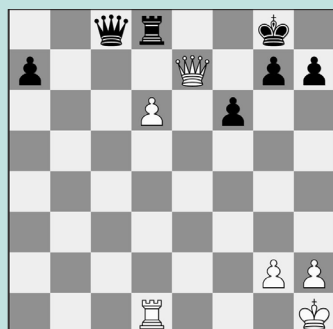


FIDE WORLD CADET CHAMPS, PT. 2

WEDNESDAY WORKOUT ■ OCTOBER 15, 2025

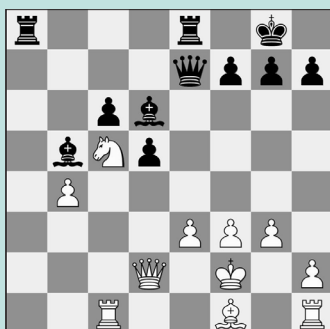
BY JJ LANG

PUZZLE 1.



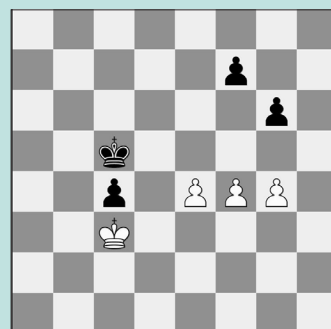
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 2.



BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 3.



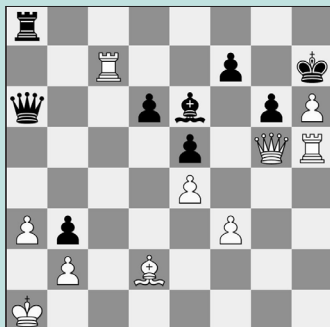
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 4.



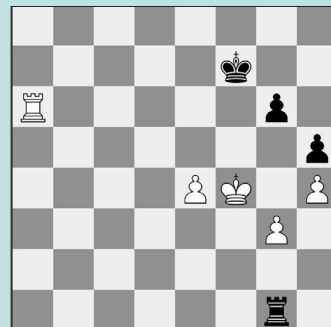
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 5.



BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 6.



BLACK TO MOVE

SOLUTIONS

PUZZLE 1. 31. d7! Qb8 32. Re1! Changing the key square from d8 to e8, and Black has no defense. (Chen – Sadvokassova, Almaty, 2025) **PUZZLE 2. 23. ... Qxe3+!** A surprising knockout. **24. Qxe3 Ra2+** White's position is hopeless after, e.g., **25. Kg1 Rxe3** when the active rooks and loose f3-pawn spell doom for White. (Kotsyuba – Shanguin, Almaty, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 3. 55. g5** One fixing two! After **55. f5?? gxf5 56. gxf5 f6** White tried **57. e5 fxe5 58. f6 Kd6** but **59. Kxc4 Ke6** cemented the draw. **55. ... Kb5** Black's most resilient reply. **56. e5** Or **56. f5 Kc5 57. e5** transposes, while **57. f6** is a second winning strategy. **56. ... Kc5 57. f5!** The avalanche! **57. ... Kd5**

Or **57. ... gxf5 58. e6!** (not **58. g6?? fxc6 59. e6 Kd6** when Black wins) **58. ... fxe6 59. g6** winning. **58. e6** Black can resign. (Wang – Dimassi, Almaty, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 4. 24. Ne6!!** A spectacular temporary sac. After **24. Rh3 Ne5** Black equalized and later won. **24. ... Rxe6** If **24. ... fxe6** then **25. Rh6** wins, capturing on g6 next with the rook. **25. dxe6 gxh5 26. Rxc4** Now, White is not even behind materially, while Black's kingside has been ripped apart. Play could continue **26. ... Qe7 27. exf7+ Qxf7 28. Rf4** with a serious initiative. (Dronov – Mulay, Almaty, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 5. 37. ... Qb6** Threats of ... **Ra8xa3+** and ... **b3-b2+** make Black better. **38. Bb4!** Most resilient. Else, Black regains the rook and keeps attacking chances.

Note: **38. Rc1?? Rxa3+** **39. bxa3** (or **39. Kb1 Ra1+** **40. Kxa1 Qa6+** **41. Kb1 Qa2** mate) **39. ... b2+** **40. Kb1** loses to **40. ... Qb3!**, whereas the immediate capture on c1 would let White off. **38. ... Qxb4!** Black still threatens ... **Ra8xa3+** and ... **Qb4-d4** to reinforce it, and **38. ... Qxc7?** is worse, since now the a3-pawn is defended. (Zhu – Vyas, Almaty, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 6. 72. ... Kg7!!** A rare case where passive defense is the only defense! Black lost after **72. ... Re1?? 73. Ke5!** but **73. Kg5! Rxe4 74. Rf6+** was simplest, winning the g- and h-pawns with tempo. **73. Ra7+ Kh6!** Not **73. ... Kf6??** when **74. e5+ Ke6 75. Ra3!** is lights out, since **75. ... Kf7 76. Kg5 Kg7 77. e6** wins. **74. e5** Or **74. Kf3** is met by **74. ... Rf1+**. **74. ... Re1** (Yang – Chen, Almaty, 2025, analysis)