

The 400

Best Chess
& Strategy
Quotes of
All Time



Arranged by Webster McNairy

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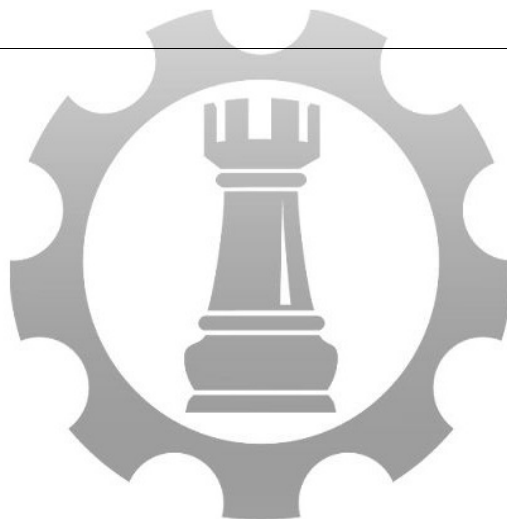
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BEGIN HERE:

'There is nothing new under the sun. It has all been done before.' – Sherlock Holmes quoted in *A Study in Scarlet*

Everything has been thought of before – the trick is to think of it again... – paraphrasing Goethe

Let no one say that I have said nothing new... the arrangement of the subject is new. – Blaise Pascal, *Pensées* (1670)

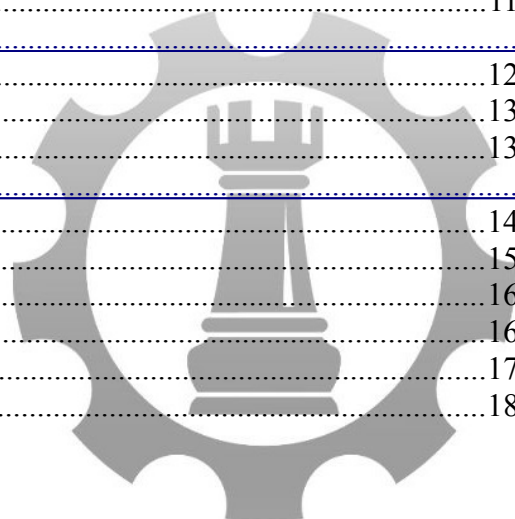
Words differently arranged have a different meaning and meanings differently arranged have a different effect. – Blaise Pascal

... though combinations are without number, the number of ideas are limited. – Eugene Znosko-Borowski

Daring ideas are like Chess men moved forward. They may be beaten, but they may start a winning game. – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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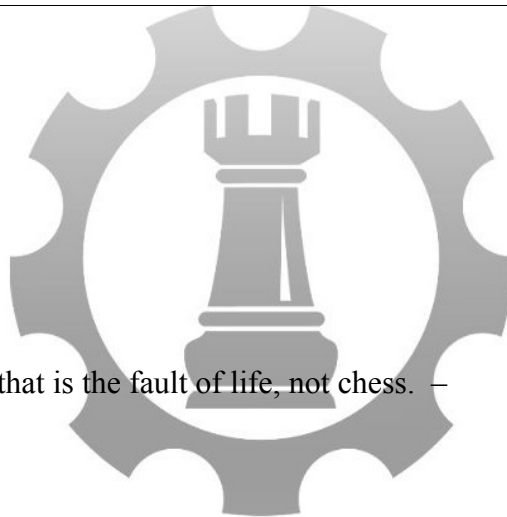


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Part One: Fundamentals

Introduction

Of Chess it has been said that life is not long enough for it, but that is the fault of life, not chess. — William Ewart Napier **1**.



For me, Chess is life and every game is like a new life. Every chess player gets to live many lives in one lifetime. – Eduard Gufeld **2**.

That's what chess is all about. One day you give your opponent a lesson, the next day he gives you one. – Bobby Fischer **3**.

Chess is a forcing house where the fruits of character can ripen more fully than in life. – Edward Morgan Foster **4**.

Chess is a miniature version of life. To be successful, you need to be disciplined, assess resources, consider responsible choices and adjust when circumstances change. – Susan Polgar **5**.

The game of Chess is not merely an idle amusement; several very valuable qualities of the mind are to be acquired and strengthened by it, so as to become habits ready on all occasions, for life is a kind of chess. – Benjamin Franklin **6**.

What IS Chess?

Viewed in terms of psychoanalytic theory, the invention of chess expressed the triumph of secondary process thinking over the primary process. Actual warfare (is replaced by) a struggle which is organized, controlled, circumscribed and regulated. – Norman Reider **7**.

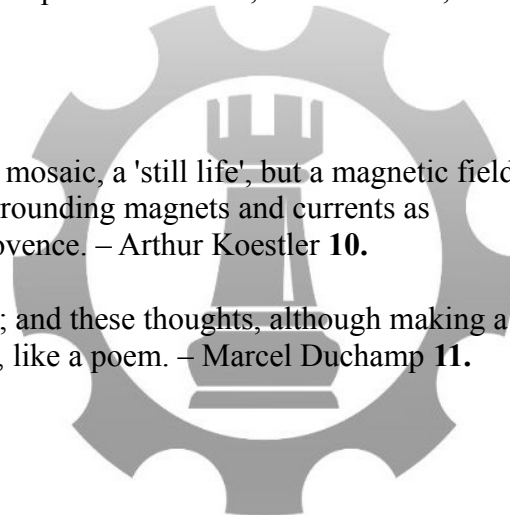
The slightest acquaintance with chess shows that it is a play-substitute for the art of war, and indeed it has been a favorite recreation of some of the greatest military leaders, from William the Conqueror to Napoleon. In the contest between the opposing armies the same tactics are displayed as in actual war, the same foresight and powers of calculation are necessary, the same capacity for divining the plans of the opponent, and the rigour with which decisions are followed by their consequences is, if anything, even more ruthless. – Ernest Jones **8**.

Chess may be but a game, a pastime, a relaxation; but Chess has at times absorbed the faculties of the intellectual in every clime; it numbers amongst its amateurs the greatest names of battle-fields and thrones; it tells of warriors, poets, painters, sculptors, statesmen and divines; it possesses a literature and language of its own; it makes enemies friends, and finds a temple on the ocean, in the fortress, and by the peaceful fireside. – Frederick Milne Edge **9**.

...

When a chess player looks at the board, he does not see a static mosaic, a 'still life', but a magnetic field of forces, charged with energy - as Faraday saw the stresses surrounding magnets and currents as curves in space; or as Van Gogh saw vortices in the skies of Provence. – Arthur Koestler **10**.

The Chess pieces are the block alphabet which shapes thoughts; and these thoughts, although making a visual design on the chessboard, express their beauty abstractly, like a poem. – Marcel Duchamp **11**.



The chess-board is the world, the pieces are the phenomena of the universe, the rules of the game are what we call the laws of Nature. The player on the other side is hidden from us. We know that his play is always fair, just, and patient. But we also know, to our cost, that he never overlooks a mistake, or makes the smallest allowance for ignorance. – Thomas Henry Huxley **12**.

...

Combinations have always been the most intriguing aspect of Chess. The masters look for them, the public applauds them, the critics praise them. It is because combinations are possible that chess is more than a lifeless mathematical exercise. They are the poetry of the game; they are to chess what melody is to music. They represent the triumph of mind over matter. – Rueben Fine **13**.

The pleasure to be derived from a chess combination lie in the feeling that a human mind is behind the game, dominating the inanimate pieces ... and giving them breath of life. – Richard Reti **14**.

...

Chess is a cold bath for the mind. – Sir John Simon **15**.

The Game of Chess is not merely an idle amusement; several very valuable qualities of the mind, useful in the course of human life, are to be acquired and strengthened by it, so as to become habits ready on all occasions; for life is a kind of Chess, in which we have points to gain, and competition or adversaries to contend with, and in which there is a vast variety of good and ill events, that are, in some degree, the effect of prudence, or want of it. By playing at Chess then, we may learn: First, Foresight; Second, Circumspection; Third, Caution; And lastly, We learn by Chess the habit of not being discouraged by present bad appearances in the state of our affairs; the habit of hoping for a favorable chance, and that of persevering in the secrets of resources. – Benjamin Franklin, 1779 **16**.

Personality Traits & Habits of Approach

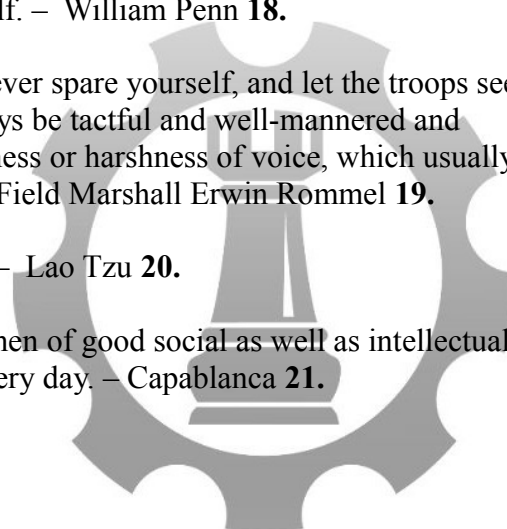
When you are lonely, when you feel yourself an alien in the world, play Chess. This will raise your spirits and be your counselor in war. – Aristotle **17**.

No man is fit to command another that cannot command himself. – William Penn **18**.

Be an example to your men, in your duty and in private life. Never spare yourself, and let the troops see that you don't in your endurance of fatigue and privation. Always be tactful and well-mannered and teach your subordinates to do the same. Avoid excessive sharpness or harshness of voice, which usually indicates the man who has shortcomings of his own to hide. – Field Marshall Erwin Rommel **19**.

Mastering others is strength. Mastering yourself is true power. – Lao Tzu **20**.

Most of the chess masters of the first rank are men of culture, men of good social as well as intellectual training, as such qualities become more and more necessary every day. – Capablanca **21**.



Chess is so interesting in itself, as not to need the view of gain to induce engaging in it; and thence it is never played for money. – Benjamin Franklin, (*Chess Made Easy*, 1802) **22**.

The stock market and the gridiron and the battlefield aren't as tidy as the chessboard, but in all of them, a single, simple rule holds true: make good decisions and you'll succeed; make bad ones and you'll fail. – Garry Kasparov **23**.

[Chess] is the finest mental exercise. It develops concentration and logical reasoning; and it is one of the few games in which you cannot rectify a mistake. If you make a mistake, you lose, unless your opponent makes a worse mistake. – Capablanca (1919) **24**.

In all forms of strategy, it is necessary to maintain the combat stance in everyday life and to make your everyday stance your combat stance. You must research this well. – Miyamoto Musashi **25**.

A prince should therefore have no other aim or thought, nor take up any other thing for his study but war and it's organization and discipline, for that is the only art that is necessary to one who commands. – Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince* **26**.

Only a warrior chooses pacifism; others are condemned to it. – unknown **27**.

A cowardly act! What do I care about that? You may be sure that I should never fear to commit one if it were to my advantage. – Napoleon **28**.

In war the heroes always outnumber the soldiers ten to one. – John Gray **29**.

Avoid the crowd. Do your own thinking independently. Be the Chess player, not the Chess piece – Ralph Charell **30**.

In chess, at least, the brave inherit the earth. – Edmar Mednis, on the play of Tal **31**.

One mind, any weapon. – Hunter B. Armstrong **32**.

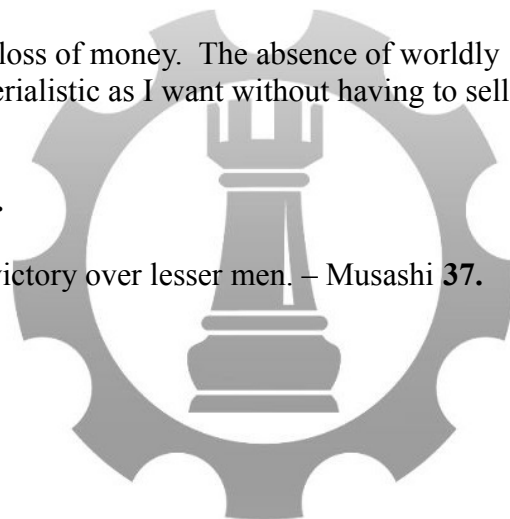
The pupil wants not so much to learn, as to learn how to learn. – Samuel Boden **33**.

The key to ultimate success is the determination to progress day by day. – Edmar Mednis **34**.

I'm not a materialistic person, in that, I don't suffer the lack or loss of money. The absence of worldly goods I don't look back on. For Chess is a way I can be as materialistic as I want without having to sell my soul. – Jamie Walter Adams **35**.

