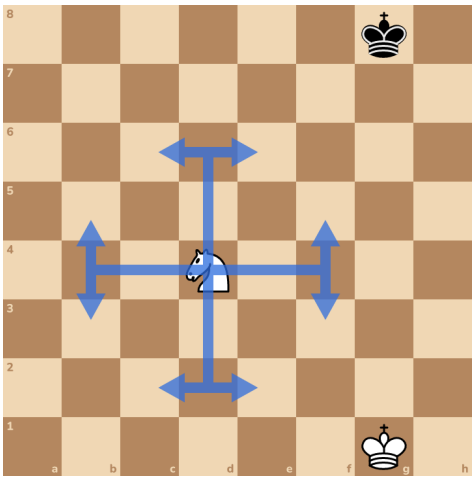
My Chess Family

The knight fork

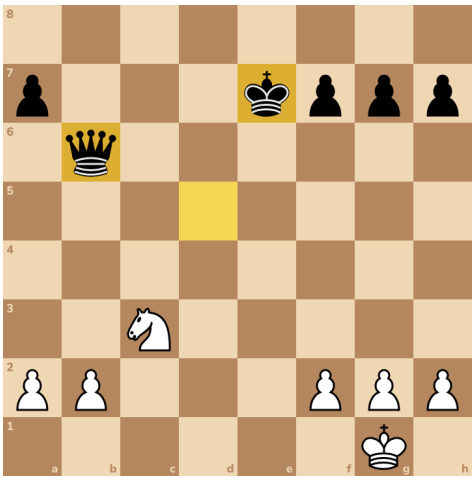
Try each question on a real board, then check the answers at the end of the sheet.

Knight forks

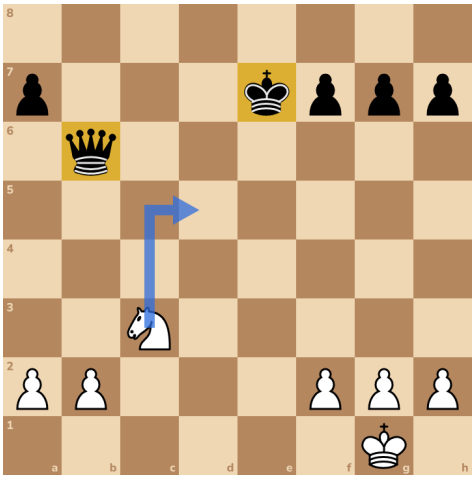
Knights are the best at forks. A knight can jump to eight squares, and nothing can block its jump.



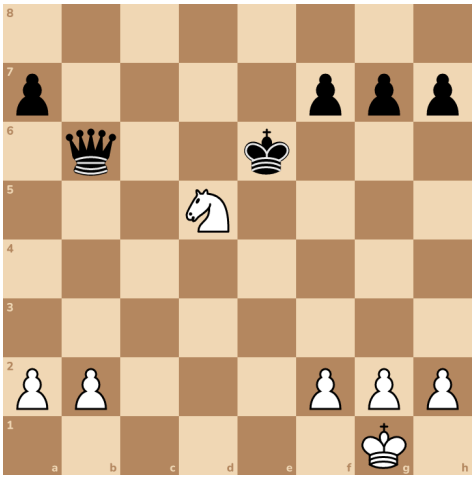
Here's a new position. Black's king is on e7 and the queen is on b6. A knight on d5 would attack both.



Try it 1. Jump your knight to d5. It checks the king and attacks the queen!

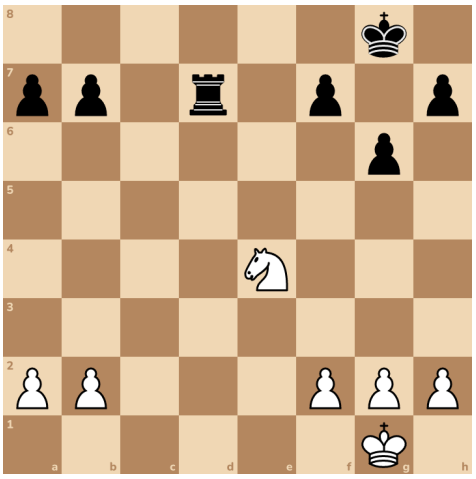


Try it 2. The king had to move first, so the queen is still there. Take her!

