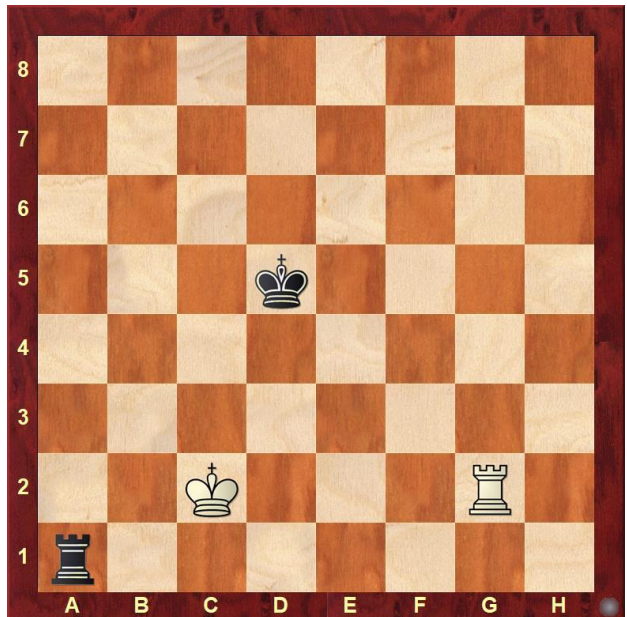
2. White to play and find the skewer



3. White to play and find the skewer



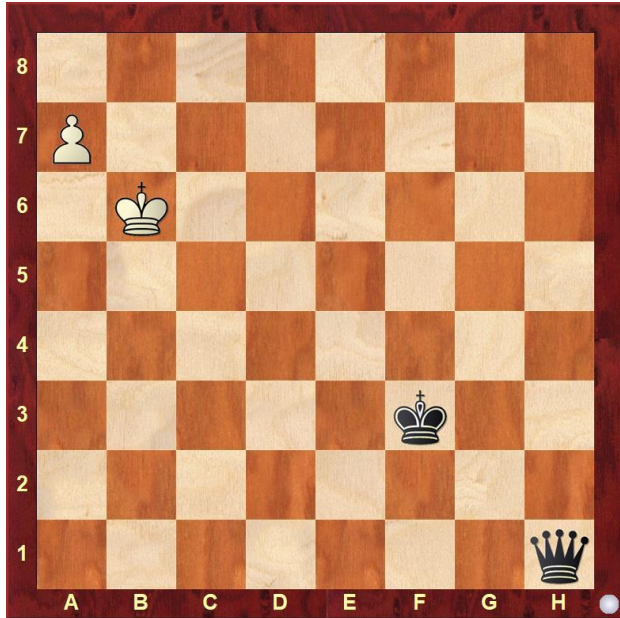
4. Black to play and find the skewer



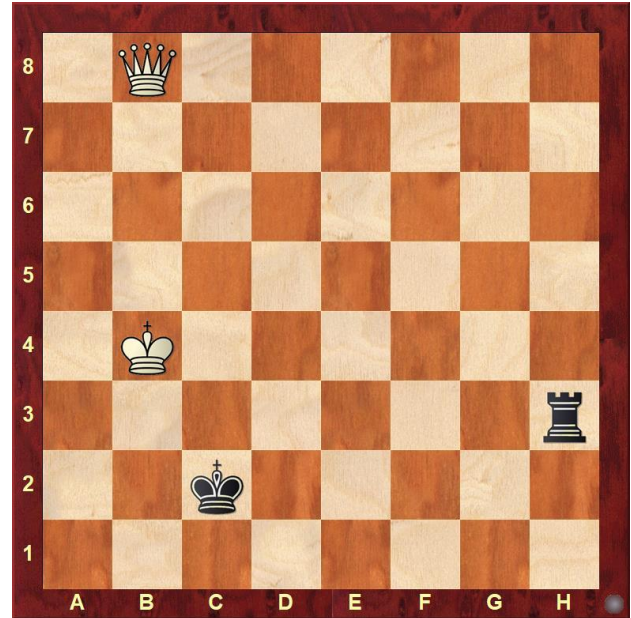
ADVANCED BEGINNER LEVEL

8. Skewer (Difficulty level: Easy) - Homework

5. White to play and find the skewer



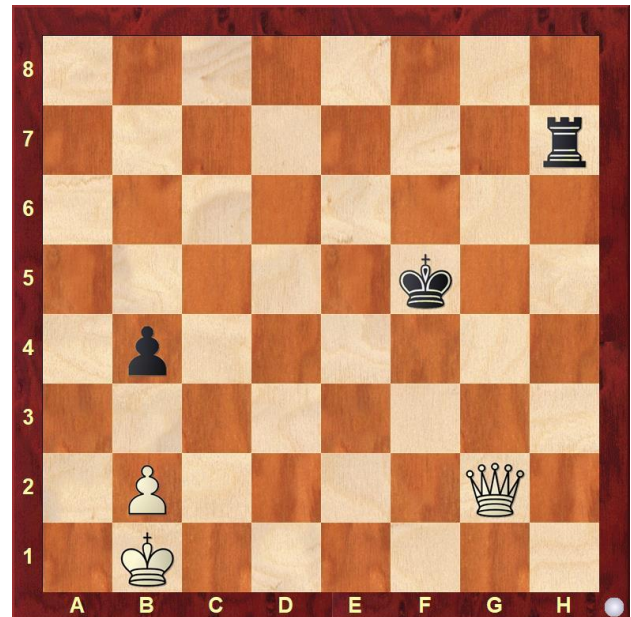
6. Black to play and find the skewer



7. White to play and find the skewer



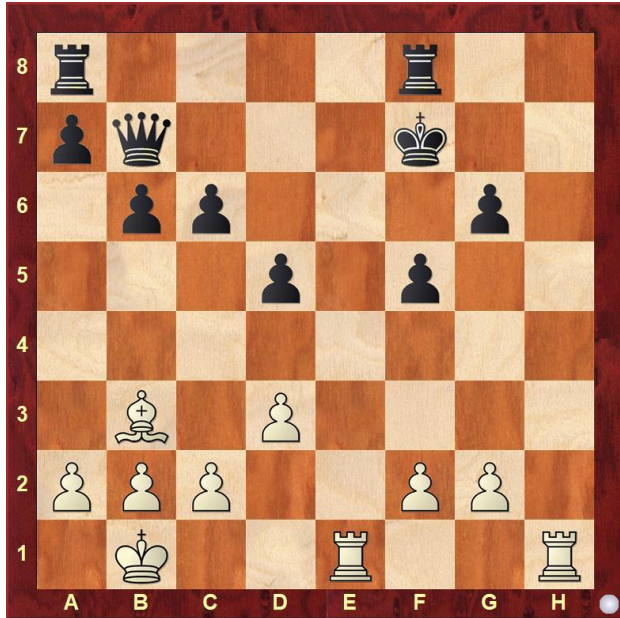
8. White to play and find the skewer



ADVANCED BEGINNER LEVEL

8. Skewer (Difficulty level: Easy) - Homework

9. White to play and find the skewer



10. White to play and find the skewer

