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Pay Attention to your Opponent's Resources Part Three

The final part of the series consists of two tests on the given theme: the first one is a little simpler, and the second one is more complicated.

Test One

1. Forintos - Vukic Zemun, 1980



[FEN "r5k1/1p3p2/2bq2pb/p1Rp1n1p/P5n1 1P2PBP1/3B2QP/3NR2K w - - 0 34"]

1.?

2. Wedberg – Kozul Olympiad, Novi Sad, 1990



[FEN"2r2rk1/1q2bppp/pB2p3/n3P1P1/ Np3P2/1p6/P1P1Q2P/1K1R3R w - - 0 23"]

1.?

3. E. Pogosyants

1977 (fragment from a study)

CARRY KASPAROV ON MODERN CHESS PART FOUR

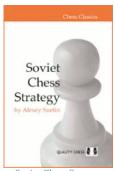
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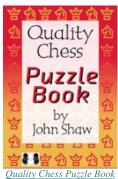
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Garry Kasparov on Modern Chess, Part 4

by Garry Kasparov



Soviet Chess Strategy by Alexei Suetin



by John Shaw





[FEN"8/4P3/6r1/4n3/2B5/5K2/3N4/6k1 w - - 0 4"]

1.?

4. Dolmatov - Podgaets

Soviet Championship, Kharkov, 1985 (variation from the game)



[FEN"6k1/pb3ppp/1p2nq2/2r5/1Q1p4/P1nBPN2/2R2PPP/5RK1 w - - 0 22"]

1.?

5. G. Kasparyan

1963 (fragment from a study)



[FEN"8/k7/B3K3/1P6/3p4/5b2/8/8 w - - 0 4"]

1.?

6. Smyslov – Botvinnik

World Championship match (20), Moscow, 1957



[FEN"8/p2r2pp/2nBk3/1Rp5/2Pp4/ P2P3P/5KP1/8 w - - 0 33"]

1.?

Test Two

7. Kasimdzhanov – Stellwagen

Bundesliga, Solingen, 2008



[FEN"5r1k/4qpp1/p3pn1p/1bN5/8/ 3BP3/1P1Q1PPP/2R3K1 w - - 0 26"]

1.? Evaluate 26.Nxa6.

8. Petrosian – Spassky

World Champioship match (10), Moscow, 1966



[FEN"r1bq1rk1/7p/p2p4/nppPn3/2P2P2/ 1P6/PQ1NB2P/R2N1RK1 b - - 0 20"]

1...?

9. Van der Wiel – Van der Sterren

Dutch Championship, 1986



[FEN"r6r/1pp1k2N/1b1pbp1R/8/ 1P2Pp1N/8/P4PP1/R3K3 b Q - 0 26"]

1...?

10. Suba – Morovic Olympiad, Dubai, 1986



[FEN"2r2rk1/1q3ppp/p4n2/BpP2N2/8/ 6P1/P1Q1PP1P/R5K1 b - - 0 27"]

1...?

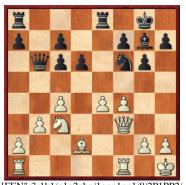
11. Glek – Averkin Minsk, 1983



[FEN"r2r2k1/1p3ppp/q4b2/p1P5/1P1pn3/ P2R2B1/2Q1NPPP/3R2K1 w - - 0 23"]

1.? Is 23.Nd4 possible?

12. Van der Sterren – Glek Germany, 1994



[FEN"r3r1k1/p1p2pbp/1qpp1np1/8/2P1PP2 1PN2Q2/P2B2PP/R4R1K b - - 0 17"]

1...?

Solutions

1. Forintos - Vukic

In reply to any rook retreat follows 34...Ne5! with an exchange of the important f3 bishop, after which the white king comes under a dangerous attack.

He should have returned the exchange **34.Rxd5! Bxd5 35.Bxd5**. For example, 35...Rd8 36.e4 Bxd2 37.Qxd2 Ne7 38.Nc3 with approximately equal chances.

In the game there was 34.Rc2? (34.Rxa5? Rxa5 35.Bxa5 Ne5 or 35...Ngxe3 are even worse) 34...Ne5 (34...Re8!?) 35.Nf2 Re8 36.Kg1 Re6 37.Rb2?! Nxf3 + 38.Qxf3 Nxe3-+ 39.Rc1 (39.Bxe3 d4) 39...Rf6 40.Qh1 h4 (40...Rxf2 41. Kxf2 Qf6+ is also possible) 41.Rxc6 bc 42.gh Qf4 43.Bxe3 (43...Qg4+! was threatened) 43...Qxe3 0-1

2. Wedberg - Kozul

Which pawn to take with on b3? The solution isn't based on positional considerations, but purely tactical ones.