Great results, can be achieved with small forces. – Sun Tzu **36**.

Today is victory over yourself of yesterday; tomorrow is your victory over lesser men. – Musashi **37**.



Grandmasters

No chess grandmaster is normal; they only differ in the extent of their madness. – Viktor Korchnoi **38.**

Just as the pianist practices the most complicated pieces to improve the technique of his fingers, so too a grandmaster must keep his vision in trim by daily analysis of positions with sharp possibilities, and this applies whether he prefers such positions in his play or not. – Alexander Kotov **39.**

Play the move that forces the win in the simplest way. Leave the brilliancies to Alekhine, Keres and Tal. – Irving Chernev **40.**

Alekhine is a poet who creates a work of art out of something that would hardly inspire another man to send home a picture post card. – Max Euwe **41.**

It would be idle, and presumptuous, to wish to imitate the achievements of a Morphy or an Alekhine; but their methods and their manner of expressing themselves are within the reach of all. – Eugene Znosko-Borowski **42.**

Truth

Chess problems demand from the composer the same virtues that characterize all worthwhile art: originality, invention, conciseness, harmony, complexity, and splendid insincerity. – Vladimir Nabokov, *Poems and Problems*, 1969 **43.**

Chess, like any creative activity, can exist only through the combined efforts of those who have creative talent, and those who have the ability to organize their creative work. – Mikhail Botvinnik **44.**

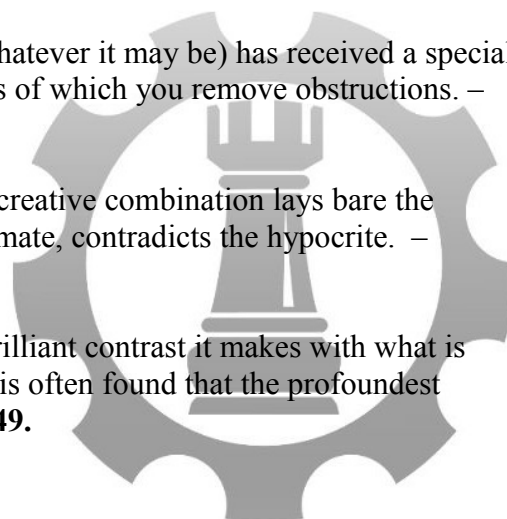
I have always had a very vivid imagination, which I have, after a long struggle, partly succeeded in controlling in order to use it to better purpose, according to the requirements of the occasion. – Capablanca **45.**

No fantasy, however rich, no technique, however masterly, no penetration into the psychology of the opponent, however deep, can make a chess game a work of art, if these qualities do not lead to the main goal - the search for truth. – Vasily Smyslov **46.**

The process of making pieces in Chess do something useful (whatever it may be) has received a special name: it is called the attack. The attack is that process by means of which you remove obstructions. – Emanuel Lasker **47.**

On the chessboard lies and hypocrisy do not survive long. The creative combination lays bare the presumption of a lie; the merciless fact, culminating in a checkmate, contradicts the hypocrite. – Emanuel Lasker **48.**

Truth derives its strength not so much from itself as from the brilliant contrast it makes with what is only apparently true. This applies especially to Chess, where it is often found that the profoundest moves do not much startle the imagination. – Emanuel Lasker **49.**



Everything in war is very simple, but the simplest thing is difficult. – Clausewitz **50**.

Botvinnik tried to take the mystery out of Chess, always relating it to situations in ordinary life. He used to call Chess a typical inexact problem similar to those which people are always having to solve in everyday life. – Garry Kasparov **51**.

Chess is a very logical game and it is the man who can reason most logically and profoundly in it that ought to win. – Capablanca **52**.

The Chess pieces are the block alphabet which shapes thoughts; and these thoughts, although making a visual design on the chessboard, express their beauty abstractly, like a poem. – Marcel Duchamp **53**.

Via the squares on the chessboard, the Indians explain the movement of time and the age, the higher influences which control the world and the ties which link Chess with the human soul. – Al-Masudi **54**.

The battle for the ultimate truth will never be won. And that's why chess is so fascinating. – Hans Kmoch **55**.

Ultimately, you must forget about technique. The further you progress, the fewer teachings there are. The Great Path is really No Path. – Ueshiba Morihei **56**.

We are usually convinced more easily by reasons we have found ourselves than by those which have occurred to others. – Blaise Pascal, *Pensées* (1670) **57**.

The Board Doesn't Lie

All that matters on the chessboard is good moves. – Bobby Fischer **58**.

When everything on the board is clear it can be so difficult to conceal your thoughts from your opponent. – David Bronstein **59**.

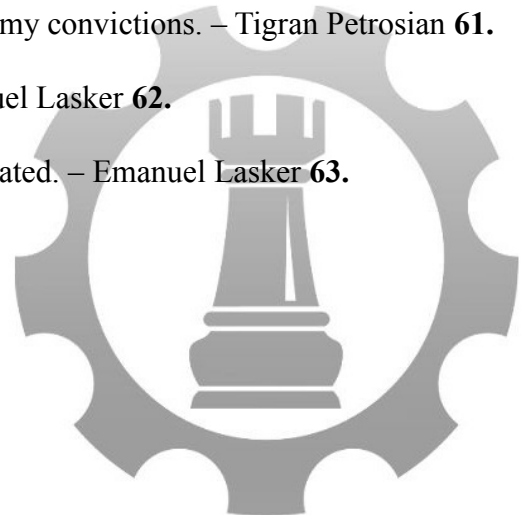
Its just you and your opponent at the board and you're trying to prove something. – Bobby Fischer **60**.

Turning chess into poker and hoping for a "bluff" is not one of my convictions. – Tigran Petrosian **61**.

On the chessboard lies and hypocrisy do not last long. – Emanuel Lasker **62**.

In chess, as it is played by masters, chance is practically eliminated. – Emanuel Lasker **63**.

The loser is always at fault. – Vasily Panov **64**.



Study

The concept of 'talent' is formed under completely abstract criteria, having nothing in common with reality. But the reality is such that I don't understand chess as a whole. But then again no one understands chess in its entirety. Perhaps talent is something else, in chess it is conditionality. – Alexander Morozevich **65**.

Our knowledge of circumstances has increased, but our uncertainty, instead of having diminished, has only increased. The reason of this is, that we do not gain all our experience at once, but by degrees; so our determinations continue to be assailed incessantly by fresh experience; and the mind, if we may use the expression, must always be under arms. – Clausewitz **66**.

The laws of circumstance are abolished by new circumstances. – Napoleon **67**.

Nothing is so healthy as a trashing at the proper time, and from few won games have I learned as much as I have from most of my defeats. – Capablanca **68**.

Do not mind losing, for it is only by learning that you will improve, and by losing, if you use the knowledge you gained, you will improve rapidly. If you play with a much better player, so much more likely that you will learn. Any ordinary man can learn a great deal of chess just as of music, art or science, if he cares to devote his time and attention to study of the game. – Capablanca **69**.

In order to make progress in chess, it is necessary to pay special attention to all the general principles, spending a little less time on the openings. Play the openings on the basis of your general knowledge of how to mobilize pieces and do not become involved in technicalities about whether the books recommend this or that move; to learn the openings by heart it is necessary to study a great number of books which, moreover, are sometimes wrong. However, if you study from the point of view of the general principles you are taking a more certain path for although a player's intellect can fail at a given moment, principles well used never fail. – Capablanca **70**.

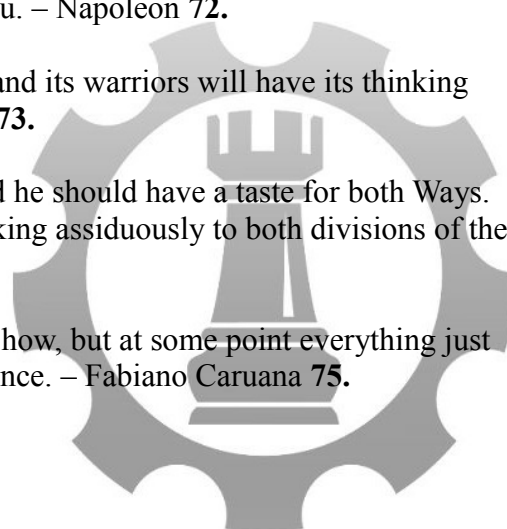
If the point of playing chess is as a battle of the intellect then most people would say that the memorization of other peoples ideas is something that is anathema to the spirit of chess. – Nigel Davies **71**.

Lead the ideas of your time and they will accompany and support you; fall behind them and they drag you along with them; oppose them and they will overwhelm you. – Napoleon **72**.

The Nation that makes a great distinction between its scholars and its warriors will have its thinking done by cowards and its fighting done by fools. – Thucydides **73**.

It is said the warrior's is the twofold Way of pen and sword, and he should have a taste for both Ways. Even if a man has no natural ability he can be a warrior by sticking assiduously to both divisions of the Way. – Miyamoto Musashi **74**.

You work for a long period of time and the results don't really show, but at some point everything just comes together and you start to play better, or get more confidence. – Fabiano Caruana **75**.



In all forms of strategy, it is necessary to maintain the combat stance in everyday life and to make your everyday stance your combat stance. You must research this well. – Miyamoto Musashi **76**.

The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war. – George Hyman Rickover **77**.

Books

It has been said that man is distinguished from animal in that he buys more books than he can read. I should like to suggest that the inclusion of a few chess books would help to make the distinction unmistakable. – Edward Lasker **78**.

Chess books should be used as we use glasses: to assist the sight, although some players make use of them as if they conferred sight. – Jose Capablanca **79**.

Fools say that they learn by experience. I prefer to profit by others' experience. – Otto von Bismark **80**.

...

It is hardly useful if you trustingly play through variation after variation from a book. It is a great deal more useful and more interesting if you take part actively in the analysis, find something yourself, and try to refute some of the author's conclusions. – Mark Dvoretsky **81**.

Ninety percent of the book variations have no great value, because either they contain mistakes or they are based on fallacious assumptions; just forget about the openings and spend all that time on the endings. – Jose Capablanca **82**.

...

The most intelligent inspection of any number of fine paintings will not make the observer a painter, nor will listening to a number of operas make the hearer a musician, but good judges of music and painting may so be formed. Chess differs from these. The intelligent perusal of fine games cannot fail to make the reader a better player and a better judge of the play of others. – Emanuel Lasker **83**.

The young people have read my book. Now I have no chance. – Efim Bogolubow **84**.

Part Two: Playing



On Play

Act like a man of thought. Think like a man of action. – Thomas Mann **85**.

Just as one man can beat ten, so a hundred men can beat a thousand, and a thousand men can beat ten thousand. In my strategy, one man is the same as ten thousand, so this strategy is the complete warrior's craft. – Miyamoto Musashi **86**.

There are two classes of men; those who are content to yield to circumstances and who play whist; those who aim to control circumstances, and who play chess. – Mortimer Collins **87**.

Whether in an advantageous position or a disadvantageous one, the opposite state should be always present to your mind. – Ts'ao Kung **88**.

Question to Rubinstein: "Who is your opponent tonight?" Answer: "Tonight I am playing against the black pieces." – Akiba Rubinstein **89**.

Knowing the enemy enables you to take the offensive, knowing yourself enables you to stand on the defensive. – Sun Tzu **90**.

Every move creates a weakness. – Siegbert Tarrasch **91**.

Invincibility lies in the defense; the possibility of victory in the attack. – Sun Tzu **92**.

Chess is eminently and emphatically the philosopher's game. – Paul Morphy **93**.

During a chess tournament a master must envisage himself as a cross between an ascetic monk and a beast of prey. – Alexander Alekhine **94**.

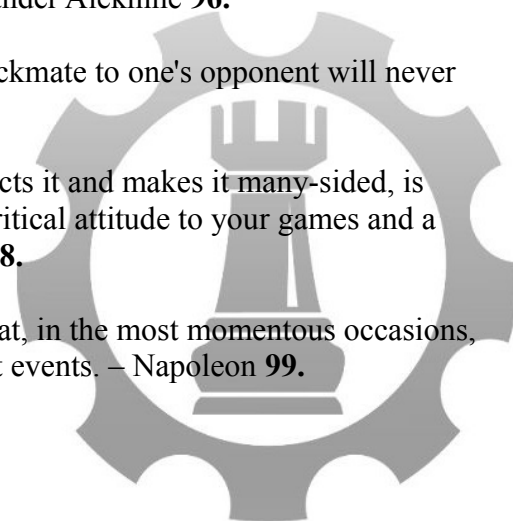
Chess is a miniature version of life. To be successful, you need to be disciplined, assess resources, consider responsible choices and adjust when circumstances change. – Susan Polgar **95**.

