

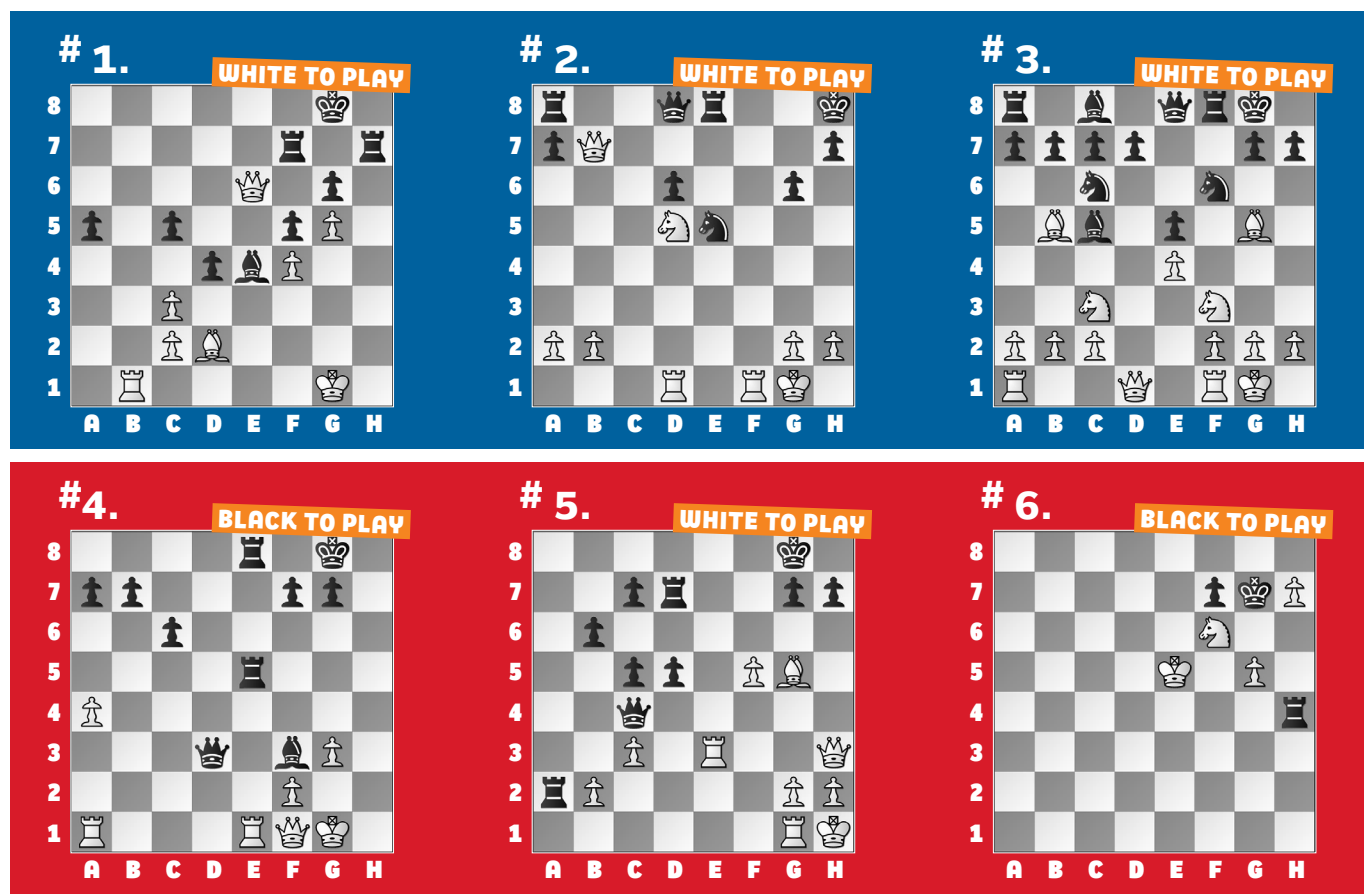
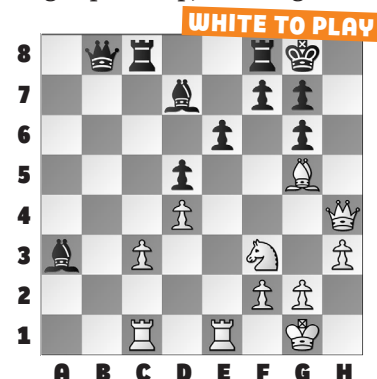
WORLD CADETS CHAMPS, PT. 3

This week's exercises complete our series on the **FIDE World Cadets Cup** from last month. Enjoy a final flurry of mating nets, removals of

the guard, and clever maneuvering subtleties, such as the one below.

In our **example**, White missed an impressive changing of the guard with **28. Bf4!** preparing Nf3-g5 with tempo on Black's queen! White was too literal, responding to the threat Black made rather than reading the whole board, playing 28. Rc2? instead, winning later in Yan – Gvasalia. Now, Black's only playable defense still loses a piece, as **28. ... Be7** neutralizes Nf3-g5, but allows

29. Qxe7 Qxf4 30. Qxd7 when White emerges piece-up, winning.



SOLUTIONS

1) 50. Rb8+ The forced mate is better than the free pawn! **50. ... Kg7 51. Qe5+** and Black resigned in light of **51. ... Rf6 52. Qxf6** mate (Guntaka – Ong, Batumi, 2025) **2) 28. Nc7** The simple fork works, albeit for not-so-simple reasons. Instead, with 28. Rc1?? Black had time to break the fork. **28. ... Rb8** White probably saw this *intermezzo* and stopped here, as 28. ... Re7 29. Qxa8 wins easily. **29. Nxe8!** But the

queen need not be saved, as **29. ... Rxb7 30. Rf8** mates. (Yang – Li, Batumi, 2025, analysis) **3) 9. Bxf6** Removing the guard of the d5-square. **9. ... Rxf6 10. Qd5+** Now the loose bishop drops off. (Bijesh – Liang, Batumi, 2025) **4) 38. ... Qh7** The fastest path to the mating square, and only Qf1-g2 stops mate. Black's choice was slower: 38. ... Qf5? 39. Rxe5 Qxe5 when Black is still winning, and White missed 40. Ra3 to avoid mate. (Yan – Belanova,

Batumi, 2025, analysis) **5) 38. Re8+** A forced mate with a subtle *intermezzo*. White took a slower route with 38. Qh5 and still won later. **38. ... Kf7 39. Qxh7!** The key point, as even **39. ... Kxe8 40. Qg8** is mate (Zhu – Yang, Batumi, 2025, analysis) **6) 68. ... Kg6!** White wins a key pawn. After, e.g., 68. ... Rh1 69. Kf4 (not 69. Kf5?? Rh4! returning to the game) 69. ... Rh4+ 70. Kg3 Ra4 71. Kf3, Black couldn't make progress. (Tsulaia – Wang, Batumi, 2025)