23.ab? is a mistake in connection with a small combination: 23...Nc4! 24.bc Qc6=/+.



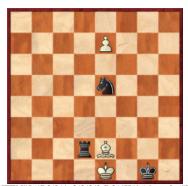
[FEN"2r2rk1/4bppp/pBq1p3/4P1P1/ NpP2P2/8/2P1Q2P/1K1R3R w - - 0 25"]

"Mistakes never come singly!" By continuing 25.Qd3 Qxa4 26.Qd7 Qc6 (of course, not 26...Rc6? 27.Rd3!, and Black's pieces are completely pinned down) 27.Qxc6 Rxc6 28.Rd7!, Tom Wedberg would probably have taken the ending that arose to a draw. In the game, though, there followed 25.Nb2? Qxb6 26.Rd7 (26.Rd3!? Rfd8-/+) 26...Bc5 27.Rhd1 (27.Qd3 Qc6 28.Rd1 a5) 27...b3! 28.cb Qxb3 with an overwhelming advantage for Black.

With **23.cb!** the combination 23...Nc4? 24.bc Qc6 didn't work because of 25. Qc2. On 23...Nc6 the reply 24.Qe4! was unpleasant. It would have been necessary to play 23...Bd8 24.Bc5!? Re8+/=.

3. E. Pogosyants

Clearly unsuitable are 1.Ke3? (the bishop will be captured with check), and 1. Ke4? Nxc4 2.e8Q? Nd6+. And 1.Ke2? looks tempting: as on 1...Rg2+ 2.Ke1 Rxd2! (threatening 3...Nf3#) there's the strong retort 3.Be2!



[FEN"8/4P3/8/4n3/8/8/3rB3/4K1k1 b - - 0 6"]

1...?

But that's just a false trail: Black finds a beautiful way to save himself 3... Rd5! 4.e8Q Nf3+! 5.Bxf3 Re5+! 6.Qxe5 stalemate.

You have to play **1.Kf4!**, without being put off by the fact that Black manages to destroy the passed pawn by means of **1...Re6! 2.Bxe6 Ng6+**. After **3.Kg3! Nxe7 4.Bh3!**, mate is unavoidable. By the way, 4.Nf3+ Kh1 5.Bh3 is less accurate because of 5...Nf5+! 6.Kf2 Ne3. Then again, according to an endgame database, White also wins here (mate in forty moves!).

4. Dolmatov - Podgaets

22.ed? loses because of 22...Qxf3!! (but not 22...Bxf3? 23.dc+-), and that means that 22.Nxd4! is forced. White shouldn't be disturbed by the blow 22... Bxg2!, for one thing because he doesn't have anything better anyway. He just has to accurately calculate the variations that arise.

23.Kxg2? Nxd4 is bad, and 23.Nxe6?! fe 24.Rfc1 Bh3 25.f4 allows Black to give perpetual check. On the other hand, **23.Rxc3** is very strong – here his opponent can't find sufficient counterplay and White's material superiority decides matters.



[FEN"6k1/p4ppp/1p2nq2/2r5/1Q1N4/P1RBP3/5PbP/5RK1 b - - 0 23"]

23...Qg5 24.f4+-

23...a5 24.Qxb6 Rxc3 25.Nxe6 fe 26.Qb8+ Kf7 27.Bb5!+-

23...Bh3!? 24.Rxc5 Nxc5 25.Kh1! Bxf1 (in the event of 25...Nxd3 the double attack 26.Qb5! is decisive; on 25...Qg5 it's possible to reply 26.Rg1 Qd5+ 27. f3 Nxd3 28.Qd2+/-, but it's better to eat the pawn first: 26.Bxh7+! Kxh7 27. Rg1+-) 26.Qb5! (a useful *zwischenzug* - 26.Bxf1 Qxf2 27.Qb5 Qxe3 is weaker) 26...g6 27.Bxf1 Qxf2 28.Qe8+ (28.Qe2+-) 28...Kg7 29.Qe5+ Kg8 30. Qf4+-

5. G. Kasparyan

How to stop the black pawn? The precise move order is essential. The move 1. Kd6? that suggests itself is refuted by means of 1...Bb7!

