

MaDD Training Academy – Level Eight Blue Activities

0062

I know which combinations of pieces can checkmate, and which can't

Can Checkmate	Can Checkmate (But it's very rare)	Can't Checkmate
- King and queen - King and rook - King and two bishops - King, bishop and knight	- King and 2 knights vs king and pawn - King and bishop vs king and bishop	- King and 1 bishop - King and 1 knight - King and 2 knights

0063

The Sicilian Defence always starts with 1.e4 c5. White has several choices on their second move:

- 2.Nf3 is the Open Sicilian (which is played most often)
- 2.Nc3 is the Closed Sicilian
- 2.c3 is the Alapin Variation
- 2.d4 is the Smith-Morra Gambit

0064

I can win the "bishop vs three pawns" mini game

Set up a board with these pieces:
White bishop on f1
Black pawns on a7, b7 and c7

If you are playing with White, your job is to capture all 3 pawns
If you are playing with Black, your job is to SAFELY promote a pawn (meaning the pawn can't immediately be taken by the bishop when it promotes).

Try playing with both Black and White pieces. If the bishop is winning every time, add a fourth pawn to d7. If the pawns are winning every time, try playing with just 2 pawns on a7 and b7

0065

This is a club night activity. One of the coaches will observe a game, take notes and give feedback

0066

The English opening always starts with 1.c4

Black has several responses:

- 1...Nf6 is the Anglo-Indian Defence
- 1...e5 is the King's English Variation (also called the Reversed Sicilian)
- 1...e6 is the Agincourt Defence
- 1...c5 is the Symmetrical English

0067

Different time controls on the clock are given different names:

- Bullet chess is when players have under 3 minutes each on the clock
- Blitz chess is when players have between 3 and 10 minutes each on the clock
- Rapid chess is when players have between 10 and 60 minutes each on the clock
- Standard (or Classical) chess is when players have over 60 minutes each on the clock

0068

To fianchetto a bishop means to move the pawn in front of your knight one square – so if you're White, it means playing either pawn to b3 or pawn to f3. If you're Black, it means playing pawn to b6 or pawn to g6

Here are two games that include a fianchetto. Which side makes a fianchetto move?

Grunfeld Defence: 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5

Sicilian Dragon: 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7

The main reason for fianchettoing is to let your bishop move onto b2, g2, b7 or g7, where it can become a great attacking piece