

ADVANCED LEVEL PART 2

18. Mating Motif (Anastasia mate, Arabian mate)

Anastasia's mate

Anastasia's mate is a position when the Queen, the Rook, and the Knight teams up to do checkmate to the King on the side of the board (particularly a or h file). The Rook or The Queen gives the check to the king whereas, the knight blocks the diagonal squares of the king. Often the queen is sacrificed in the first few moves to get the required position.

The following examples will give a better explanation

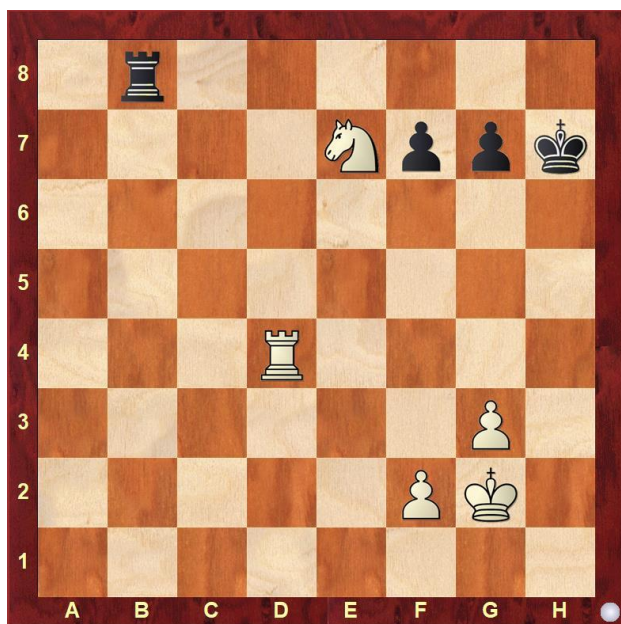


Diagram 3.1



Diagram 3.2

In diagram 3.1, we can observe that the white knight is blocking the diagonal squares of the black king. Therefore, white can perform Anastasia's mate by playing Rh4#

In diagram 3.2, we can observe that the white knight is blocking the g8 square of the black king. Therefore, white can perform Anastasia's mate by playing Qxh7+ forcing the black king to play Kxh7 followed by Rh5#

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Arabian mate

Arabian mate is a position when the Rook and the Knight team up to trap the opponent's king on a corner of the board. In this position, the Rook gives the check either horizontally or vertically whereas, the knight supports the Rook as well as blocks the adjacent square of the king.

The following examples will give a better explanation

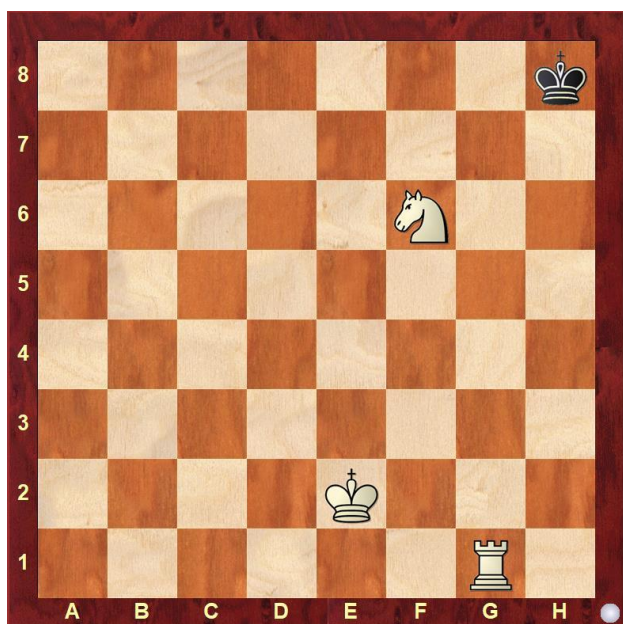


Diagram 3.3

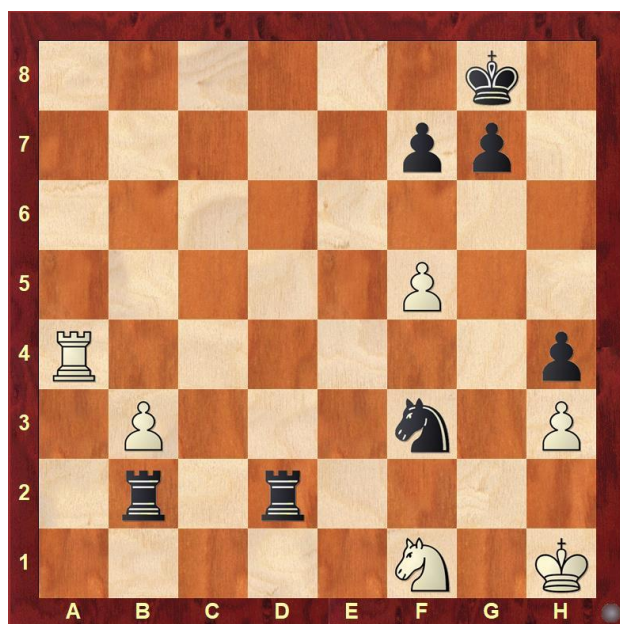


Diagram 3.4

In diagram 3.3, we can observe that the white knight is blocking the adjacent squares of the black king. Therefore, white can perform Arabian mate by playing Rg8#

In diagram 3.4, we can observe that the black knight is blocking the adjacent squares of the white king. Therefore, black can perform Arabian mate by playing Rh2+ forcing the white to play Nxh2 followed by Rxh2#

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18. Mating Motif (Anastasia mate, Arabian mate) Homework

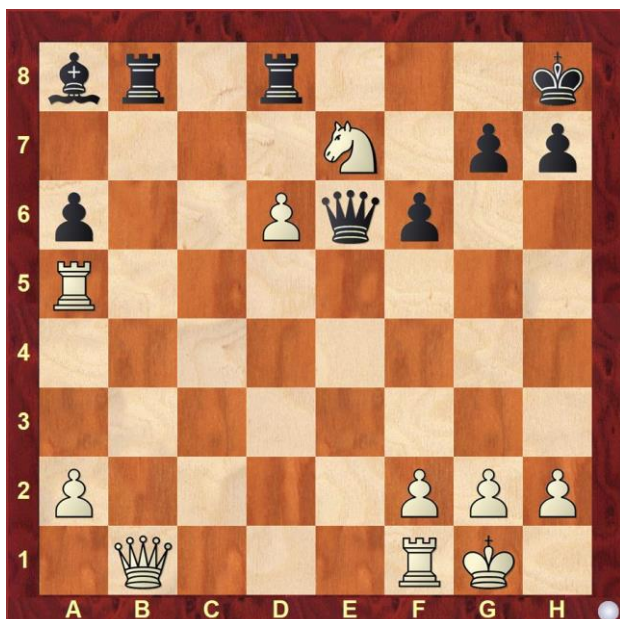
1. White to play & win



2. White to play & win



3. White to play & win



4. White to play & win