1.Bc8! d3 (1...Bg4+ 2.Ke5=) **2.Kd6! d2** (2...Kb6 3.Bf5 d2 4.Bc2 Kxb5 5. Ke5=)



[FEN"2B5/k7/3K4/1P6/8/5b2/3p4/8 w - - 0 6"]

1.?

3.Kc7! d1Q 4.b6+ Ka8 5.Bb7+! Bxb7 stalemate.

6. Smyslov – Botvinnik

Here it's important not to get greedy. In the event of 33.Bxc5? Black saves himself by pinning his opponent's bishop: 33...Rf7+ 34.Ke2 Rf5 (threatening 35...a6) 35.Bb4 Rxb5 36.cb Nxb4 37.ab Kf5(e5) =.

Vasily Smyslov chose **33.Bh2! Rf7+ 34.Ke2**, and 34...Rf5 35.g4 Rg5 36.Bf4 Rg6 37.Rxc5 is bad. From this variation it's clear why the bishop retreated specifically to h2, and not to g3.

The game ended as follows: 34...Re7 35.Rxc5 Kd7+ 36.Kd2 Re6 37.Rg5 g6 38.Rd5+ Kc8 39.Bg1 Rf6 40.Bxd4 Nxd4 41.Rxd4 Rf2+ 42.Kc3 1-0

7. Kasimdzhanov - Stellwagen

In the game 26.Bxb5= was played, and a draw was agreed.

Rustam Kasimdzhanov rejected the alluring attempt to win the a6-pawn, finding the following variation.

26.Nxa6? Rd8 (26...Qd6? 27.Qb4+/- is a mistake) **27.Qb4 Qxb4 28.Nxb4** Bxd3 29.Rd1



[FEN"3r3k/5pp1/4pn1p/8/1N6/3bP3/ 1P3PPP/3R2K1 b - - 0 29"]

1...?

29...Nd5!! (it's very easy to overlook this kind of move) 30.Rxd3 (30.Nxd3 Nb4-+) **30...Rc8!** (but not the apparently equivalent 30...Ra8? because of 31.

Ra3) 31.Na2 Nb4! 32.Rc3 Rd8-+.

Instead of 27.Qb4?! the move 27.Nc5 or 27.Nb4 was better, but here, too, the advantage remains on Black's side.

27.Nc5 Bxd3 28.Nxd3 Qd6 29.Rd1



[FEN"3r3k/5pp1/3qpn1p/8/8/3NP3 1P1Q1PPP/3R2K1 b - - 0 29"]

1...?

An attempt to win a pinned piece by means of 29...Ne4?! 30.Qc2 Nc5 doesn't achieve its aim: 31.Kf1! Nxd3 32.Ke2 (White in turn exploits the pin) 31... Qxh2 33.Rxd3 Rxd3 34.Qxd3 Qxg2 35.Qc4! and 36.b4 with a very likely draw. And if 29...Ng4 30.f4 Qb6, then 31.Re1 Qb5 32.Qe2=/+. Significantly stronger is 29...e5! 30.f3 (the only move) 30...e4 31.fe Ng4 32.g3 Ne5 33. Nxe5 Qxd2 34.Rxd2 Rxd2 35.Nxf7+ Kg8 36.Ne5 Rxb2, and Black retains excellent winning chances.

27.Nb4! (the best defense) 27...Qd6 (27...Bxd3? 28.Nc6)



[FEN"3r3k/5pp1/3qpn1p/1b6/1N6/3BP3/ 1P1Q1PPP/2R3K1 w - - 0 28"]

1.?

Again White, although losing the pinned piece, immediately wins it back by pinning the enemy bishop: 28.Qe1! (but not 28.Rd1? Ng4 29.f4 Nxe3 30. Qxe3 Qxb4-+) 28...Bxd3 29.Rd1 Ng4 30.f4 Qb6 31.Rxd3 Rxd3 32.Nxd3 Nxe3 33.Qf2=/+.

8. Petrosian - Spassky

He should have taken the f4-pawn immediately: **20...Rxf4!**. For example, 21. Rxf4 Qg5+ 22.Kh1 Qxf4 or 21.Ne3 Qg5+ 22.Kh1 Rxf1+. As subsequent analysis showed, the chances remained approximately equal.

Boris Spassky was lured by the *zwischenzug* 20...Bh3?, underestimating the positional exchange sacrifice his opponent had prepared.

21.Ne3! (21.Rf2? Rxf4) 21...Bxf1?

