



After Black plays Qxb7, white plays Queen to e8! This threatens checkmate if Rxe8 as this is followed by the Rook on c8 capturing the rook on e8.



So instead the white queen on e8 takes the black queen on c8. (see diagram below).



If the black rook on f8 captures the queen on c8, the white rook on c1 takes the rook on c8 delivering checkmate (again due to bank rank weakness).

If the white queen is allowed to safely retreat from c8 white will have the advantage. So what move can black make to stop white gaining an advantage?

The key move which black played was Bd2 attacking the white rook!! See Diagram below. This means that white now has two pieces under attack and he cannot save both of them.

So what does black do as he cannot capture the white Queen on e8? The answer is for the black queen on b7 to capture the white rook on c8! (see diagram below).

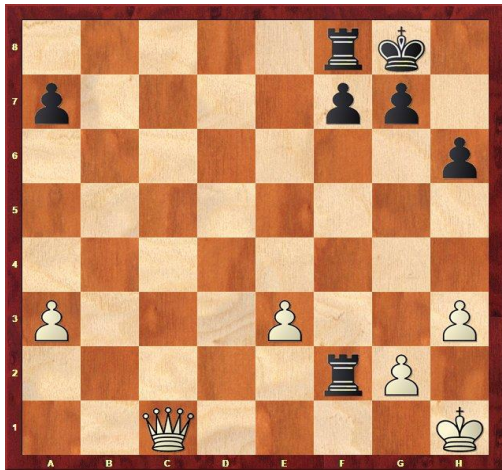


What happens if the rook on c1 captures the queen on c8?

Answer, the black rook moves to b1 with check followed by mate (rook on c8 moves back to c1 and Rxc1 checkmate!! - note the back rank weakness if the rook on c1 moves).

The game continued:

h3, h6: Qc4, Bxc1; Qxc1, Rxf2 leading to the position below with white to move.



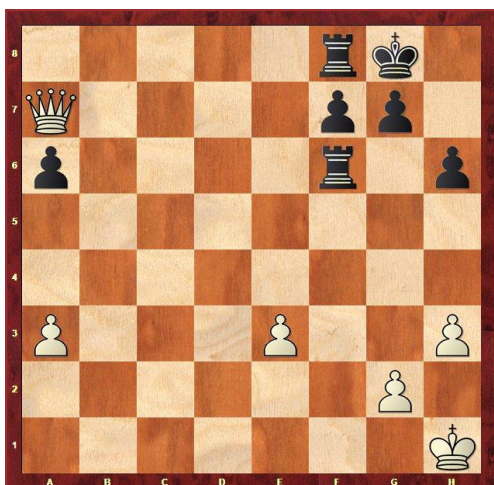
We now have a two rooks versus Queen position, so who is winning and why?

The answer is that black is clearly better because in such positions, the safety of the king is critically important for the side with the two rooks. In this case the king is very safe with 3 pawns around him near the edge of the board so it is very difficult for the queen to attack him. Also the rooks are not tied down to passively defending the king, so they are free to attack the opposing pawns and pick them off one by one.

The next few moves of the game were:

Qc7 (trying to win the a7 pawn to create a passed pawn on the a file with which to generate counter-play).

Black responds with a6 and the next moves are Qa7 and Rf6 to defend the pawn on a6 reaching the position below

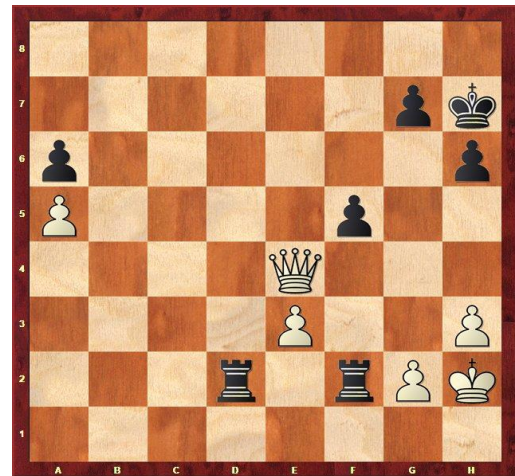


The plan for black now is to get his two rooks working together on the board. The next few moves of the game were;

a4; Rd8 (bringing the rook to an open file);

a5; Rd1+, Kh2; Rd2, Qb8+; Kh7, Qb4; Rff2,

Qe4+; f5 reaching the position below with white to move:



At this point white resigned the game. Can you see why he did so?

The reason is that he has no answer to black's threat to capture the g2 pawn with check. Play out the game on the board and see if you can find the correct moves.

Possible continuation is:

Qe6; Rxc2+, Kh1; Rdf2 (to protect the f5 pawn which if captured by the white queen with check could allow white to force a draw by perpetual check). Qf7 (maintaining the pressure on the f5 pawn); Rg3 (threatening the white e and h pawns); Qf8; Rxc3+, Kg1, Rhh2, Qf7; Rhg2+, Kh1; Rg5, Qd7 Rfg2, Qd4; Rg2g4, Qxg4, (to prevent checkmate by Rook h4 if the queen moves off the 4th rank) Rxc4.

Gary Kasparov was still a teenager when he played this game which demonstrated the chess playing ability that enabled him to become the dominant force in world chess for two decades up to his retirement from competitive play in 2005.