

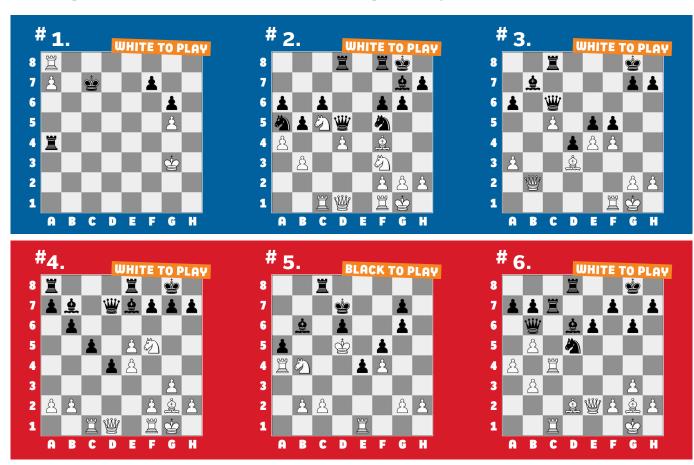
WORLD CADET CHAMPS, PT. 2

This week continues our series on the FIDE World Cadets Chess Championships. Our **example** features a position where White must evaluate multiple captures. In the game, she chose **25. exd5!?** and Black complied with **25. ... cxd5?? 26. cxd6 Qxd6 27. Rb6,** winning the g-pawn in Atassi – Radushinskaya.

Instead, 25. ... Qe4+! buys a crucial tempo. To win back the piece, White must play 26. f3 when now 26. ... Qxd5 27. Qxd5+ cxd5 28. cxd6 Rad8 29. d7 Rf7 reaches an equal position. Rather than risk running into such a sharp sequence, White could have simplified things

with 25. cxd6, when Black is just worse. Sometimes simple is best!





SOLUTIONS

1) An important technique, getting out from in front of the pawn with tempo. This isn't the simplest puzzle, but it's the most instructive.

58. Rf8 Note: 58. Re8 also wins. 58. ... Ra3+ If 58. ... Rxa7 59. Rxf7+ Kb8 60. Rxa7 Kxa7 61. Kf4 wins. 59. Kf4 Ra4+ 60. Ke5 Ra5+ 61. Kf6 Ra6+ 62. Kg7! and Black resigned. (Chen – Kim, Almaty, 2025) 2) 21. Bc7 A simple skewer! (Wang – Kaburo, Almaty, 2025) 3) 25. Bc4+ Preparing

the double-attack with tempo. **25.** ... **Kh8 26. Bd5** The b7-bishop falls. (Yang – Xu, Almaty, 2025) **4) 18. Qg4** Another famous motif! **18.** ... **Bf8** Black can stop mate, but the loose queen drops after... **19. Nh6+** and **Black resigned**. (Wang – Huttova, Almaty, 2025) **5) 29.** ... **Rc5+** Forcing White's king into the bishop's scope. After 29. ... axb4 30. Rxb4 Rc5+ 31. Kd4, Black had nothing better than regaining the Exchange with 31. ... Ba5 and after

32. c3 Bxb4 33. cxb4 Rb5 34. Kc4, White held on for a draw. **30. Kd4 Rxc2+** It's only a pawn, but White must walk back into the discovery! **31. Kd5 Rc5+ 32. Kd4 Rc1+** Now it's a rook! (Yilanli – Yang, Almaty, 2025, analysis) **6) 27. Bxd5** Beware tactics beginning with equal trades. **27. ... exd5 28. Rxc7 Bxc7 29. a5** Black's loose bishop comes into focus. **29. ... Qd6** Nothing else can defend it! **30. Bf4** The bishop drops! (Schaefer – Bondarev, Almaty, 2025)

