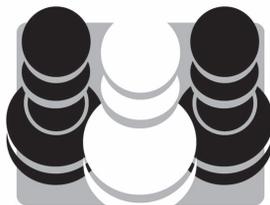


Revision & Exam 1

The Fundamentals

By

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Introduction

Our series of books has been very well received by readers and I have often been asked when I was going to write a follow-up. After giving the matter some thought I decided to provide the series with a complementary exercise book.

This book complements the three volumes in the Fundamentals series (*Build Up Your Chess 1*, *Boost Your Chess 1* & *Chess Evolution 1*) with exercises; thus each chapter from these three volumes (with the exception of the final tests) is supplemented with an extra test with six positions. In this exercise book, therefore, you will find a total of 72 tests with 432 positions.

I derived the material for this book from various sources. Thus I took a great number of test positions from Year 4 of the programme for the Chess Tigers Universities, but provided supplementary comments to the solutions. The new examples stem for the most part from recent games by very strong players and some of my own – unfortunately I no longer belong to the first group! In addition I have taken some ideas from the games of my students. Of course, you will also find in this book many beautiful studies and problems.

How you should work with this book

I recommend that you use this exercise book together with the three volumes of the series. Thus for each chapter you will have additional practice material and you will be able to further deepen and consolidate your knowledge. But there is also an alternative method which makes sense: you can wait until later to work with this book and use it as revision. In that way you can check how well you have understood the Fundamentals series, and how much of it you still remember.

The book consists of the practice tests with diagrams and the solutions with explanations. The subjects and names of all the chapters in the series are listed in the contents – Part I corresponds to *Build Up Your Chess 1*, Part II to *Boost Your Chess 1*, and Part III to *Chess Evolution 1*.

As in the first three volumes, you receive points for correct moves and solutions. The stars above each exercise diagram describe the level of difficulty and at the same time the maximum possible number of points which you can earn for the correct solution with all the necessary variations. (★ = 1 point)

Try first to solve the positions without moving the pieces! If you have not solved the position after 5-10 minutes, you should make a second attempt for approximately 10 minutes. Now you may move the pieces. You really must look for new ideas.

Absolutely never use the computer!

You should normally need approximately one hour per test. Try to solve all the exercises. Look at each position as though it was a position from one of your own games and look for the best possible continuation. You do not always have to deliver mate or win quickly. Sometimes it is enough to suggest a good move. Especially in the lessons on the opening it is more about thinking about the position, taking a decision and afterwards carefully playing through the correct idea from the solutions. Then you will better understand the opening ideas. Mistakes are a part of the learning process!

It is very important to write down all the necessary variations.

Then you are better able to compare your solution with the solution in the book and you will see how well you have understood that subject.

To pass each extra test you need to score at least 50% of the points. If you score fewer points, I recommend that you go over again the relevant chapter from the Fundamentals series and then repeat the test. However, you should not take the points system too seriously. A 100% score is almost impossible, some positions are possibly too difficult and serve to challenge the student more, and to widen his or her chess horizons.

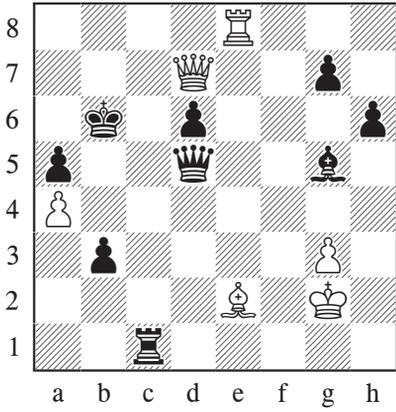
I also recommend playing through the solutions with all the variations on the chess board.

Some symbols are used in the book which you will also find elsewhere in international chess literature. You will find an explanation of these symbols on page 6.

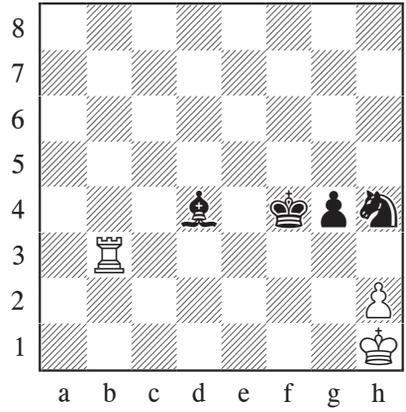
At this point I should like to express my gratitude to a large number of people who have supported my work in various ways: World Chess Champion Viswanathan Anand for his preface, my wife Nadja for the design of the book and her help in working over the solutions, my chess trainer Mark Dvoretsky, from whose training methods I have learned so much, and the Chess Tigers and Hans-Walter Schmitt for their constructive and productive cooperation, Mike Rosa for correcting some mistakes, Lutz Riedel for his proofreading, and finally to Semen Oxman who once again gave us much valuable advice concerning the design of the book.

