

FIDE WORLD CADET CUP, PT. 1

Today's exercises begin a series on the **FIDE World Cadet Cup**, featuring games from players ages 12 and under from Batumi, Georgia. Our **example** illustrates the importance of the forcing move. Black was too slow with the attack, opting for **31....Qh5?** when 32. Qd2! covers both the e1- and f2-squares. Black won later in Sugraliyev – Ayyappan, but Black could have won now with **31...Re1+! 32. Kg2 Qh5** when it's now about the h1- and h2-squares instead of the f2-square. Forcing moves can change the entry points of attack, and, here, they went from being squares that

White's queen could reach to ones that she couldn't.





SOLUTIONS

1) 41. f3+ Forcing mate. Not 41. h3+ when the e4-square is not covered. 41. ... Kf5 42. Rf7 mate. (Vellanki – Vardanyan, Batumi, 2025) 2) 8. ... Qa5+ An instructive theme after e2-e3 is played and there is no Bg5-d2. 9. Kd1 Qxg5 Winning a piece. (Qubaneishvili – Bayefa, Batumi, 2025) 3) 36. ... Qxg5! Refuting White's attack. 37. Qxg5 Nf3+ 38. Kg2 Nxg5 With a decisive material advantage. (Qubaneishvili

- Manchanda, Batumi, 2025) 4) 27. Qh8+ Returning the e7-square to Black's king, but for good reason. 27. ... Ke7 28. f6+ Busting open the f-file! 28. ... gxf6 29. Qxf6+ Kf8 Or 29. ... Ke8 30. Bxf7+ is no better. 30. Qh8+ Ke7 31. Rxf7 mate (Paragiri – Pinskiy, Batumi, 2025) 5) 44. Rh8+ A clever forcing sequence with two mating patterns worth knowing. White played 44. Rd5? and went on to win. 44. ... Kxh8 45. Qh6+ Kg8 Or 45. ... Rh7 46. Qf8 mate. 46. Rd8+

Kf7 47. Qe6 mate. (Ling – Gusev, Batumi, 2025) 6) 34. Rxe7 White plays pin-and-win. 34. ... Rxe7 35. Rc7 White should avoid 35. Bxe7+ when Black has two pawns for the Exchange. 35. ... Ng8 Black likely stopped evaluating here. 36. Rc8+! Giving up the pressure on the pinned rook is counterintuitive, but you must always look for checks! 36. ... Nd8 37. Rxd8+ Winning the Exchange next, leaving White rook-up. (Wang – Doemer, Batumi, 2025)