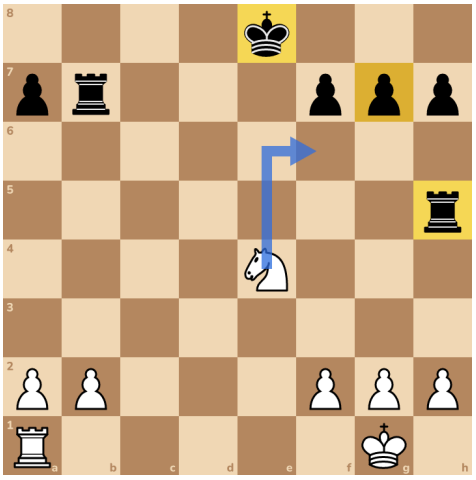


A fork on the king and the queen wins the queen. The king must get out of check first, so Black has no time to save the queen.

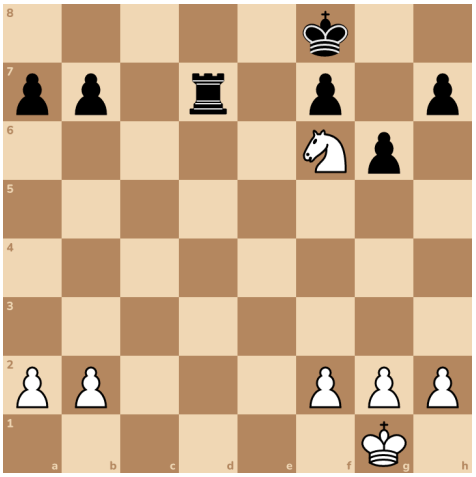
Try it 3. Here's a new position. Find a knight fork on the king and the rook!



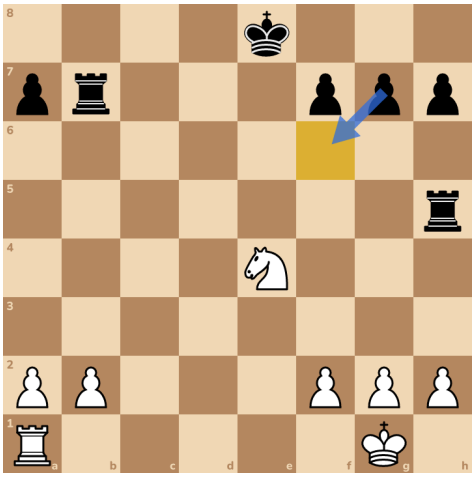
Here's a new position. Nf6 would check the king and attack the rook on h5. But look at the pawn on g7.



Try it 4. Now take the rook!

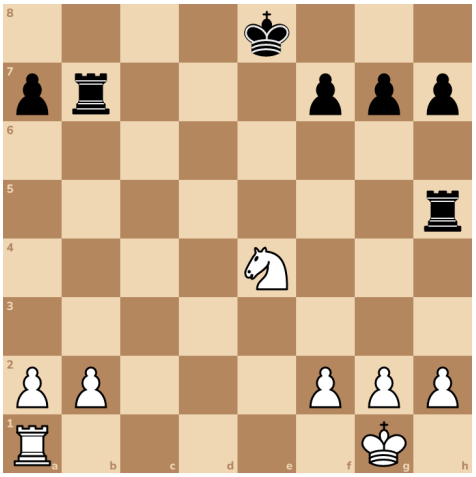


The pawn guards f6. It would just take your knight, and that stops the check too.

