

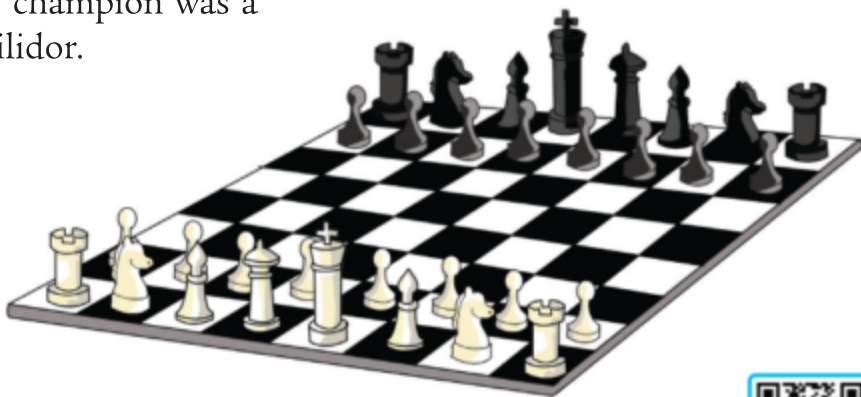
5 Chess RF



The game of chess originated in India. It was played by two people and came to be known as “Chaturanga”. It needed the use of dice. In the 6th century, chess reached Persia, via trade and commerce routes. There it became a royal game and, in time, spread to other kingdoms.

Modern chess developed in the 16th century. Spain and Italy were the first countries in the West to take to chess, followed by France and England. The first world chess champion was a Frenchman called Philidor.

Chess is a game which requires skill and concentration. It is played on a board, divided into sixty-four squares, arranged in eight rows of eight squares each. The squares are coloured black and white, like the pieces used in the game. The aim is to put the other player’s king in a position from which it cannot escape. A word often used in chess is “checkmate” from the Persian “Shahmat”, meaning “The king is dead”.



Start Easy

A. Comprehension

1. Match the following to complete the sentences.

A

- a. The game of chess
- b. It needed the use of
- c. It was played
- d. From Persia

B

- i. on a board by two people.
- ii. it spread to other kingdoms.
- iii. dice.
- iv. originated in India.

2. Chess requires great concentration. Name a few other qualities that one must have to play chess.

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3. What is the ancient Indian name of chess called?

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4. How did chess reach Persia?

- a. when travelling traders and salespeople taught it to people from the places they visited
- b. when the rules of the game of chess were written on signs by the side of the road



5. What is the meaning of the word 'checkmate'?

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6. Describe the design of a chessboard.

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7. Chess is an indoor game. Pick out the indoor games from the list given below.

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| a. snakes and ladders | <input type="radio"/> | b. carrom | <input type="radio"/> | c. kabaddi | <input type="radio"/> | d. tennis | <input type="radio"/> |
| e. baseball | <input type="radio"/> | f. table tennis | <input type="radio"/> | g. cricket | <input type="radio"/> | h. ludo | <input type="radio"/> |
| i. snooker | <input type="radio"/> | j. hockey | <input type="radio"/> | k. polo | <input type="radio"/> | l. bagatelle | <input type="radio"/> |

B. Composition

Of all the games mentioned in question 7, which game would you like to play and why?