For success I consider three factors are necessary: firstly, an awareness of my own strengths and weaknesses; secondly, an accurate understanding of my opponent's strengths and weaknesses; thirdly, a higher aim than momentary satisfaction. I see this aim as being scientific and artistic achievements, which place the game of chess on a par with other arts. – Alexander Alekhine **96**.

Whoever sees no other aim in the game than that of giving checkmate to one's opponent will never become a good chess player. – Max Euwe **97**.

... The main thing that develops positional judgment, that perfects it and makes it many-sided, is detailed analytical work, sensible tournament practice, a self-critical attitude to your games and a rooting out of all the defects in your play. – Alexander Kotov **98**.

From triumph to downfall there is but one step. I have noted that, in the most momentous occasions, mere nothings have always decided the outcome of the greatest events. – Napoleon **99**.



To lose one's objective attitude to a position, nearly always means ruining your game. – David Bronstein **100.**

Chess teaches you to control the initial excitement you feel when you see something that looks good and it trains you to think objectively when in you're trouble. – Stanley Kubrick **101.**

When you see a good move, look for a better one. – Emanuel Lasker **102.**

I often play a move I know how to refute. – Bent Larsen **103.**

You need not play well - just help your opponent to play badly. – Genrikh Chepukaitis **104.**

When you have finished analyzing all the variations and gone along all the branches of the tree of analysis you must first of all write the move down on your score sheet, before you play it. – Alexander Kotov **105.**

Winning

You sit at the board and suddenly your heart leaps. Your hand trembles to pick up the piece and move it. But what Chess teaches you is that you must sit there calmly and think about whether it's really a good idea and whether there are other better ideas. – Stanley Kubrick **106.**

The hardest part of chess is winning a won game. – Frank Marshall **107.**

The sign of a great Master is his ability to win a won game quickly and painlessly. – Irving Chernev **108.**

Under no circumstances should you play fast if you have a winning position. Forget the clock, use all your time and make good moves. – Pal Benko **109.**

Losing

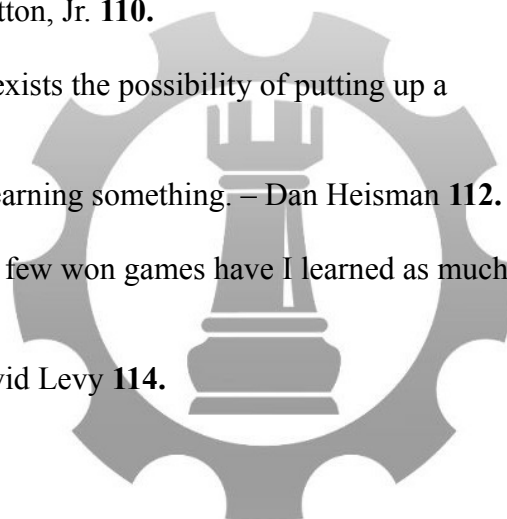
You're never beaten until you admit it. – General George S. Patton, Jr. **110.**

However hopeless the situation appears to be there yet always exists the possibility of putting up a stubborn resistance. – Paul Keres **111.**

Don't be afraid of losing, be afraid of playing a game and not learning something. – Dan Heisman **112.**

Nothing is so healthy as a trashing at the proper time, and from few won games have I learned as much as I have from most of my defeats. – Capablanca **113.**

I prefer to lose a really good game than to win a bad one. – David Levy **114.**



You may learn much more from a game you lose than from a game you win. You will have to lose hundreds of games before becoming a good player. – Jose Capablanca **115.**

Most players ... do not like losing, and consider defeat as something shameful. This is a wrong attitude. Those who wish to perfect themselves must regard their losses as lessons and learn from them what sorts of things to avoid in the future. – Jose Capablanca **116.**

Setbacks and losses are both inevitable and essential if you're going to improve and become a good, even great, competitor. The art is in avoiding catastrophic losses in the key battles. – Garry Kasparov **117.**

Losing can persuade you to change what doesn't need to be changed, and winning can convince you everything is fine even if you are on the brink of disaster. – Garry Kasparov **118.**

Loss generally occurs when a player overrates his advantage or for other reasons seeks to derive from a minute advantage a great return such as a forced win. – Emanuel Lasker **119.**

Part Three: The Mental Game

Psychology

All action takes place, so to speak, in a kind of twilight, which like a fog or moonlight, often tends to make things seem grotesque and larger than they really are. – Clausewitz **120.**

Rule #29: "Always make your opponent think you know more than you really know." – General Phil Sheridan **121.**

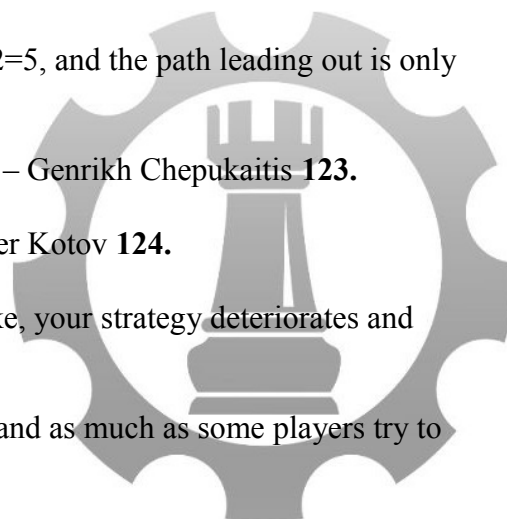
You must take your opponent into a deep dark forest where $2+2=5$, and the path leading out is only wide enough for one. – Mikhail Tal **122.**

You need not play well - just help your opponent to play badly. – Genrikh Chepukaitis **123.**

You must not let your opponent know how you feel. – Alexander Kotov **124.**

When your opponent can easily anticipate every move you make, your strategy deteriorates and becomes commoditized. – Garry Kasparov **125.**

You can't overestimate the importance of psychology in chess, and as much as some players try to



downplay it, I believe that winning requires a constant and strong psychology not just at the board but in every aspect of your life. – Garry Kasparov **126.**

I start out by believing the worst. – Napoleon **127.**

Few things are as psychologically brutal as chess. – Garry Kasparov **128.**

Psychology is the most important factor in chess. – Alexander Alekhine **129.**

Emotional instability can be one of the factors giving rise to a failure by chess players in important duels. Under the influence of surging emotions (and not necessarily negative ones) we sometimes lose concentration and stop objectively evaluating the events that are taking place on the board. – Mark Dvoretsky **130.**

...as man under pressure tends to give in to physical and intellectual weakness, only great strength of will can lead to the objective. – Clausewitz **131.**

In war, truth is the first casualty. – Aeschylus **132.**

The Self

Drawing general conclusions about your main weaknesses can provide a great stimulus to further growth. – Alexander Kotov **133.**

In chess, as in life, a man is his own most dangerous opponent. – Vasily Smyslov **134.**

My most difficult opponent is myself. When I am playing I often involuntarily make a world champion out of a candidate master. – Lev Polugaevsky **135.**

Mistrust is the most necessary characteristic of the chess player. – Siegbert Tarrasch **136.**

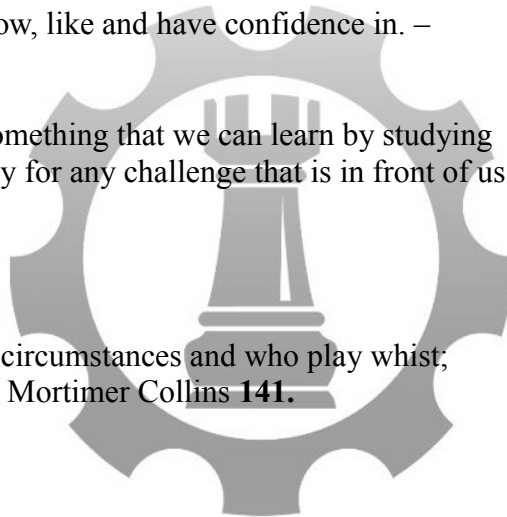
Independence of thought is a (most) valuable quality in a chess-player, both at the board and when preparing for a game. – David Bronstein **137.**

Your practical results will improve when you play what you know, like and have confidence in. – Edmar Mednis **138.**

Winning is not a secret that belongs to a very few, winning is something that we can learn by studying ourselves, studying the environment and making ourselves ready for any challenge that is in front of us. – Garry Kasparov **139.**

The fear of war is worse than war itself. – Seneca **140.**

There are two classes of men; those who are content to yield to circumstances and who play whist; those who aim to control circumstances, and who play chess. – Mortimer Collins **141.**



...man is a frivolous, a specious creature, and like a chess-player cares more for the process of attaining his goal than for the goal itself. – Dostoyevsky **142.**

In life, as in Chess, one's own Pawns block one's way. A man's very wealth, ease, leisure, children, books, which should help him to win, more often checkmate him. – Charles Buxton **143.**

The technical phase can be boring because there is little opportunity for creativity, for art. Boredom leads to complacency and mistakes. – Garry Kasparov **144.**

Botvinnik tried to take the mystery out of Chess, always relating it to situations in ordinary life. He used to call Chess a typical inexact problem similar to those which people are always having to solve in everyday life. – Garry Kasparov **145.**

Perception is strong and sight weak. In strategy it is important to see distant things as if they were close and to take a distanced view of close things. – Musashi **146.**

All great events hang by a single thread. The clever man takes advantage of everything, neglects nothing that may give him some added opportunity; the less clever man, by neglecting one thing, sometimes misses everything. – Napoleon **147.**

To know ten thousand things, know one well. – Miyamoto Musashi **148.**

Optimism

As has happened so often in history, victory had bred a complacency and fostered an orthodoxy which led to defeat in the next war. – Sir Basil H. Liddell-Hart (*Strategy*, 1954; on the French military development between the World Wars) **149.**

I've seen - both in myself and my competitors - how satisfaction can lead to a lack of vigilance, then to mistakes and missed opportunities. – Garry Kasparov **150.**

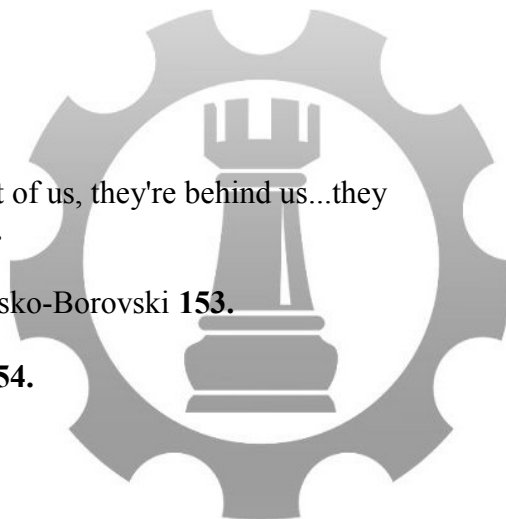
It's the unconquerable soul of man, and not the nature of the weapon he uses, that ensures victory. – Napoleon **151.**

Pessimism

All right, they're on our left, they're on our right, they're in front of us, they're behind us...they can't get away this time. – Lt Gen Lewis B. Puller, USMC **152.**

A defeatist spirit must inevitably lead to disaster. – Eugene Znosko-Borovski **153.**

No one ever won a game by resigning. – Savielly Tartakower **154.**



If a mistake or an inaccuracy occurs, there is no need to assume 'all is lost' and mope - one must reorient oneself quickly, and find a new plan to fit the new situation. – David Bronstein **155**.

How come the little things bother you when you are in a bad position? They don't bother you in good positions. – Yasser Seirawan **156**.

He who has a slight disadvantage plays more attentively, inventively and more boldly than his antagonist who either takes it easy or aspires after too much. Thus a slight disadvantage is very frequently seen to convert into a good, solid advantage. – Emanuel Lasker **157**.

Later, ... I began to succeed in decisive games. Perhaps because I realised a very simple truth: not only was I worried, but also my opponent. – Mikhail Tal **158**.

Opponents

"Oh! this opponent, this collaborator against his will, whose notion of Beauty always differs from yours and whose means (strength, imagination, technique) are often too limited to help you effectively! What torment, to have your thinking and your fantasy tied down by another person! – Alexander Alekhine **159**.

Nowadays grandmasters no longer study their opponent's games so much, but they study his character, his behavior and his temperament in the most thorough fashion. – David Bronstein **160**.

I am trying to beat the guy sitting across from me and trying to choose the moves that are most unpleasant for him and his style. – Magnus Carlsen **161**.