Consistent, but bad. Then again, in the variation 21...Rxf4 22.Rxf4 Qg5+ 23.

Rg4! Nxg4 24.Nxg4 Bxg4 25.Bxg4 Qxg4+ 26.Kh1 Qd4! 27.Rg1+ Kh8 28. Qxd4+ cd, White also retained the advantage.



[FEN"r6k/7p/p2p4/np1P4/2Pp4/ 1P6/P2N3P/6RK w - - 0 29"]

1.?

As Kasparov pointed out, the move 29.Rg4 recommended by Boleslavsky allows Black to save himself by means of 29...bc 30.bc Re8! 31.Rxd4 Re1+ 32.Kg2 Rd1! 33.Kf3 Nxc4 34.Rxc4 Rxd2. Significantly stronger, according to Kasparov, is 29.Ne4! Nb7 30.cb! ab 31.Rd1 Rxa2 32.Rxd4+/-.

22.Rxf1 Ng6 23.Bg4!



[FEN"r2q1rk1/7p/p2p2n1/nppP4/2P2PB1/1P2N3/PQ1N3P/5RK1 b - - 0 23"]

White's achievements are obvious. I'll show you how the world champion finished the game.

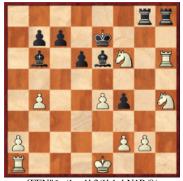
23...Nxf4?! (23...Qf6 24.Be6+ Kh8 25.Qxf6+ Rxf6 26.f5 Ne5 27.Ne4+-) 24. Rxf4! Rxf4 25.Be6+ Rf7 26.Ne4! Qh4 27.Nxd6 Qg5+ 28.Kh1 Ra7 29.Bxf7+ Rxf7 30.Qh8+! 1-0

9. Van der Wiel - Van der Sterren

Paul Van der Sterren repelled the threat of 27.Ng6+ with the primitive 26... Bf7?. After 27.Nf5+ he didn't want to let his king get checked again with 27... Kd7!?, although 28.Nxf6+?! Ke6 was playable for him (28.a4 is stronger with the advantage). The move chosen by Black, 27...Kd8? allowed his opponent to obtain a winning position with the tactical blow 28.Ng5!. There followed 28...fg (28...Rxh6 29.Nxf7+) 29.Rxh8+ Be8 30.Ng7 Kd7 31.Nxe8 Rxe8 32. Rxe8 Kxe8 33.Ke2, and White soon made the most of being the exchange up.

A positional exchange sacrifice secured excellent play for Black 26...Bd4!? 27.0-0-0! Be5 28.Ng6+ Kf7 29.Nxh8+ Rxh8. But before going into this kind of position it is worth looking to see if there is anything stronger.

26...Rag8! suggested itself, threatening 27...Rg7. Hopeless is 27.Ng6+ Rxg6 28.Rxg6 Rxh7. Van der Sterren didn't play like that, obviously, because of a small combination: **27.Nxf6**.



[FEN"6rr/1pp1k3/1b1pbN1R/8/ 1P2Pp1N/8/P4PP1/R3K3 b Q - 0 27"]

1...?

In the variation 27...Rxh6? 28.Nxg8+ Bxg8 29.Nf5+ and 30.Nxh6 White wins. However, the ingenious resource 27...Rxg2!! can be found, completely changing the evaluation of the position.

28.Nxg2 Rxh6 threatening 29...Rh1+ and 29...Kxf6 is very bad. 28.Nf5+ Bxf5 29.Nd5+ Kf7 30.Rxh8 Bxe4 (30...Bxf2+? 31.Kf1 Bxe4 32.Rh7+! Kf8 33. Nxf4) 31.Nxb6 Rg1+ 32.Ke2 Rxa1-+ isn't much better.

Only 28.Rxh8 remains, but after 28...Rg1+ 29.Kd2 Rxa1 30.Nh5!? Rxa2+ Black retains excellent winning chances.

10. Suba – Morovic

With a modest bishop retreat **23...Be7!** Black's position wasn't worse. He intends 24...c4 or 24...Rfe8; in the variation 24.Nxe7+ Qxe7 25.bc Rxc5 26. Bb4 (26.Qb3?! Rc4!=/+; 26.Qb2!?) 26...Rxc2 27.Bxe7 Re8 28.Bxf6 gf the pawn weaknesses and the surplus are compensated for by the activeness of the black rook.

