



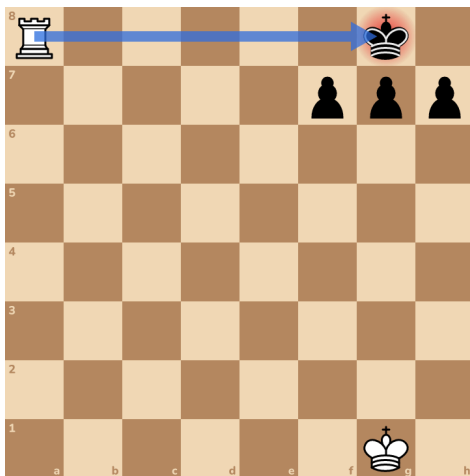
What is checkmate?

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

Checkmate wins

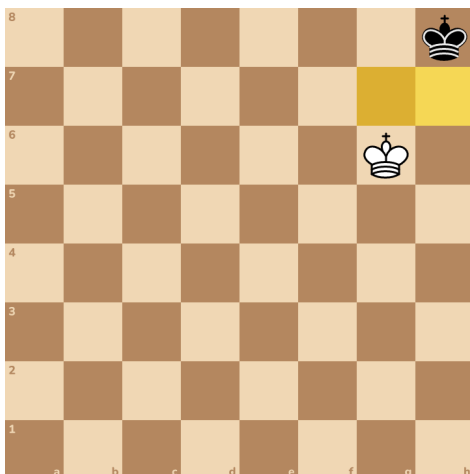
Check means the king is attacked. Checkmate means he can't escape. Checkmate wins the game!

The black king is in check. He can't step away, nothing can block, and nothing can catch the rook. Checkmate!

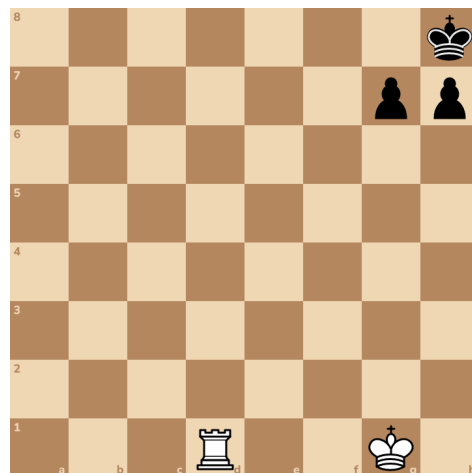


Checkmate! The king was trapped by his own pawns.

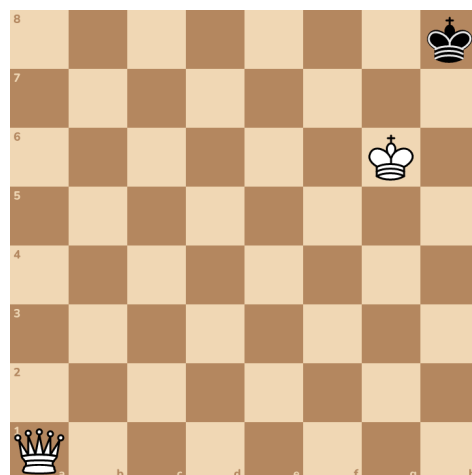
New position. One more rule. Kings can never stand next to each other. So the black king can't step to g7 or h7.



Try it 1. Here's a new position. Your turn!
Give checkmate with your rook.



Try it 2. Now give checkmate with the queen. Your king can help her.



Checkmate! Remember, check is an attack.
Checkmate is an attack with no escape.

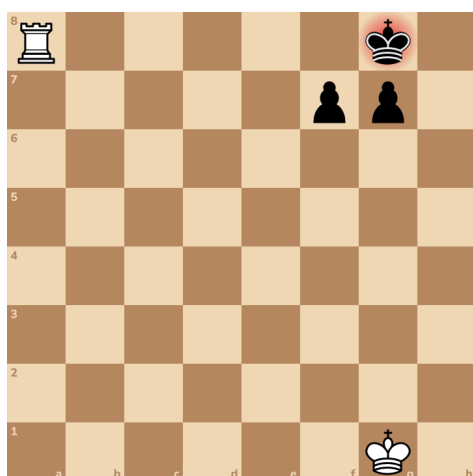
Checkmate or not?

Is it checkmate? Ask three questions. Can the king step away? Can something block? Can something capture?

In every puzzle here it's Black's move, and the black king is in check.

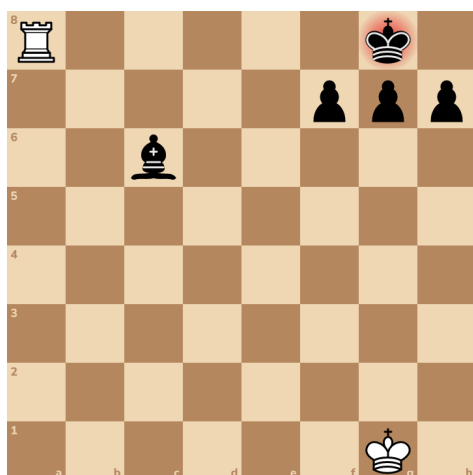
Try it 3. Black to move. Is this checkmate?

