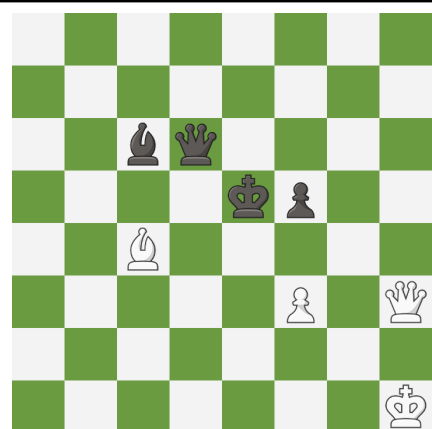


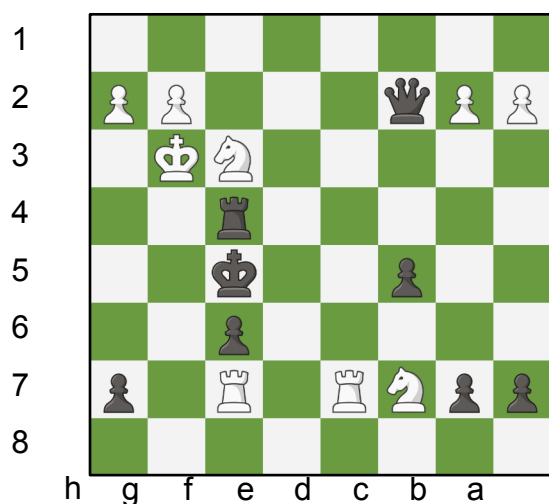
## 41. Trapped in the Middle

In this position, the king is trapped in the middle of the board. How can white win?

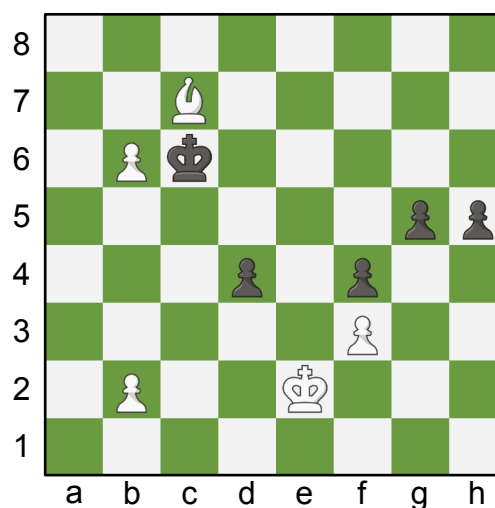


## Challenge Puzzles

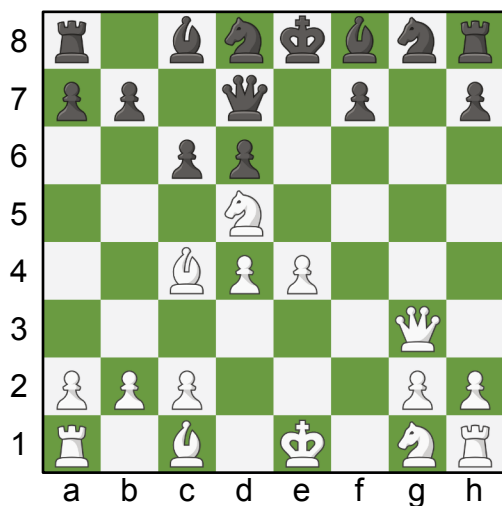
① Black to play - Find best move.



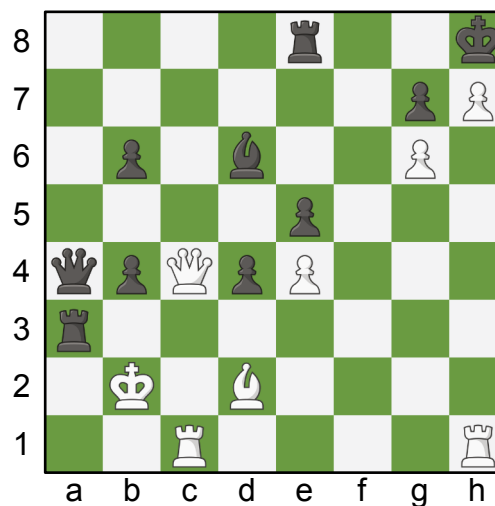
② White to play - Find best move.



③ White to play - Find best move.



④ White to play - Find best move.



Hints.

- ① Start with the rook.
- ② The king can't stop black's d and h pawns. It will need help.
- ③ Start with the queen.
- ④ Start with the queen.

Answers.

- ① 1. ♖g4+ 26. ♔h3 ♚xg2#
- ② 1. ♙e5 It's the only way to stop the black pawn storm. On the d and h files.
- ③ 1. ♚xg8 Then if black takes the queen, they are caught in a windmill, and if they take the knight, you get a free rook.
- ④ 1. ♚g8+ ♖xg8 2. ♙hxg8=♚ + ♚xg8 3. ♖h8+ ♚xh8 4. ♖c8+ ♚e8 5. ♖xe8+ ♙f8 6. ♖xf8#

