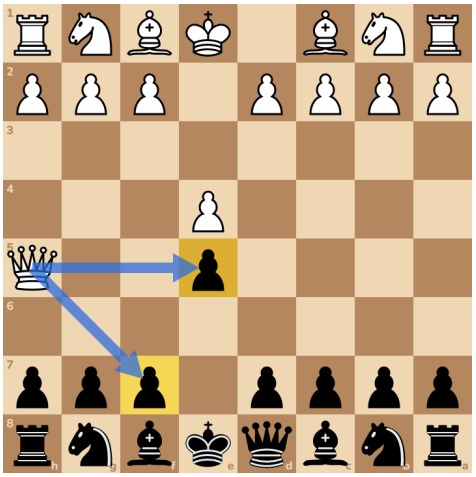
My Chess Family

Why not bring your queen out early?

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

Not the queen yet

You're Black now. Here White brought the queen out early. An early queen can be chased, and the side chasing her brings out pieces at the same time.



Watch out! The queen and bishop both attack the pawn on f7. Only your king guards it.



Try it 1. The queen attacks your e5 pawn. Develop a knight that guards it.



Here's what happens if Black misses it and plays Nf6. The queen takes on f7, and the bishop guards her. Checkmate! This is called Scholar's mate.



Try it 2. Back to the game. Stop Scholar's mate! Guard f7, or block the queen's path to it.



Safe! Look out for Scholar's mate in your games. And keep your own queen at home until your other pieces are out.

Try it 3. Here's a new position. White's queen is out early, on d4. Chase her away! Bring out the knight that attacks the queen.



The queen has to move again, and your knight is out. That's why an early queen loses time.

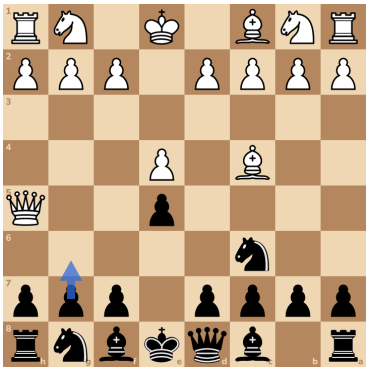


Answers

1. Nc6



2. g6 or Qe7 or Qf6 or Nh6



3. Nc6