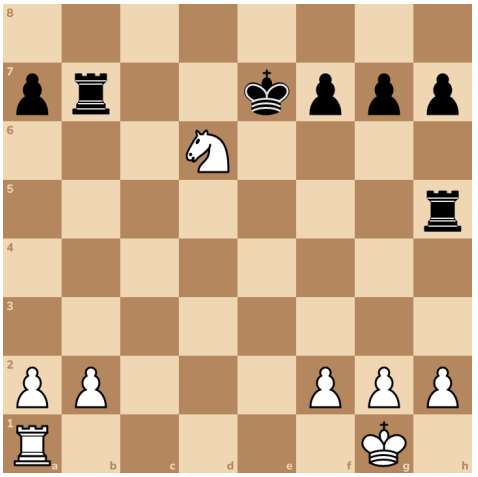


So check that nothing guards your fork square. Is there a safe one here?

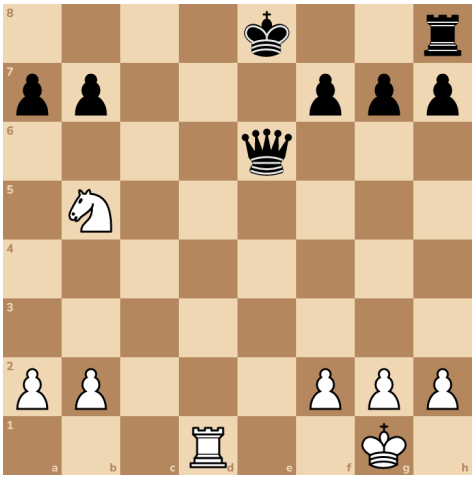
Try it 5. Find the safe knight fork!



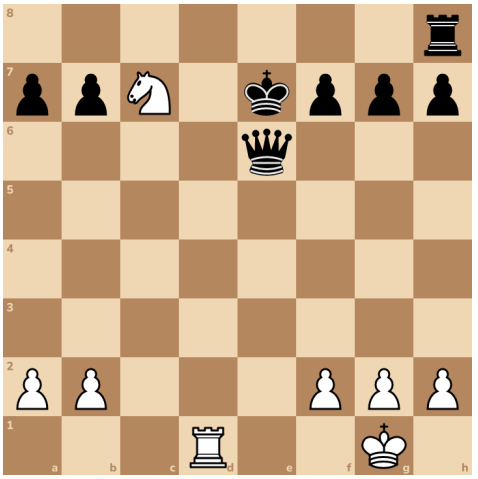
Try it 6. Take the rook!



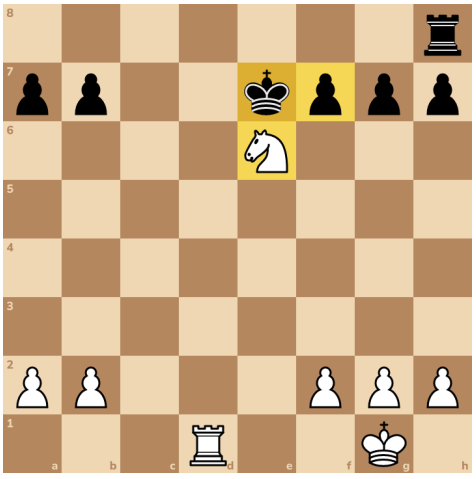
Try it 7. Here's a new position. Find the knight fork!



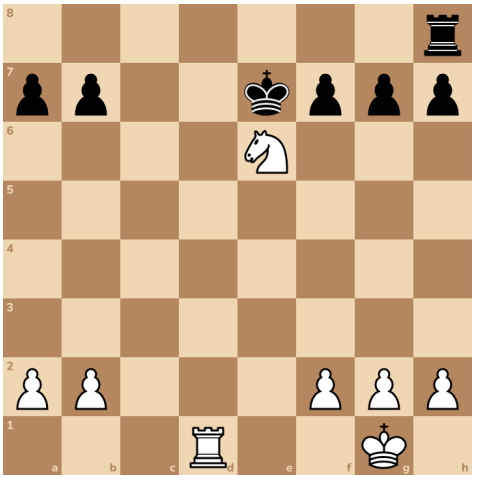
Try it 8. Take the queen!