A: Yes B: No



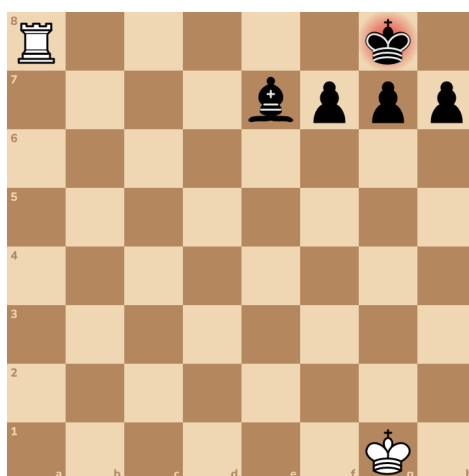
Try it 5. New position. Black to move. Is this checkmate?

A: Yes B: No



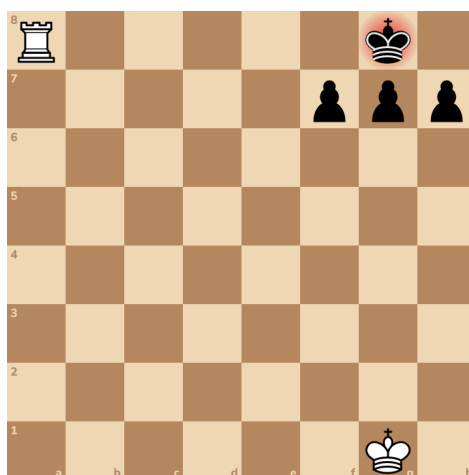
Try it 4. Another position. Black to move.
Is this checkmate?

A: Yes B: No



Try it 6. Here's another one. Black to move. Is this checkmate?

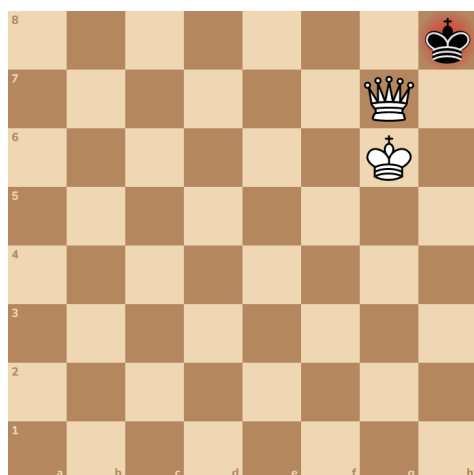
A: Yes B: No



Try it 7. One more position. Black to move.
Is this checkmate?

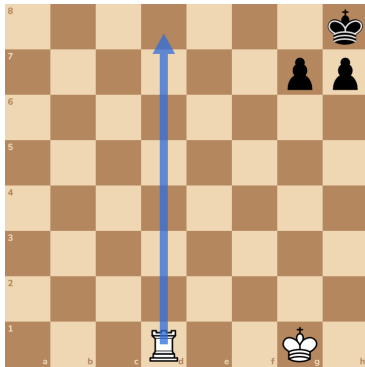
A: Yes B: No

Great! Ask the three questions every time.

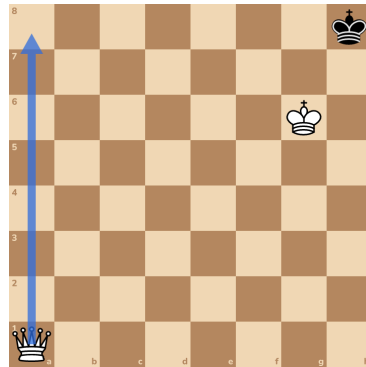


Answers

1. Rd8#

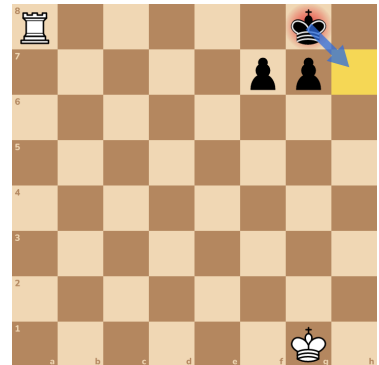


2. Qa8# or Qg7#



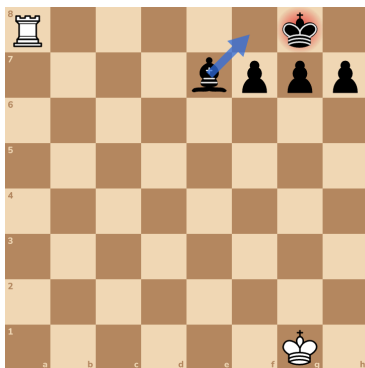
3. B: No

Not checkmate. The king can step away to h7, and he's safe there.



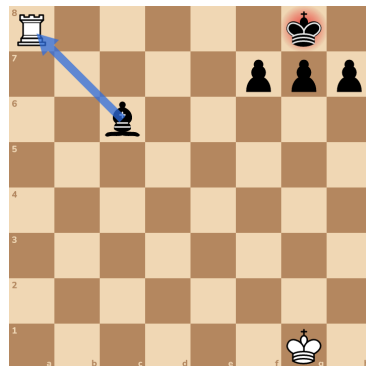
4. B: No

Not checkmate. The bishop can block on f8. If the rook captures it, the king captures the rook!



5. B: No

Not checkmate. The bishop can capture the rook, and then there's no check at all.



6. A: Yes

Checkmate! The king can't step away, nothing can block, and nothing can capture the rook.

7. A: Yes

Checkmate! The black king can't capture the queen, because then he'd be next to the white king.