

FIDE WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

WEDNESDAY WORKOUT ■ OCTOBER 22, 2025

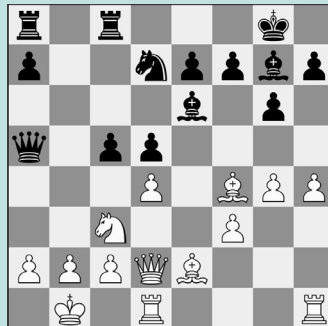
BY JJ LANG

PUZZLE 1.



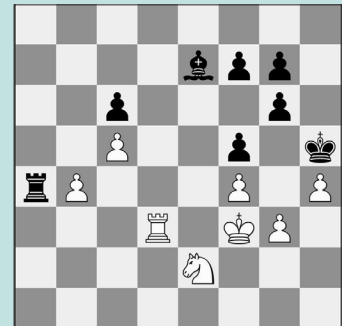
BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 2.



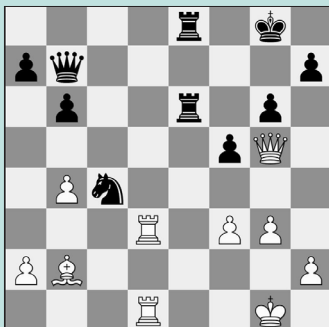
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 3.



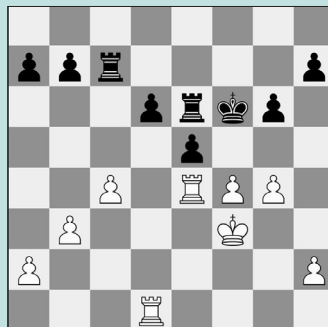
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 4.



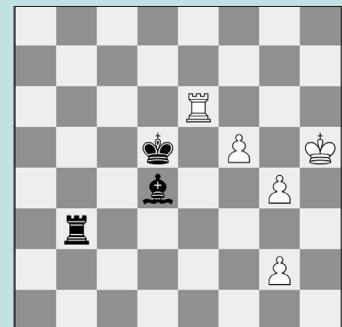
WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 5.



WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 6.



WHITE TO MOVE

SOLUTIONS

PUZZLE 1. 20. ... Nd2 The right execution of the distraction tactic, winning at least an Exchange. Instead, **20. ... Ng5?** **21. h3** held things together. (Field – Enkhrii, Durres, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 2. 16. Nxd5** A twist on an old classic. **16. ... Qxd2??** Best was **16. ... Qd8** when Black is equal. **17. Nxe7+ Kf8** Ordinarily, this tactic fails after the f8-rook moves, for this reason. **18. Rxd2 Kxe7 19. d5** Here's what Black overlooked! White regains her piece with interest. (Beber – Sinkar, Durres, 2025) **PUZZLE 3. 40. Nd4! Ra6** Or **40. ... Rxb4 41. Nxc6 Rb7 42. Nxe7 Rxe7 43. Rd8** forced mate. **41. Re3 Bf6 42. Nxc6!** and **Black resigned**, as taking the knight allows Re3-e8 with mate

along the h-file to follow. (Chen – Deuer, Durres, 2025)

PUZZLE 4. 33. Qh4 White threatens Rd3-d7 with mate to follow on h7. Play continued **33. Bc3 Ne5 34. Bxe5 Rxe5 35. Qf4 Qf7 36. R1d2 Re1+** with a draw. **33. ... Qc6** Defending the c4-knight. **34. Rd7 h5** Nothing else stops mate. **35. Rg7+ Kf8 36. Qf4!** Else, White's attack would stall. But there's no way to prevent Qf4-h6. (Willy – Omonov, Durres, 2025, analysis) **PUZZLE 5. 35. Rxd6!** Reaching a winning rook-and-pawn endgame. Instead, after **35. Rd5 exf4 36. Rxf4+ Ke7 37. h4 Rc5 38. Rxc5** a draw was agreed. **35. ... Rxd6 36. fxe5+ Ke6 37. exd6+ Kxd6 38. Kf4!** Provoking another weakness with ... h7-h6, after which either Re4-d4+-d8 or Re4-e8 promise win-

ning chances. (Diaskyzy – Sinkar, Durres, 2025, analysis)

PUZZLE 6. 70. Re8 The cleanest win. Beginning with **70. g5** is also good, but the game's **70. Ra6?** allowed **70. ... Rg3 71. f6 Rxd2 72. f7 Bc5 73. g5 Be7** when even **74. Rf6 Bxf6 75. f8=Q Rxd5+** was drawn. **70. ... Rg3 71. g5** The first key move, using the g-pawn, rather than the rook, to advance the f-pawn. **71. ... Rxd2 72. f6 Rf2 73. Kg6** Shelter in front of the g-pawn! **73. ... Bc5 74. Kg7 Bb4** There is more than one way to win from here, but they all involve some subtleties, e.g.: **75. Rb8!** If **75. f7?! Rg2 76. g6 Bc3+** White now must be careful, as **77. Kh7?? Rh2+ 78. Kg8 Rh8** mate. **75. ... Bd2 76. Kf7 Bc3 77. Kg6! Bd2 78. Rb2!** Winning. (Das – Gibala, Durres, 2025, analysis)