The *effect* to be sought is the dislocation of the opponent's mind and dispositions -- such an effect is the true gauge of an indirect approach. – Sir Basil H. Liddell-Hart (*Strategy*, 1954) **162**.

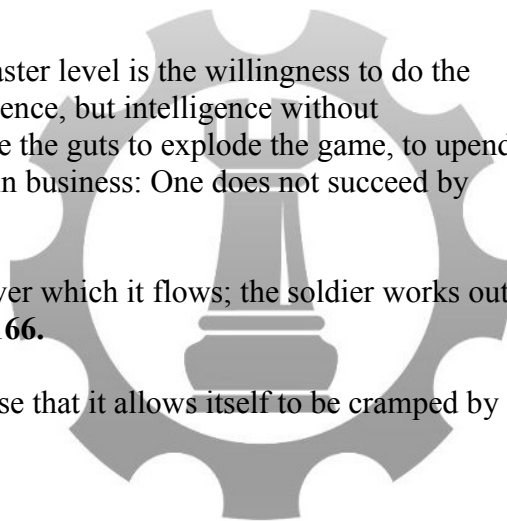
When strong, avoid them. If of high morale, depress them. Seem humble to fill them with conceit. If at ease, exhaust them. If united, separate them. Attack their weaknesses. Emerge to their surprise. – Sun Tzu **163**.

A player surprised is half beaten. – Chess Proverb **164**.

Ultimately, what separates a winner from a loser at the grandmaster level is the willingness to do the unthinkable. A brilliant strategy is, certainly, a matter of intelligence, but intelligence without audaciousness is not enough. Given the opportunity, I must have the guts to explode the game, to upend my opponent's thinking and, in so doing, unnerve him. So it is in business: One does not succeed by sticking to convention. – Garry Kasparov **165**.

Water shapes its course according to the nature of the ground over which it flows; the soldier works out his victory in relation to the foe whom he is facing. – Sun Tzu **166**.

One must indeed be ignorant of the methods of genius to suppose that it allows itself to be cramped by



forms. Forms are for mediocrity, and it is fortunate that mediocrity can act only according to routine. Ability takes its flight unhindered. – Napoleon **167**.

It is a mistake, too, to say that the face is the mirror of the soul. The truth is, men are very hard to know, and yet, not to be deceived, we must judge them by their present actions, but for the present only. – Napoleon **168**.

Some Warriors look fierce, but are mild. Some seem timid, but are vicious. Look beyond appearances; position yourself for the advantage. – Deng Ming-Dao **169**.

You can discover what your enemy fears most by observing the means he uses to frighten you. – an anonymous politician **170**.

Physical Health

Your body has to be in top condition. Your Chess deteriorates as your body does. You can't separate body from mind. – Bobby Fischer **171**.

Above all else, before playing in competitions a player must have regard to his health, for if he is suffering from ill-health he cannot hope for success. In this connection the best of all tonics is 15 to 20 days in the fresh air, in the country. – Mikhail Botvinnik **172**.

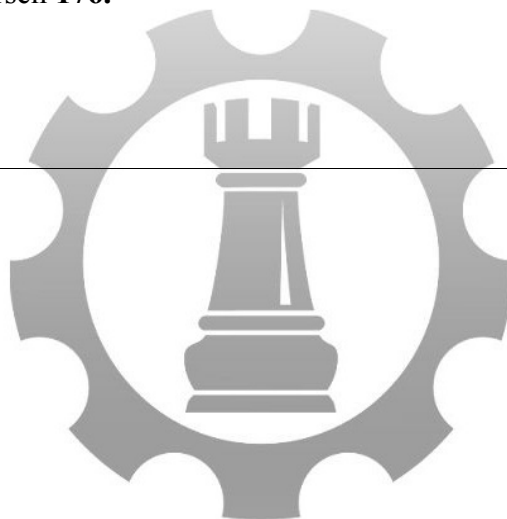
Since your mental state can have such dramatic effects on your body, obviously your physical condition can affect your mental well-being. It follows that regular physical conditioning should be part of your overall chess training. – Pal Benko **173**.

I spend around one hour per day on physical exercise. Exercise is a must for every chess player. As the proverb says, 'A sound mind in a sound body.' – Humpy Koneru **174**.

Method rules his training, which blends the physical with the mental. How many chess masters put in, prior to an important match, an allotted time daily to bicycling and shadow-boxing, followed by a cold douche and a brisk rub down? – Hans Kmoeh, on Max Euwe **175**.

The stomach is an essential part of the Chess master. – Bent Larsen **176**.

Part Four: On Strategy



Strategy vs Tactics

The laws of chess do not permit a free choice: you have to move whether you like it or not. – Emanuel Lasker **177.**

In short, the ideal way of playing a game would be rapid development of the pieces of strategic use for attack or defense, taking into account the fact that the two elements are Time and Position. Calm in defense and decisiveness in attack. – Capablanca **178.**

If you want to know how the Battle of the Bulge was won, ask my G4 (Logistics) Officer... – Patton **179.**

He will win who knows how to handle both superior and inferior forces. – Sun Tzu **180.**

However, if you study from the point of view of the general principles you are taking a more certain path for although a player's intellect can fail at a given moment, principles well used never fail. – Capablanca **181.**

Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat. – Sun Tzu **182.**

The tactician must know what to do whenever something needs doing; the strategist must know what to do when nothing needs doing. – Savielly Tartakower **183.**

Strategy requires thought, tactics require observation. – Max Euwe **184.**

We often hear the terms 'positional' and 'tactical' used as opposites. But this is as wrong as to consider a painting's composition unrelated to its subject. Just as there is no such thing as 'artistic' art, so there is no such thing as 'positional' chess. – Samuel Reshevsky **185.**

No matter how much theory progresses, how radically styles change, chess play is inconceivable without tactics. – Samuel Reshevsky **186.**

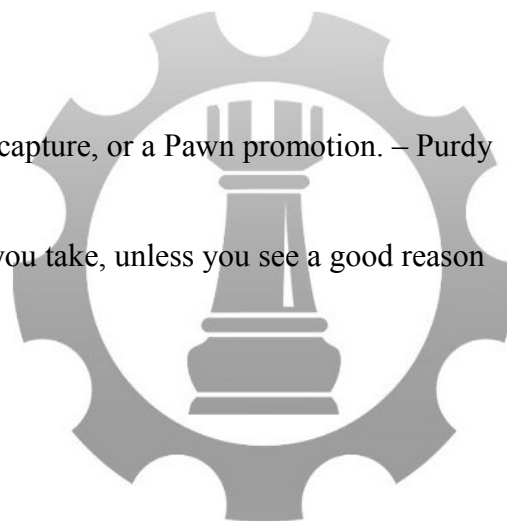
In general I consider that in chess everything rests on tactics. If one thinks of strategy as a block of marble, then tactics are the chisel with which a master operates, in creating works of chess art. – Tigran Petrosian **187.**

Tactics flow from a superior position. – Bobby Fischer **188.**

Any material change in a position must come about by mate, a capture, or a Pawn promotion. – Purdy **189.**

Concentrate on material gains. Whatever your opponent gives you take, unless you see a good reason not to. – Bobby Fischer **190.**

Every move creates a weakness. – Siegbert Tarrasch **191.**



So in war, the way is to avoid what is strong, and strike at what is weak. – Sun Tzu **192.**

Fortune, which has a great deal of power in other matters but especially in war, can bring about great changes in a situation through very slight forces. – Julius Caesar **193.**

Position

The criterion of real strength is a deep penetration into the secrets of a position. – Tigran Petrosian **194.**

We are not fit to lead an army on the march unless we are familiar with the face of the country -- its mountains and forests, its pitfalls and precipices, its marshes and swamps. – Sun Tzu **195.**

The laws of circumstance are abolished by new circumstances. – Napoleon **196.**

It is the aim of the modern school, not to treat every position according to one general law, but according to the principle inherent in the position. – Richard Reti **197.**

Bring all your pieces out! Give them scope! Occupy the central squares! – Tarrasch **198.**

Chess is a terrible game. If you have no center, your opponent has a freer position. If you do have a center, then you really have something to worry about! – Siegbert Tarrasch **199.**

Once we have chosen the right formation in the centre we have created opportunities for our pieces and laid the foundation of subsequent victory. – Alexander Kotov **200.**

If the defender is forced to give up the center, then every possible attack follows almost of itself. – Tarrasch **201.**

By reinforcing every part, (the opponent) weakens every part. – Sun Tzu **202.**

Weak points or holes in the opponent's position must be occupied by pieces not Pawns. – Siegbert Tarrasch **203.**

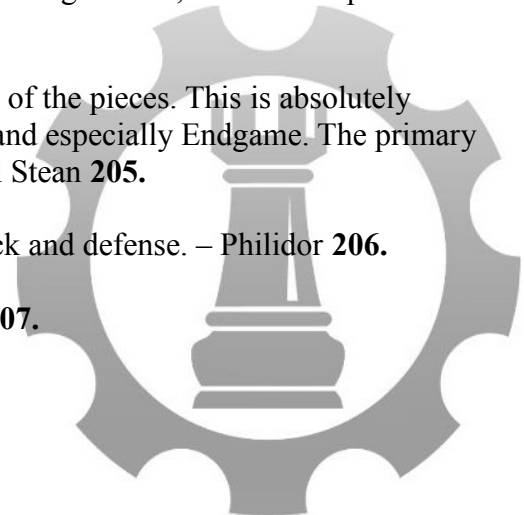
Do you realize Fischer almost never has any bad pieces? He exchanges them, and the bad pieces remain with his opponents. – Yuri Balashov **204.**

The most important feature of the Chess position is the activity of the pieces. This is absolutely fundamental in all phases of the game: Opening, Middlegame and especially Endgame. The primary constraint on a piece's activity is the Pawn structure. – Michael Stean **205.**

Pawns: they are the soul of this game, they alone form the attack and defense. – Philidor **206.**

Nothing so easily ruins a position as pawn moves. – Tarrasch **207.**

The older I grow, the more I value pawns. – Paul Keres **208.**



The task of the positional player is systematically to accumulate slight advantages and try to convert temporary advantages into permanent ones, otherwise the player with the better position runs the risk of losing it. – Wilhelm Steinitz **209**.

A passed Pawn increases in strength as the number of pieces on the board diminishes – Capablanca **210**.

The winning of a Pawn among good players of even strength often means the winning of the game. – Capablanca **211**.

Simplify, simplify, simplify! I say, let your affairs be as two or three, and not a hundred or a thousand; instead of a million count half a dozen, and keep your accounts on your thumb-nail. – Henry David Thoreau **212**.

Though most people love to look at the games of the great attacking masters, some of the most successful players in history have been the quiet positional players. They slowly grind you down by taking away your space, tying up your pieces, and leaving you with virtually nothing to do ! – Yasser Seirawan **213**.

The highest art of the chessplayer lies in not allowing your opponent to show you what he can do. – Garry Kasparov **214**.

[The] aim is not so much to seek battle as to seek a strategic situation so advantageous that if it does not of itself produce the decision, its continuation by a battle is sure to achieve this. In other words, dislocation is the aim of strategy. – Sir Basil H. Liddell-Hart (*Strategy*) **215**.

The battlefield is a scene of constant chaos. The winner will be the one who controls that chaos, both his own and the enemy's. – Napoleon Bonaparte **216**.

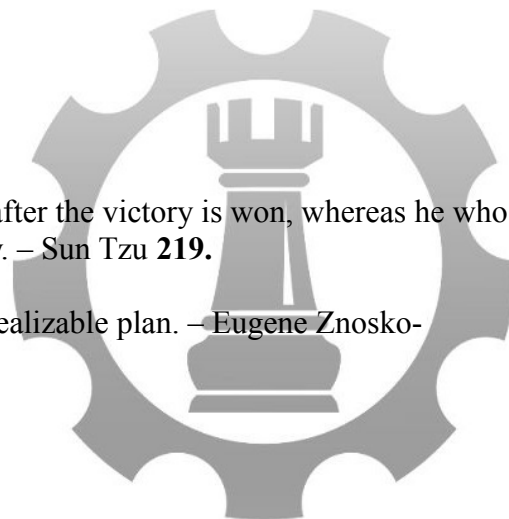
I love all positions. Give me a difficult positional game, I will play it. Give me a bad position, I will defend it. Openings, endgames, complicated positions, dull draws, I love them and I will do my very best. But totally won positions, I cannot stand them. – Hein Donner **217**.

It is rightly said that the most difficult thing in chess is winning a won position. – Vladimir Kramnik **218**.