Black's king or the f7 pawn can take your knight back. A knight for a queen is still a great swap!

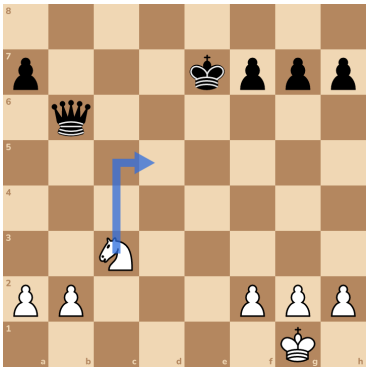


Brilliant! Look for two big pieces a knight's jump from one safe square.

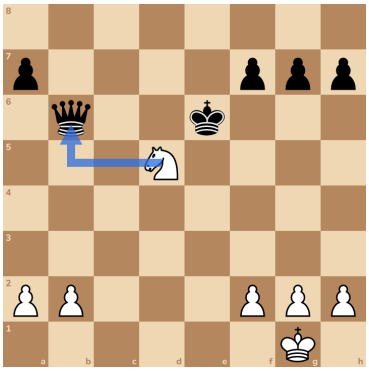


Answers

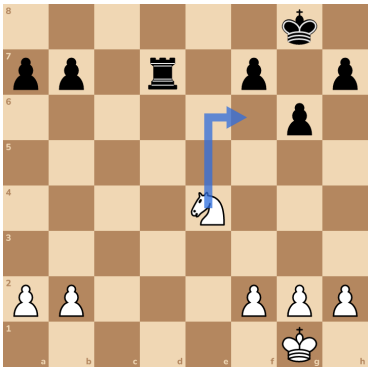
1. Nd5+



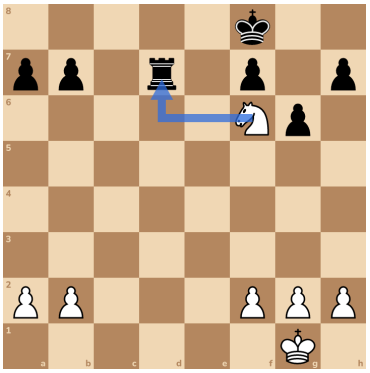
2. Nxb6



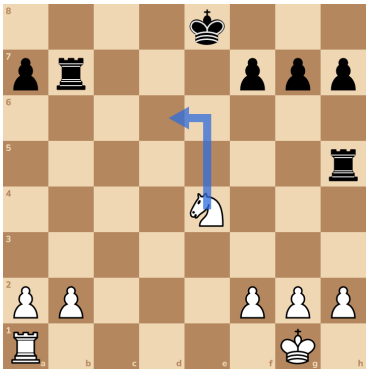
3. Nf6+



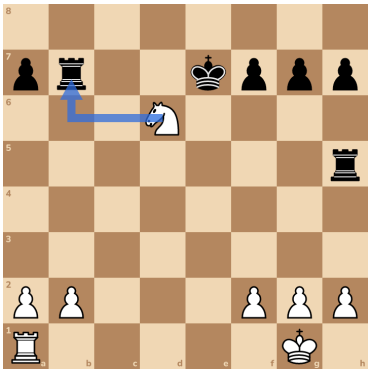
4. Nxd7+



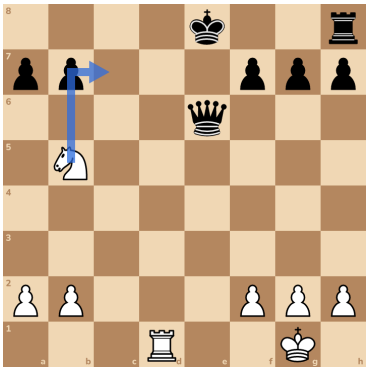
5. Nd6+



6. Nxb7



7. Nc7+



8. Nxe6