Ivan Morovic was lured by the more active 23...Be5? (with the idea of 24. Rac1 c4), underestimating the exchange sacrifice 24.bc!! Bxa1 25.Rxa1! (25. c6 Be5!; 25.Nd6 Qc6 26.Nxc8 Rxc8 27.Rxa1 Qxc5=), which allowed his opponent to grab the initiative.



[FEN"2r2rk1/1q3ppp/p4n2/BpP2N2/8, 6P1/P1Q1PP1P/R5K1 b - - 0 25"]

1...?

Now 25...Qd7 26.c6! Rxc6 (26...Qe6!? 27.Rd1 with compensation) 27.Qxc6 Qxf5 28.Qxa6+/=/+/- is the comparatively lesser evil for Black, but he would prefer not to go into that kind of position, of course.

In the game 25...Rc6?! 26.Nd4 Rcc8 27.Nf5 Rc6 28.Nd4 Rcc8 29.c6 Qa7 (29...Qe7 is more stubborn) 30.Rd1 Rfe8 31.Nf5 Ng4 32.e3 Ne5 33.c7 Qa8 34. e4 Nf3+ (34...Nc4 35.Qc3 f6 36.Rd7) 35.Kg2 Ng5 36.f3 was played, and White's decisive advantage became obvious.

11. Glek - Averkin

Taking the d4-pawn looks risky, but it still requires careful calculation: if Black doesn't find a concrete refutation, then he will simply be left a pawn down.

23.Nxd4? ab 24.ab Bxd4 25.Rxd4 Rxd4 26.Rxd4



[FEN"r5k1/1p3ppp/q7/2P5/1P1Rn3/6B1/2Q2PPP/6K1 b - - 0 26"]

1...?

If 26...Qa1+?, counting on 27.Rd1? Nc3! 28.Rf1 Qxf1+! 29.Kxf1 Ra1+, then 27.Qd1!+/-, and 27...Nc3? doesn't work because of 28.Rd8+! Rxd8 29.Qxa1 +-.

However, an immediate 26...Nc3!! puts White in a desperate situation: as not only 27...Qa1+ is threatened, but also 27...Ne2+ 28.Kf1 Nxd4.

In the game 23.Bc7 (23.Bf4!?) 23...Rdc8 24.Bxa5 was played.



[FEN"r1r3k1/1p3ppp/q4b2/B1P5/1P1pn3/ P2R4/2Q1NPPP/3R2K1 b - - 0 24"]

1...?

24...Nxc5! 25.bc Qxa5 26.Nxd4 Qxc5=/+, and the players agreed on a draw, as Black was in time trouble and did not dare to continue the fight.

Orest Averkin could win a piece by 24...b6?!, but avoided the temptation, and rightly so, because the positions that arise after 25.Bxb6! Qxb6 26.cb Rxc2 27. Nxd4 Rc4 (27...Rc3? 28.f3 Rxd3 29.Rxd3+- and 30.Nc6) 28.b7!? or 28. Nb5!?, are extremely dangerous.

12. Van der Sterren - Glek

The position remains approximately equal in different continuations; for example, 17...Re7!?. The problem lay in evaluating the different forcing attempts.

So, for example, it was worth noting that 17...Qd4? 18.Rad1 Nxe4?? didn't work because of 19.Be1!+-.

And after **17...Nxe4!? 18.Nxe4**, the move 18...Bxa1? (counting on 19.Rxa1? Qd4-+) is impossible, because of the counter-blow 19.c5!+-. Essential is **18...**



[FEN"r3r1k1/p1p2pbp/2pp2p1/8/2PqNP2/ 1P3Q2/P2B2PP/R4R1K w - - 0 19"]

Another correct choice had to be made in the event of 19.Rae1. The move 19... f5?! would have been justified with 20.Nxd6 Qxd6=, but 20.Nf6+! and 21. Qxc6 allow White to achieve an advantage, and that means they make the operation that Black undertook unjustifiable. However, by playing 19...d5! 20. cd cd 21.Ng5 Qxd2 22.Rd1 Qe2 (worse is 22...Qa5?! 23.Rxd5 Qxa2 24.f5!) 23.Qxd5 Qe7, Black maintains equality.

An equal position also came about in the game after 19.Nxd6 cd 20.Rad1 Qe4. Now 21.Bc3, 21.Ba5 or 21.f5 aren't bad, but the continuation chosen by White 21.Rde1? Qxf3 22.Rxf3 Rxe1+ 23.Bxe1 Re8 24.Bd2 Re2 25.Rd3 c5! led him into serious difficulties, and in the end to defeat.

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