Plans

Thus it is that in war the victorious strategist only seeks battle after the victory is won, whereas he who is destined to defeat first fights and afterwards looks for victory. – Sun Tzu **219**.

It is not a move, even the best move that you must seek, but a realizable plan. – Eugene Znosko-Borovsky **220**.



It is better to follow out a plan consistently even if it isn't the best one than to play without a plan at all. The worst thing is to wander about aimlessly. – Alexander Kotov **221**.

A bad plan is better than none at all. – Frank Marshall **222**.

To find the right plan is just as hard as looking for its sound justification. – Emanuel Lasker **223**.

The enemy of a good plan is the dream of a perfect plan. – Clausewitz **224**.

A plan is made for a few moves only, not for the whole game. – Reuben Fine **225**.

Capture of the adverse King is the ultimate but not the first object of the game. – Wilhelm Steinitz **226**.

Whoever sees no other aim in the game than that of giving checkmate to one's opponent will never become a good chess player. – Max Euwe **227**.

When strong, avoid them. If of high morale, depress them. Seem humble to fill them with conceit. If at ease, exhaust them. If united, separate them. Attack their weaknesses. Emerge to their surprise. – Sun Tzu **228**.

All obvious moves look dubious in analysis after the game. – Korchnoi **229**.

Perception is strong and sight weak. In strategy it is important to see distant things as if they were close and to take a distanced view of close things. – Musashi **230**.

The study of typical plans is something that the leading grandmasters devote a great deal of time to. I would say that the most far-seeing of them devote as much time to this as to the study of openings. – Alexander Kotov **231**.

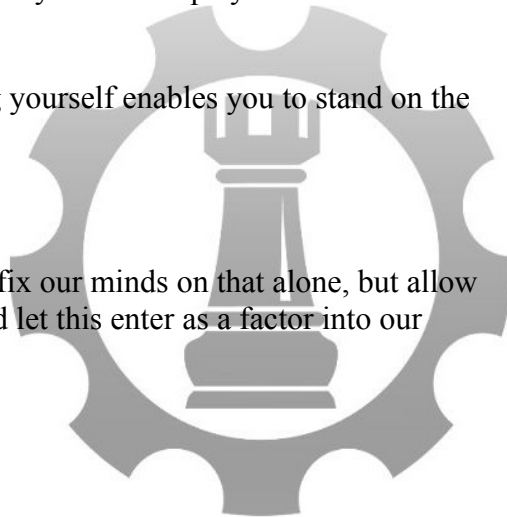
Analysis

Analysis is a glittering opportunity for training: it is just here that capacity for work, perseverance and stamina are cultivated, and these qualities are, in truth, as necessary to a chess player as a marathon runner. – Lev Polugaevsky **232**.

Knowing the enemy enables you to take the offensive, knowing yourself enables you to stand on the defensive. – Sun Tzu **233**.

Ponder and deliberate before you make a move. – Sun Tzu **234**.

If we wish to wrest an advantage from the enemy, we must not fix our minds on that alone, but allow for the possibility of the enemy also doing some harm to us, and let this enter as a factor into our calculations. – Sun Tzu **235**.



A Chess game is a dialogue, a conversation between a player and his opponent. Each move by the opponent may contain threats or be a blunder, but a player cannot defend against threats or take advantage of blunders if he does not first ask himself: What is my opponent planning after each move? – Bruce A. Moon **236**.

What is the Threat?? – Anon (a question to always ask of both your own and the opponent's moves...) **237**.

A Threat is more powerful than its execution. – Tartakover **238**.

The spot where we intend to fight must not be made known; for then the enemy will have to prepare against a possible attack at several different points. – Sun Tzu **239**.

One charming characteristic of many flank attacks I could mention is that they do not very often lead to simplification: if the attack is parried, there usually are still opportunities left for initiating action in another sector. – Bent Larsen **240**.

To ensure attaining *an* objective, one should have alternate objectives. An attack that converges on one point should threaten, and be able to diverge against another. Only by this flexibility of aim can strategy be attuned to the uncertainty of war. – Sir Basil H. Liddell-Hart (*Strategy*, 1954) **241**.

So do many calculations lead to victory, and few calculations to defeat. – Sun Tzu **242**.

I claim that nothing else is so effective in encouraging the growth of chess strength as such independent analysis, both of the games of the great players and your own. – Mikhail Botvinnik **243**.

It is hardly useful if you trustingly play through variation after variation from a book. It is a great deal more useful and more interesting if you take part actively in the analysis, find something yourself, and try to refute some of the author's conclusions. – Mark Dvoretsky **244**.

White lost because he failed to remember the right continuation and had to think up the moves himself. – Siegbert Tarrasch **245**.

The most difficult art is not in the choice of men, but in giving to the men chosen the highest service of which they are capable. – Napoleon **246**.

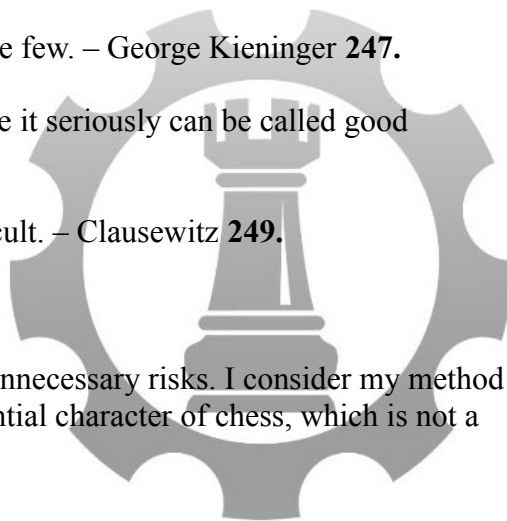
Dazzling combinations are for the many, shifting wood is for the few. – George Kieninger **247**.

Human affairs are like a chess game: only those who do not take it seriously can be called good players. – Hung Tzu Ch'eng **248**.

Everything in war is very simple, but the simplest thing is difficult. – Clausewitz **249**.

Speed is fine but accuracy is final. – Bill Jordan **250**.

Inclined to simplicity, I always play carefully and try to avoid unnecessary risks. I consider my method to be right as any superfluous “daring” runs counter to the essential character of chess, which is not a



gamble but a purely intellectual combat conducted in accordance with the exact rules of logic. – Capablanca **251**.

A win by an unsound combination, however showy, fills me with artistic horror. – Wilhelm Steinitz **252**.

Never do an enemy a small injury. – Niccolo Machiavelli **253**.

Combinations

A combination is a blend of ideas – pins, forks, discovered checks, double attacks – which endow the pieces with magical powers. – I. Chernev **254**.

It is a profound mistake to imagine that the art of combination depends only on natural talent, and that it cannot be learned. Every player knows that all (or almost all) combinations arise from a recollection of familiar elements. – Richard Reti **255**.

According to such great attacking players as Bronstein and Tal, most combinations are inspired by the player's memories of earlier games. – Pal Benko **256**.

In almost any position the boundless possibilities of chess enable a new or at least a little-studied continuation to be found. – Tigran Petrosian **257**.

Combinations have always been the most intriguing aspect of Chess. The masters look for them, the public applauds them, the critics praise them. It is because combinations are possible that chess is more than a lifeless mathematical exercise. They are the poetry of the game; they are to chess what melody is to music. They represent the triumph of mind over matter. – Rueben Fine **258**.

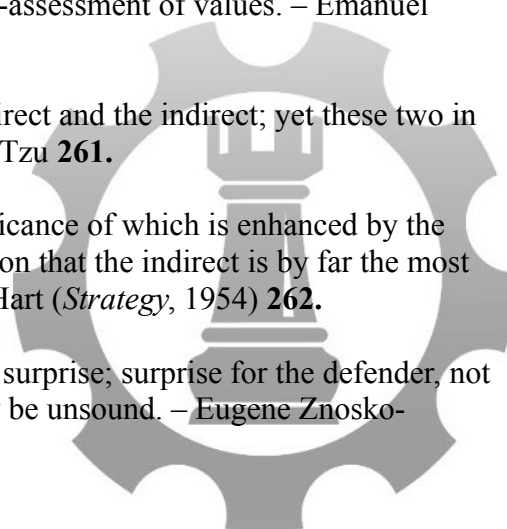
The pleasure to be derived from a chess combination lie in the feeling that a human mind is behind the game, dominating the inanimate pieces ... and giving them breath of life. – Richard Reti **259**.

By positional play a master tries to prove and exploit true values, whereas by combinations he seeks to refute false values ... A combination produces an unexpected re-assessment of values. – Emanuel Lasker **260**.

In battle, there are not more than two methods of attack—the direct and the indirect; yet these two in combination give rise to an endless series of maneuvers. – Sun Tzu **261**.

This high proportion of history's decisive campaigns, the significance of which is enhanced by the comparative rarity of the direct approach, enforces the conclusion that the indirect is by far the most hopeful and economic form of strategy. – Sir Basil H. Liddell-Hart (*Strategy*, 1954) **262**.

It has been stated that a characteristic mark of a combination is surprise; surprise for the defender, not for the assailant, since otherwise the combination will probably be unsound. – Eugene Znosko-



Borowski **263.**

The combination player thinks forward; he starts from the given position, and tries the forceful moves in his mind. – Emanuel Lasker **264.**

Half the variations which are calculated in a tournament game turn out to be completely superfluous. Unfortunately, no one knows in advance which half. – Jan Tinman **265.**

A thorough understanding of the typical mating continuations makes the most complicated sacrificial combinations leading up to them not only not difficult, but almost a matter of course. – Siegbert Tarrasch **266.**

The most difficult art is not in the choice of men, but in giving to the men chosen the highest service of which they are capable. – Napoleon **267.**

Impossible is the word found only in a fool's dictionary. Wise people create opportunities for themselves and make everything possible... – Napoleon **268.**

Preponderance of Force

So in war, the way is to avoid what is strong, and strike at what is weak. – Sun Tzu **269.**

If in a battle, I seize a bit of debatable land with a handful of soldiers, without having done anything to prevent an enemy bombardment of the position, would it ever occur to me to speak of a conquest of the terrain in question? Obviously not. Then why should I do so in chess? – Aaron Nimzowitsch **270.**

Strategically important points should be overprotected. If the pieces are so engaged, they get their regard in the fact that they will then find themselves well posted in every respect. – Aaron Nimzowitsch **271.**

Pursue one great decisive aim with force and determination. – Clausewitz **272.**

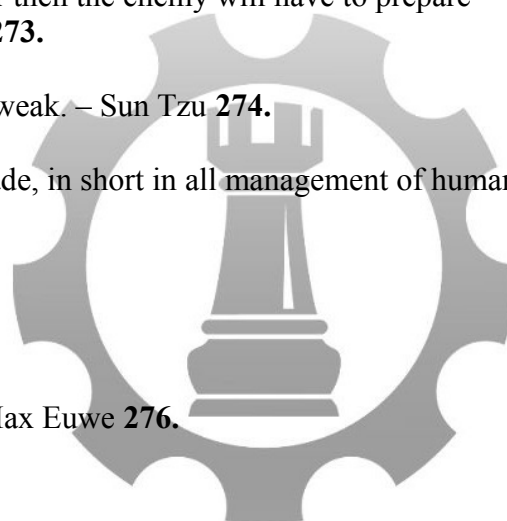
The spot where we intend to fight must not be made known; for then the enemy will have to prepare against a possible attack at several different points. – Sun Tzu **273.**

If he sends reinforcements everywhere, he will everywhere be weak. – Sun Tzu **274.**

Concentration is the secret of strengths in politics, in war, in trade, in short in all management of human affairs. – Ralph Waldo Emerson **275.**

Attacking

... in chess – as in any conflict – success lies in the attack. – Max Euwe **276.**



The process of making pieces in Chess do something useful (whatever it may be) has received a special name: it is called the attack. The attack is that process by means of which you remove obstructions. – Emanuel Lasker **277**.

Opportunities multiply as they are seized. – Sun Tzu **278**.

The most powerful weapon in Chess is to have the next move. – David Bronstein **279**.

...only the player with the initiative has the right to attack. – William Steinitz **280**.

Examine moves that smite! A good eye for smites is far more important than a knowledge of strategical principles. – Purdy **281**.

You have to have the fighting spirit. You have to force moves and take chances. – Bobby Fischer **282**.

Thus the expert in battle moves the enemy, and is not moved by him. – Sun Tzu **283**.

The first principle of attack - Don't let the enemy develop! – Rueben Fine **284**.

Logistics is the Soul of War. – Napoleon **285**.

