

### IQP THEMES: THE ROOK LIFT!

The reason White has better attacking chances in Isolated Queen's Pawn (IQP) structures is because of their space advantage.

The rooks dominate half-open central files, and also often enter the game on the flank via impressive rook lifts!

In our **example**, White shows the power of the earlier Ra1-a3 rook lift along with the “lateral mobility” of the open third rank, uncorking the brilliant **23. Qg6!!** when White threatens to take on h7 with mate. After **23. ... Qc2**, the captures lose: **23. ... fxg6** **24. Nxg6+ hxg6** **25. Rh3** mate; or **23. ... hxg6** **24. Rh3** mate.

**24. Rh3** and **Black resigned** in Rossolimo – Reissmann, 1967.



**# 1. WHITE TO PLAY**

**# 2. WHITE TO PLAY**

**# 3. WHITE TO PLAY**

**# 4. WHITE TO PLAY**

**# 5. WHITE TO PLAY**

**# 6. WHITE TO PLAY**

### SOLUTIONS

**1)** With the rook already on g3, White has more than enough pieces in the attack to justify a queen sac: **20. Qxf7! Rxf7** **21. Nxf7+ Kh7** **22. Nf6+ Ngxf6** **23. Bd3+** with mate next move. (Karimi – Mager, Germany, 2015) **2)** White missed the winning **23. Rxc6+!** Instead, **23. Qf4?** was played, though White still won. **23. ... Kh8** Or **23. ... hxg6** **24. Qxc6+ Kh8** **25. Qh6+ Kg8** **26. Rg3+ Bg5** **27. Rxc6** mate. **24. Be6! fxe6** **25. Rg7!** and

**Rg7xh7+** with **Rd3-h3+** to follow. (Nickoloff – Hebert, Toronto, 1990, analysis) **3)** White is justified in sacrificing a second piece because the threat of **Rd1-d3** guarantees he retains enough attackers. **17. Bxc7 Kxc7** **18. Qg5+ Kh8** **19. Qh6+ Kg8** **20. Ng5 Bd6** **21. Bh7+ Kh8** **22. Bf5+ Kg8** **23. Rd3!** and **Black resigned** shortly. (Ryan – Randazzo Barcelona, 2008) **4)** The changing of the ranks! **27. Re5! Qxh4** **28. Bxc6! fxc6** **29. Rxe6 Rf8** **30. Rxc6+ Kh7** **31. Re6! Rxf3** **32.**

**Qxf3 Rg8** **33. Qf7+ Rg7** Or **33. ... Kh8** **34. Re7** wins. **34. Qf5+ Kh8** **35. Re8+ Rg8** **36. Qe5+ Kh7** **37. Re7+** winning. (Giorgadze – Makarichev, Vilnius, 1980) **5)** The strongest of many good rook moves was: **8. Rf3 Re6** **9. gxf7+** and **Black resigned**. (Kuzmin – Smyslov, Sotschi, 1970, fragment) **6)** White won with: **26. Nf6+** Or **26. Qf6** was faster: **26. ... Kxh7** **27. Rh3+ Kg8** **28. Qh8** mate. **26. ... Bxf6** **27. Qxf6 Kxh7** **28. Rh3+** and **Black resigned**. (Nickoloff – Hebert, Toronto, 1990)