FIDE Senior Trainer, GM Artur Yusupov

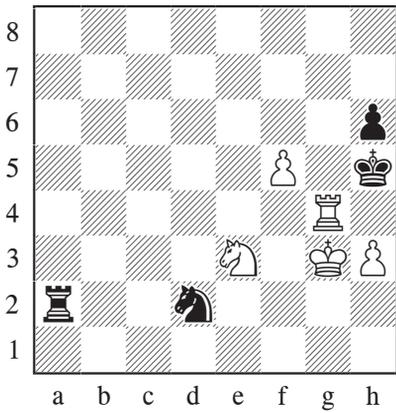
Ex. 17-1 ★★ △



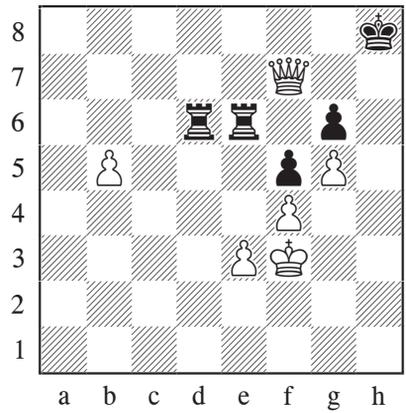
Ex. 17-4 ★★ △



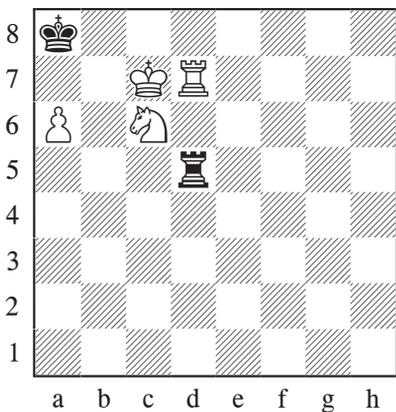
Ex. 17-2 ★★ ▼



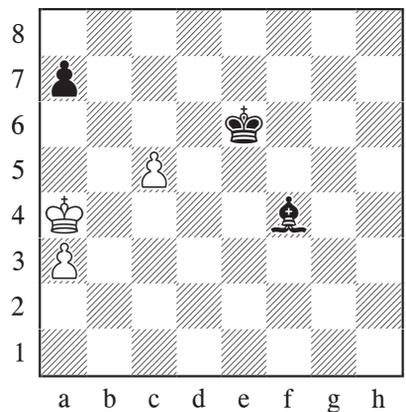
Ex. 17-5 ★★ ▼



Ex. 17-3 ★★ △



Ex. 17-6 ★★ △



1. D. Frolyanov – I. Nepomniachtchi, Irkutsk 2010

45.♔f3! 1 point. The only chance. 45.♔h3?? ♖h1† 46.♔g4 h5# 45...♞c2† 46.♔h3 ♜xf3 47.♜b5† 47.♞b8† ♔c5 48.♞b5† ♔d4 49.♜xd6† ♔c3 50.♞xb3†! (50.♞e5†= is equally good) 50...♔xb3 51.♞a3†= would be another route to the draw (also 1 point). 47...♔c7 48.♞c8†! The simplest way. Another 1 point. 48...♔xc8 49.♞d7† ♔b8 50.♞a7†! 50.♞b7†?? ♜xb7+ 50...♔c8 51.♞d7† ♔xd7 stalemate.

2. Bu Xiangzhi – Zhou Jianchao, Tianjin 2011

66...♔f1†! 1 point. The black king is in a stalemate position. Black only has to give up all his pieces and then it will be a draw. 67.♔xf1 67.♔f4 ♞f2† 68.♔e4 ♔xe3 69.♔xe3 ♞xf5= 67...♞g2†! 68.♔f4 ♞f2† And we have the ‘desperado rook’. Another 1 point. 69.♔e4 ♞e2† 70.♔d4 ♞d2† 71.♔e5 ♞d5† 72.♔e4 ♞e5† 73.♔d3 ♞e3† 74.♔c4 ♞c3† 75.♔b4 ♞b3† 76.♔a5 ♞b5† 77.♔a4 ♞a5† 78.♔b3 ♞a3† 79.♔c4 ♞c3† 80.♔d5 ♞c5† 81.♔d4 ♞d5† 82.♔e4 ♞e5† 83.♔d3 ♞e3† 84.♔d4 ♞d3† 85.♔xd3 stalemate.

3. R. Felgaer – V. Malakhov, Khanty-Mansiysk 2011

The black rook is moving in desperado fashion, but there is a way to destroy the stalemate defence. 1.♞h7?? Just not this way, because of 1...♞d7† 2.♔xd7 stalemate. 1 point for seeing this variation.

1.♞e7! ♞d7† 2.♔b6 leads to victory. Another 1 point. 2...♞xe7 (2...♞b7† 3.axb7#) 3.♔xe7+ and the black king can move!

4. E. Vorobiov – R. Mamedov, Khanty-Mansiysk 2011

1.h3! 1 point. White forces the draw in this way. Either the final pawn is swapped off, or... 1...g3 2.♞xg3! ♔xg3 stalemate. Another 1 point.

5. V. Cmilyte – K. Lahno, Wijk aan Zee 2012

1...♞xe3†! 1 point. White probably overlooked this stalemate idea. 2.♔xe3 ♞d3† 3.♔e2 ♞d2†! 3...♞e3†?? 4.♔d2 ♞d3† 5.♔c2 ♞c3† 6.♔b2 ♞c2† 7.♔a3+ 4.♔e1 ♞d1†! 4...♞e2†?? 5.♔d1 ♞d2† 6.♔c1 ♞c2† 7.♔b1 ♞b2† 8.♔a1 ♞b1† 9.♔a2 ♞a1† 10.♔b2 ♞b1† 11.♔a3 ♞a1† 12.♞a2+ 5.♔f2 ♞d2† 6.♔g3 ♞d3† 7.♔h4 ♞h3†! 8.♔xh3 stalemate. Another 1 point.

6. D. Navara – R. Buhmann, Belfort 2012

48.♔b5 White constructs a stalemate fortress. 48...♞e3 49.a4 ♔d7 Or 49...♔d5 50.c6 ♔d6 51.a5, and White will draw as in the game. 50.a5 ♔c7 51.c6 ♞f2 52.♔a6! 2 points for finding this idea. The c6-pawn may not be taken on account of stalemate, but otherwise Black cannot improve his position. The white king simply goes back and forth between the a6- and b5-squares. 52...♔xc6 stalemate.