In maneuver warfare, we attempt not to destroy the entire enemy force but to render most of it irrelevant. – Lt. Col. Robert R. Leonhard, U.S.A. **286**.

If your opponent cannot do anything active, then don't rush the position; instead you should let him sit there, suffer, and beg you for a draw. – Jeremy Silman **287**.

When you have an enemy in your power, deprive him of the means of ever injuring you. – Napoleon **288**.

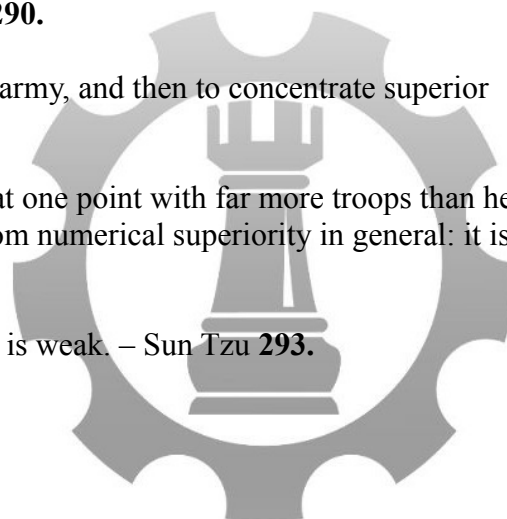
The important thing in strategy is to suppress the enemy's useful actions but allow his useless actions. – Musashi **289**.

The spot where we intend to fight must not be made known; for then the enemy will have to prepare against a possible attack at several different points. – Sun Tzu **290**.

The highest generalship is to compel the enemy to disperse his army, and then to concentrate superior force against each fraction in turn. – Col. Henderson **291**.

Surprise becomes effective when we suddenly face the enemy at one point with far more troops than he expected. This type of numerical superiority is quite distinct from numerical superiority in general: it is the most powerful medium in the art of war. – Clausewitz **292**.

So in war, the way is to avoid what is strong, and strike at what is weak. – Sun Tzu **293**.



Brilliances

Without error there can be no brilliancy. – Emanuel Lasker **294.**

[Chess] is the finest mental exercise. It develops concentration and logical reasoning; and it is one of the few games in which you cannot rectify a mistake. If you make a mistake, you lose, unless your opponent makes a worse mistake. – Capablanca **295.**

A game is always won through a mistake. – Tartakower **296.**

The blunders are all there on the board, waiting to be made. – Savielly Tartakower **297.**

Gentlemen, when the enemy is committed to a mistake we must not interrupt him too soon. – Horatio Nelson **298.**

Hence that general is skilful in attack whose opponent does not know what to defend; and he is skillful in defense whose opponent does not know what to attack. – Sun Tzu **299.**

Select the tactic of seeming to come from the East and attacking from the West; avoid the solid, attack the hollow; attack; withdraw; deliver a lightning blow, seek a lightning decision. When guerrillas engage a stronger enemy, they withdraw when he advances; harass him when he stops; strike him when he is weary; pursue him when he withdraws. – Mao Tse-Tung (*On Guerrilla Warfare*, 1937) **300.**

A quiet move in the midst of an attack is the master's trademark. – Anon **301.**

Not all artists may be chess players, but all chess players are artists. – Marcel Duchamp **302.**

... a 'quiet' move is the epitome of finesse. A soft answer turns away wrath, but its subdued quality makes it no less efficient. – Hans Kmoch **303.**

Mistakes

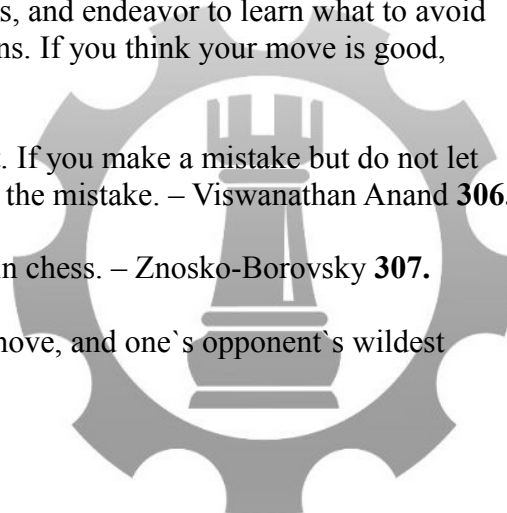
What would Chess be without silly mistakes? – Kurt Richter **304.**

People who want to improve should take their defeats as lessons, and endeavor to learn what to avoid in the future. You must also have the courage of your convictions. If you think your move is good, make it. – Jose Capablanca **305.**

Confidence is very important – even pretending to be confident. If you make a mistake but do not let your opponent see what you are thinking then he may overlook the mistake. – Viswanathan Anand **306.**

To avoid mistakes is the beginning, as it is the end, of mastery in chess. – Znosko-Borovsky **307.**

Chess is infinite, and one has to make only one ill-considered move, and one's opponent's wildest dreams will become reality. – David Bronstein **308.**



One bad move nullifies forty good ones. – I.A. Horowitz **309**.

A descriptive justification can be given for almost every mistake. – adapted from Nigel Davies **310**.

Errors have nothing to do with luck; they are caused by time pressure, discomfort or unfamiliarity with a position, distractions, feelings of intimidation, nervous tension, overambition, excessive caution, and dozens of other psychological factors. – Pal Benko **311**.

In the endgame, the most common errors, besides those resulting from ignorance of theory, are caused by either impatience, complacency, exhaustion, or all of the above. – Pal Benko **312**.

Some things are really hard to do, almost impossible to do, like playing perfectly in extremely complicated positions. But it really bugs me when I miss things that I really shouldn't have. I am always going to make mistakes. I don't have any illusions that my understanding of chess is perfect or anything like that. It's just that I have to work on relatively simple mistakes. When I can lower the percentage of such mistakes then things are going to be much better. – Magnus Carlsen **313**.

Defense

The first order of business for a General is to secure himself against defeat. – Sun Tzu **314**.

Winning isn't everything... but losing is nothing. – Mednis, on the importance of fighting for a draw **315**.

To secure ourselves against defeat lies in our own hands, but the opportunity of defeating the enemy is provided by the enemy himself. – Sun Tzu **316**.

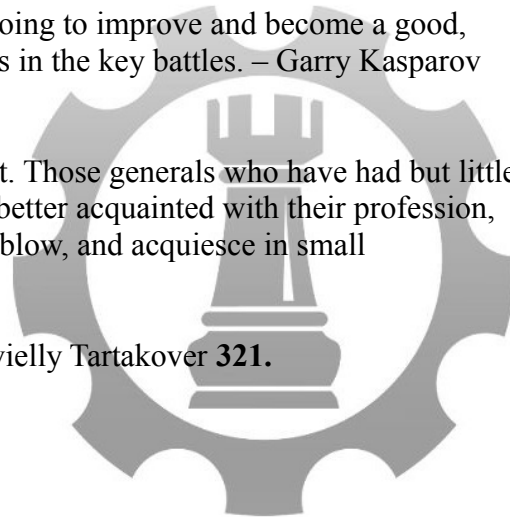
When you don't know what to play, wait for an idea to come into your opponent's mind. You may be sure that idea will be wrong. – Siegbert Tarrasch **317**.

When you defend, try not to worry or become upset. Keep your cool and trust your position - it's all you've got. – Pal Benko **318**.

Setbacks and losses are both inevitable and essential if you're going to improve and become a good, even great, competitor. The art is in avoiding catastrophic losses in the key battles. – Garry Kasparov **319**.

A defensive war is apt to betray us into too frequent detachment. Those generals who have had but little experience attempt to protect every point, while those who are better acquainted with their profession, having only the capital object in view, guard against a decisive blow, and acquiesce in small misfortunes to avoid greater. – Frederick the Great **320**.

To avoid losing a piece, many a person has lost the game. – Savielly Tartakover **321**.



It is dangerous to maintain equality at the cost of placing the pieces passively. – Anatoly Karpov **322**.

Every action is seen to fall into one of three main categories, guarding, hitting, or moving. Here, then, are the elements of combat, whether in war or pugilism. – B. H. Liddell-Hart **323**.

Do nothing which is of no use. – Musashi **324**.

...only the player with the initiative has the right to attack. – William Steinitz **325**.

It's less about physical training, in the end, than it is about the mental preparation: boxing is a chess game. You have to be skilled enough and have trained hard enough to know how many different ways you can counterattack in any situation, at any moment. – Jimmy Smits **326**.

The best form of defense is attack. – Karl von Clausewitz **327**.

... the old aphorism holds good, that after the attack has been repulsed, the counterattack is generally decisive. – Reti **328**.

when to complicate

In modern praxis lost positions are salvaged most often when the play is highly complicated with many sharp dynamic variations to be calculated. – Leonid Shamkovich **329**.

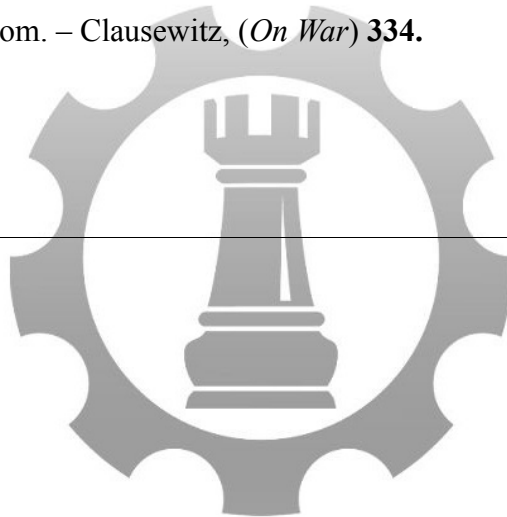
Playing for complications is an extreme measure that a player should adopt only when he cannot find a clear and logical plan. – Alexander Alekhine **330**.

A good sacrifice is one that is not necessarily sound but leaves your opponent dazed and confused. – Rudolph Spielmann **331**.

Although our intellect always longs for clarity and certainty, our nature often finds uncertainty fascinating. – Clausewitz **332**.

From the sublime to the ridiculous there is but one step. – Napoleon **333**.

There are cases in which the greatest daring is the greatest wisdom. – Clausewitz, (*On War*) **334**.



Part Five: Time & Timing

Haste vs. Using the Clock

Haste, the great enemy. – Eugene Znosko-Borowski **335**.

Time trouble is blunder time. – Alexander Kotov **336**.

Whatever the Way, the master of strategy does not appear fast...Of course, slowness is bad. Really skillful people never get out of time, and are always deliberate, and never appear busy. – Musashi **337**.

By playing slowly during the early phases of a game I am able to grasp the basic requirements of each position. Then, despite being in time pressure, I have no difficulty in finding the best continuation. Incidentally, it is an odd fact that more often than not it is my opponent who gets the jitters when I am compelled to make these hurried moves. – Samuel Reshevsky **338**.

The worst enemy of the strategist is the clock. Time trouble ... Reduces us all to pure reflex and reaction, tactical play. Emotion and instinct cloud our strategic vision when there is no time for proper evaluation. – Garry Kasparov **339**.

The fact that a player is very short of time is to my mind, as little to be considered as an excuse as, for instance, the statement of the law-breaker that he was drunk at the time he committed the crime. – Alexander Alekhine **340**.

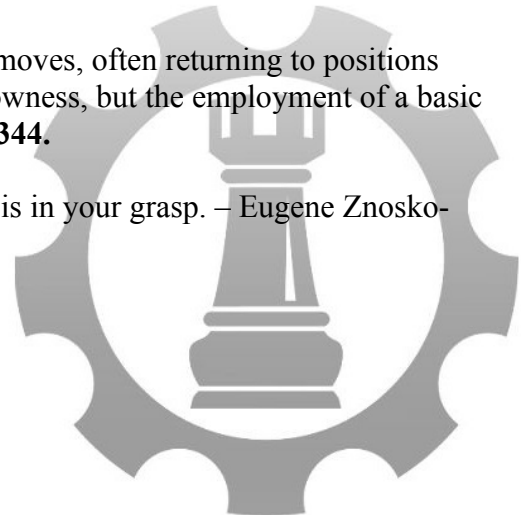
The most important lesson I learned ... was that the winner of a gunplay usually was the one who took his time. – Wyatt Earp **341**.

Go through detailed variations in your own time, think in a general way about the position in the opponent's time and you will soon find that you get into time trouble less often, that your games have more content to them, and that their general standard rises. – Alexander Kotov **342**.

When my opponent's clock is going I discuss general considerations in an internal dialogue with myself. When my own clock is going I analyse concrete variations. – Mikhail Botvinnik **343**.

You will already have noticed how often Capablanca repeated moves, often returning to positions which he had had before. This is not lack of decisiveness or slowness, but the employment of a basic endgame principle which is 'Do not hurry.' – Alexander Kotov **344**.

Haste is never more dangerous than when you feel that victory is in your grasp. – Eugene Znosko-Borovsky **345**.



The Three Stages

The game might be divided into three parts, the opening, the middle-game and the end-game. There is one thing you must strive for, to be equally efficient in the three parts. – Jose Capablanca **346**.

Chess players should acquire knowledge of the three phases [opening, middlegame, endgame] of the game equably, and not pay excessive study to any one. In the opening, development must be sought, and the pieces placed in a natural position where they will maintain the maximum of usefulness. In the middle game, the pieces should not be transferred to places from which they cannot easily return to another part of the field. In the end game, time-saving is the essence of the play. – Capablanca **347**.

Do not permit yourself to fall in love with the end-game play to the exclusion of entire games. It is well to have the whole story of how it happened; the complete play, not the denouement only. Do not embrace the rag-time and vaudeville of chess. – Emanuel Lasker **348**.

The Opening

The art of treating the opening stage of the game correctly and without error is basically the art of using time efficiently. – Svetozar Gligoric **349**.

Where openings are concerned, chess masters are like a flock of sheep; everyone follows the first master's example. Of course it is true that, as in everything, there are exceptions. It must always be remembered that White can hope only to obtain a positional advantage and not a game that is relatively easy to win. – Capablanca **350**.

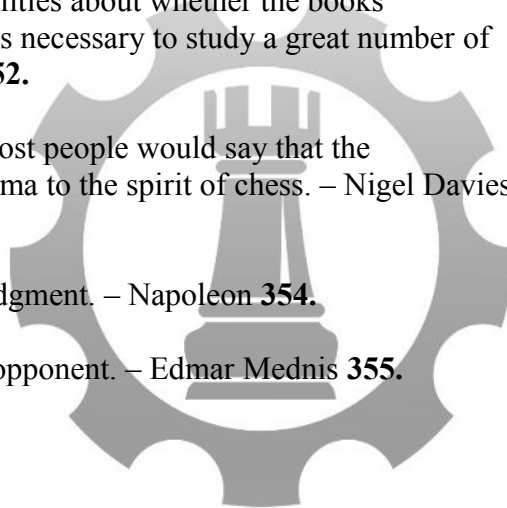
In the beginning of the game ignore the search for combinations, abstain from violent moves, aim for small advantages, accumulate them, and only after these ends search for the combination – and then with all the power of will and intellect, *because then the combination must exist, however deeply hidden*. – Emanuel Lasker **351**.

In order to make progress in chess, it is necessary to pay special attention to all the general principles, spending a little less time on the openings. Play the openings on the basis of your general knowledge of how to mobilize pieces and do not become involved in technicalities about whether the books recommend this or that move; to learn the openings by heart it is necessary to study a great number of books which, moreover, are sometimes wrong. – Capablanca **352**.

If the point of playing chess is as a battle of the intellect then most people would say that the memorization of other peoples ideas is something that is anathema to the spirit of chess. – Nigel Davies **353**.

Ordinarily men exercise their memory much more than their judgment. – Napoleon **354**.

One of the objectives of opening play is to try to surprise your opponent. – Edmar Mednis **355**.



The Mid-game

If a chess statistician were to try and satisfy his curiosity over which stage of the game proved decisive in the majority of cases, he would certainly come to the conclusion that it is the middlegame that provides the most decisive stage. – Alexander Kotov **356**.

My forte was the middlegame. I had a good feeling for the critical moments of the play. This undoubtedly compensated for my lack of opening preparation and, possibly, not altogether perfect play in the endgame. In my games things often did not reach the endgame! – Boris Spassky **357**.

The middle game, where the struggle is really fought, will take a variable number of moves, and will be named so until the certainty of mate for one of the two players is ninety percent. – Madame Flash, *Je gagne aux échecs*, Marabout-Flash 1963 **358**.

The middlegame I repeat is chess itself, chess with all its possibilities, its attacks, defences, sacrifices, etc. – Eugene Znosko-Borovsky **359**.

If a chess statistician were to try and satisfy his curiosity over which stage of the game proved decisive in the majority of cases, he would certainly come to the conclusion that it is the middlegame that provides the most decisive stage. – Alexander Kotov **360**.

I detest the endgame. A well-played game should be practically decided in the middlegame. – David Janowski **361**.

A thorough understanding of the typical mating continuations makes the most complicated sacrificial combinations leading up to them not only not difficult, but almost a matter of course. – Siegbert Tarrasch **362**.

Books on the openings abound; nor are works on the end game wanting; but those on the middle game can be counted on the fingers of one hand. – Harry Golombek **363**.

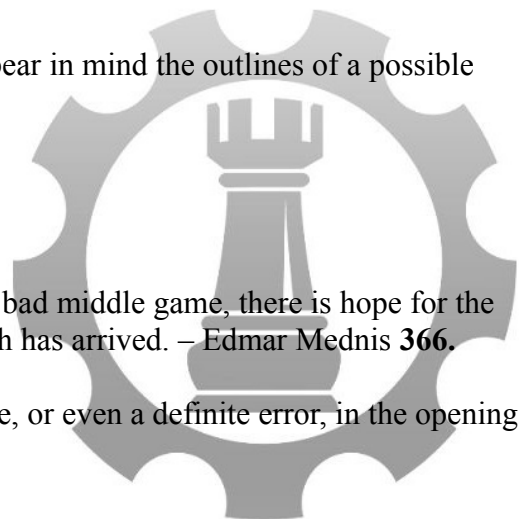
It often happens that a player is so fond of his advantageous position that he is reluctant to transpose to a winning endgame. – Samuel Reshevsky **364**.

Even in the heat of a middlegame battle the master still has to bear in mind the outlines of a possible future ending. – David Bronstein **365**.

The End-Game

After a bad opening, there is hope for the middle game. After a bad middle game, there is hope for the endgame. But once you are in the endgame, the moment of truth has arrived. – Edmar Mednis **366**.

A player can sometimes afford the luxury of an inaccurate move, or even a definite error, in the opening



or middlegame without necessarily obtaining a lost position. In the endgame ... an error can be decisive, and we are rarely presented with a second chance. – Paul Keres **367**.

In the endgame, the most common errors, besides those resulting from ignorance of theory, are caused by either impatience, complacency, exhaustion, or all of the above. – Pal Benko **368**.

Lack of proper endgame technique allows many players to escape from lost positions, even without any spectacular play on their (opponent's) part. – Leonid Shamkovich **369**.

The endgame is an arena in which miraculous escapes are not uncommon. – Leonid Shamkovich **370**.

Ninety percent of the book variations have no great value, because either they contain mistakes or they are based on fallacious assumptions; just forget about the openings and spend all that time on the endings. – Jose Capablanca **371**.

Capablanca did not apply himself to opening theory (in which he never therefore achieved much), but delved deeply into the study of end-games and other simple positions which respond to technique rather than to imagination. – Max Euwe **372**.

In my own experience, the main benefits are often realized when the endgames you have studied never make it onto the board. Endgames often arise in variations, and it's important to develop a good 'feel' for which ones are likely to pose practical problems for the opponent. Likewise, the confidence to simplify into an inferior but tenable endgame safe in the knowledge that you know how to handle it is invaluable. – Luke McShane **373**.

The king, which during the opening and middlegame stage is often a burden because it has to be defended, becomes in the endgame a very important and aggressive piece, and the beginner should realize this, and utilize his king as much as possible. – Jose Capablanca **374**.

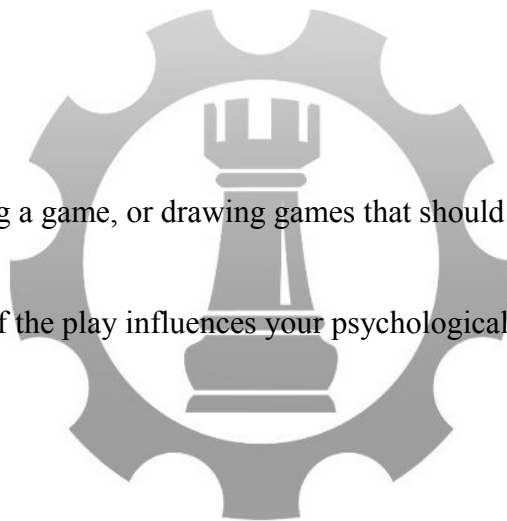
Endings of one rook and pawns are about the most common sort of endings arising on the chess board. Yet though they do occur so often, few have mastered them thoroughly. They are often of a very difficult nature, and sometimes while apparently very simple they are in reality extremely intricate. – Jose Capablanca **375**.

Even the best grandmasters in the world have had to work hard to acquire the technique of rook endings. – Paul Keres **376**.

Timing

Lack of patience is probably the most common reason for losing a game, or drawing games that should have been won. – Bent Larsen **377**.

Any experienced player knows how a change in the character of the play influences your psychological mood. – Garry Kasparov **378**.



Conform to the enemy's tactics until a favorable opportunity offers; then come forth and engage in a battle that shall prove decisive. – Sun Tzu **379**.

Energy may be likened to the bending of a crossbow; decision, to the releasing of a trigger. – Sun Tzu **380**.

Never make a good move too soon. – James Mason **381**.

There is only one decisive victory: the last. – Karl von Clausewitz **382**.

Tension

The ability to create and to control the tension of battle is perhaps the principal attainment of the great player. – Savielly Tartakower **383**.

Move not unless you see an advantage; use not your troops unless there is something to be gained; fight not unless the position is critical. – Sun Tzu **384**.

The more usual reason for adopting a strategy of limited aim is that of awaiting a change in the balance of force ... The essential condition of such a strategy is that the drain on him should be disproportionately greater than on oneself. – Sir Basil H. Liddell-Hart (*Strategy*, 1954) **385**.

Sometimes the hardest thing to do in a pressure situation is to allow the tension to persist. The temptation is to make a decision, any decision, even if it is an inferior choice. – Garry Kasparov **386**.

The psychological effects of having to hold a prospectless position for what might seem an infinite amount of time does nothing to aid the defender's concentration. – Michael Stean **387**.

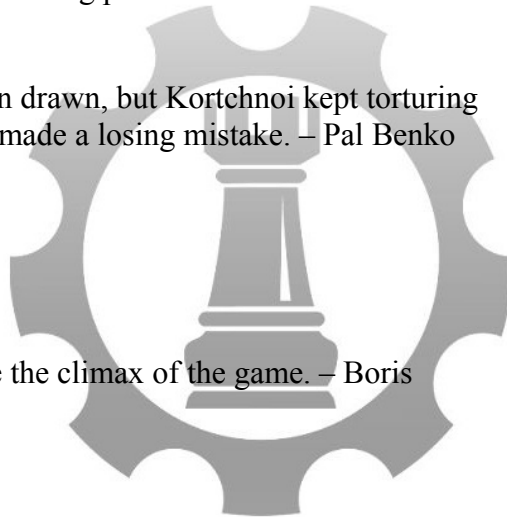
There is nothing wrong with trying to exploit the natural human tendency to become impatient when forced to play a boring position. – Pal Benko **388**.

Emotional instability can be one of the factors giving rise to a failure by chess players in important duels. Under the influence of surging emotions (and not necessarily negative ones) we sometimes lose concentration and stop objectively evaluating the events that are taking place on the board. – Mark Dvoretsky **389**.

I had a slightly inferior endgame that probably should have been drawn, but Kortchnoi kept torturing me with little threats until finally, exhausted and exasperated, I made a losing mistake. – Pal Benko **390**.

Climaxes

The best indicator of a chess player's form is his ability to sense the climax of the game. – Boris Spassky **391**.



In the perfect Chess combination as in a first-rate short story, the whole plot and counter-plot should lead up to a striking finale, the interest not being allayed until the very last moment. – Yates and Winter **392**.

In chess, as in life, opportunity strikes but once. – David Bronstein **393**.

Ending Thoughts:

The true science of martial arts means practicing them in such a way that they will be useful at any time, and to teach them in such a way that they will be useful in all things. – Miyamoto Musashi **394**.

The chesse, of all games wherein is no bodily exercise, is mooste to be commended; for therein is right subtile engine, whereby the wytte is made more sharpe and remembrance quickened. And it is the more commendable and also more commodiouse if the players haue radde the moralization of the chesse, and whan they playe do think upon hit; whiche bokes be in englisshe. But they be very scarce, by cause fewe men do seeke in plaies for vertue or wisdome. – Sir Thomas Eliot (1531) **395**.

We are in truth but pieces on this chess board of life, which in the end we leave, only to drop one by one into the grave of nothingness. (c 1120) – Omar Khayyam **396**.

When the Chess game is over, the Pawn and the King go back to the same box. – Irish proverb **397**.

Miscellaneous:

No chess grandmaster is normal; they only differ in the extent of their madness. – Viktor Korchnoi. **398**.



A Chess game is divided into three stages: the first, when you hope you have the advantage, the second when you believe that you have an advantage, and the third ... when you know you're going to lose! – Savielly Tartakower **399**.

Chess isn't a game of speed, it is a game of speech through actions. – Matthew Selman (on the similarities of chess to a negotiation) **400**.

Let the perfectionist play postal. – GM Yasser Seirawan **401**.

You can ensure the safety of your defense if you only hold positions that cannot be attacked. – Sun Tzu **402**.

Modern chess is too much concerned with things like pawn structure. Forget it - checkmate ends the game. – Nigel Short **403**.

When you don't know what to play, wait for an idea to come into your opponent's mind. You may be sure that idea will be wrong. – Siegbert Tarrasch **404**.

The boy doesn't have a clue about chess, and there's no future at all for him in this profession. – Botvinnik, said about a young 12 year old boy named Anatoly Karpov **405**.

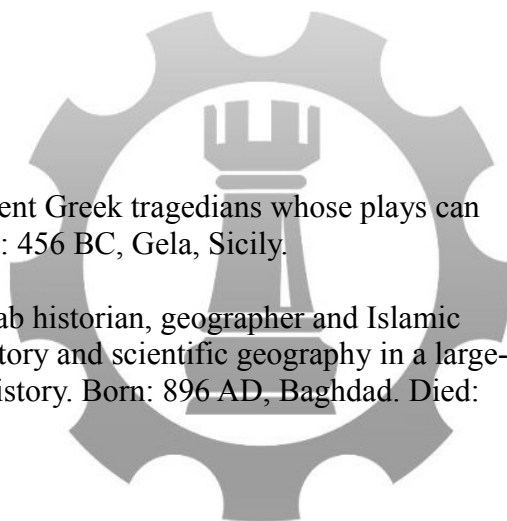
Author Biographies:

A to E:

Jamie Walter Adams - No information available

Aeschylus, considered the father of tragedy is one of three ancient Greek tragedians whose plays can still be read or performed. Born: 525 BC, Eleusis, Greece. Died: 456 BC, Gela, Sicily.

Abu al-Hasan Ali ibn al-Husayn ibn Ali **al-Mas'udi**, was an Arab historian, geographer and Islamic scholar. Al-Masudi is considered one of the first to combine history and scientific geography in a large-scale work, *Muruj adh-dhahab wa ma'adin al-jawhar*, a world history. Born: 896 AD, Baghdad. Died: 956 AD



Alexander Alekhine, PhD was the fourth World Chess Champion. He is considered one of the greatest chess players ever known for his fierce and imaginative attacking style, combined with great positional and endgame skill. Alekhine is highly regarded as a chess writer, theoretician, producing innovations in a wide range of chess openings, and giving his name to Alekhine's Defense and several other opening variations. He also composed endgame studies. Born: October 31, 1892, Moscow, Russia. Died: March 24, 1946, Estoril, Portugal

Viswanathan Anand is an Indian chess Grandmaster and the current World Chess Champion. Viswanathan Anand has won the World Chess Championship five times, and has been the World Champion since 2007. Born: December 11, 1969, Mayiladuthurai

Hunter B. Armstrong is the director of IHS, the martial art known as Hopology and is a leading authority on combative behavior and performance.

Aristotle was perhaps the preeminent Greek philosopher, learning directly at the hands of Plato, in addition to being the tutor of Alexander the Great. He had a profound philosophical influence on the Islamic, Jewish, and Christian traditions. His writings included works on poetry, music, logic, linguistics, politics, government, zoology and physics. Born 384 B.C. Stagira, Chalcidice. Died 322 B.C. Euboea, modern day Greece.

Fernando Arrabal-Terán is a Spanish playwright, screenwriter, poet, novelist, film director and co-founder of the Panic Movement in 1962. Born: August 11, 1932, Melilla, Spain.

Yuri Sergeyevich Balashov is a Russian chess grandmaster and FIDE senior trainer. Born: March 12, 1949, Shadrinsk, Russia.

Pal Benko is a chess grandmaster with the Benko Gambit named after his style of play, author, and composer of endgame studies and chess problems. Born: July 14, 1928, Amiens, France.

Otto von Bismarck, formally known as Otto Eduard Leopold, Prince of Bismarck, Duke of Lauenburg, was a conservative German statesman who dominated European affairs from the 1860s to 1890 by unifying most of the German states into a German empire thus creating a balance of power that preserved peace in Europe for more than 40 years, from 1871 until 1914. Born: April 1, 1815, Schonhausen, Prussia. Died: July 30, 1898, Friedrichsruh, German Empire.

Samuel Standidge Boden was an English professional chess master who had a mating pattern named after his move in one of his games, Boden's Mate. Born: 1826, Kingston on the Hull, England. Died: 1882, London, England.

Efim Dmitriyevich Bogolyubov was a Russian chess grandmaster whose legacy is the Bogo-Indian Defence chess opening that was named after him. Born: April 14, 1889, Kiev, Russia. Died: June 18, 1952, Schwarzwald, West Germany.

Napoleon Bonaparte was a French military genius and political leader whose photographic memory and unrivaled intellectual powers enabled him to rise to power during the latter stages of the French Revolution and its associated wars in Europe. Crowned Napoleon I, he was the French Emperor from



1804 to 1815. Born: August 15, 1769, Ajaccio, Corsica. Died: May 5, 1821, Longwood, St Helena

Mikhail Moiseyevich Botvinnik, PhD was a Russian International Grandmaster who also was an electrical engineer and computer scientist credited as a pioneer in computer chess. Born: August 17, 1911, Kuokkala, Finland. Died: May 5, 1995, Moscow, Russia.

David Ionovich Bronstein, a Soviet chess grandmaster and author of chess books and articles, was considered by his peers as a creative genius and master of tactics. Born: February 19, 1924, Bila Tserkva, Ukraine. Died: December 5, 2006, Minsk, Belarus.

Charles Buxton

Gaius Julius Caesar, a Roman general, statesman, and Consul, was regarded as one of the best orators and prose authors in Latin. He played a critical role in the political and military events that precipitated the demise of the Roman Republic and led to the rise of the Roman Empire. Born: July 13, 100 BC, Rome, Italy. Died: March 15, 44 BC, Rome, Italy.

José Raúl Capablanca y Graupera, a Cuban Grandmaster chess player who held world chess champion title from 1921 to 1927. He was renowned for his exceptional endgame skill and speed of play and nicknamed the "Human Chess Machine", considered by many to be the most talented chess player in history. Born: November 19, 1888, Havana, Cuba. Died: March 8, 1942, New York, New York, USA.

Sven Magnus Øen Carlsen, a Norwegian chess grandmaster and former chess prodigy, the No. 1 ranked player in the world in 2013. His endgame skill is described as among the greatest in history. Born: November 30, 1990, Tonsberg, Norway.

Ralph Charell

Genrikh Chepukaitis

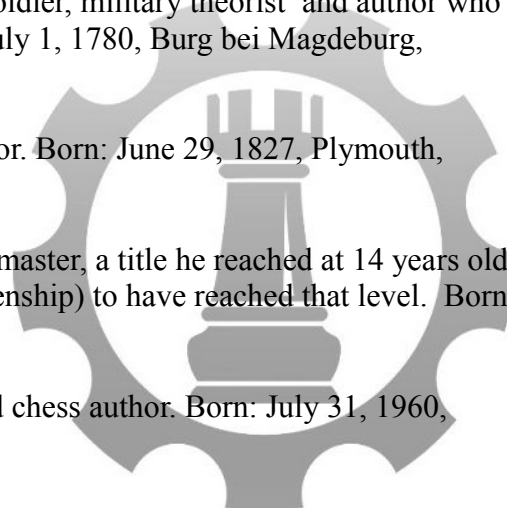
Irving Chernev, a Russian-American chess player and prolific chess author was a national master strength player. Born: January 29, 1900 Pryluky, Russia. Died: September 29, 1981, San Francisco, USA.

Carl Philipp Gottfried von Clausewitz, a German-Prussian soldier, military theorist and author who stressed the psychological and political aspects of war. Born: July 1, 1780, Burg bei Magdeburg, Germany. Died: November 16, 1831, Wroclaw, Poland.

Edward James Mortimer Collins was a British poet and author. Born: June 29, 1827, Plymouth, England. Died: July 28, 1876, Berkshire, England.

Fabiano Cuarana is a former chess prodigy and current grandmaster, a title he reached at 14 years old in 2007, the youngest American (and Italian – he has dual citizenship) to have reached that level. Born July 30, 1992 Miami, Florida.

Nigel Davies is an English chess Grandmaster, chess coach and chess author. Born: July 31, 1960,



Southport, England.

Johannes Hendrikus Donner was a Dutch chess grandmaster, chess columnist and author. Born: July 6, 1927, The Hague, Netherlands. Died: November 27, 1988, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoyevsky was a Russian novelist, short story writer and essayist. Born: November 11, 1921, Moscow, Russia. Died: February 9, 1881, Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Marcel Duchamp was a French-American painter in the style of Cubism and Dadism, sculptor, author and chess master. Born: July 28, 1887, Blainville-Crevon, France. Died: October 2, 1968, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.

Mark Izrailovich Dvoretsky is a Russian chess trainer, International Master and author. Born: December 9, 1947, Moscow, Russia.

Wyatt Berry Stapp Earp was a gambler, western lawman, Deputy U.S. Marshal in Tombstone, Arizona, and is renown for his part in the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral. Born: March 19, 1948, Monmouth, Illinois. Died: January 13, 1929, Los Angeles, California.

Frederick Milne Edge, chess author.

Ralph Waldo Emerson was an American author of essays and poetry, lecturer, chess player and leader in the Transcendentalist movement of the mid-19th century. Born: May 25, 1803, Boston, Massachusetts. Died: April 27, 1882, Concord, Massachusetts.

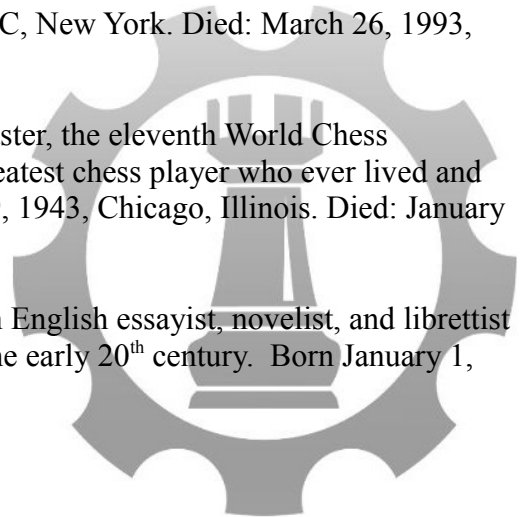
Machgielis Euwe, known as **Max Euwe**, was a mathematician, chess author and Dutch chess Grandmaster. Born: May 20, 1901, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Died: November 26, 1981, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

F to K:

Reuben Fine was a psychologist, a university professor, an International Grandmaster and author of both chess and psychology books. Born: October 11, 1914, NYC, New York. Died: March 26, 1993, NYC, New York.

Robert James "Bobby" Fischer, an American chess Grandmaster, the eleventh World Chess Champion and chess author is considered by many to be the greatest chess player who ever lived and his variant Chess960 is becoming more popular. Born: March 9, 1943, Chicago, Illinois. Died: January 17, 2008, Reykjavík, Iceland.

Edward Morgan Forster (pen name of **E. M. Forster**) was an English essayist, novelist, and librettist known for engaging topics related to class differences during the early 20th century. Born January 1, 1879, Marylbone, England. Died June 7, Coventry, England.



Benjamin Franklin was a person of wide-ranging knowledge or learning. Franklin was a leading author of his time, newspaper editor and printer, political theorist, postmaster, scientist of international renown for his theories in electricity, inventor, musician and an avid chess player. Born: January 17, 1706, Boston, Massachusetts. Died: April 17, 1790, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Frederick II of Prussia, know as Frederick the Great, was the ruler of Prussia from 1740- 1786. He is know as a brilliant military campaigning and organizer of the Prussian army, a gifted flute player and composer, a Platonic philosopher and a lover of nature, both flora and fauna. Born: January 24, 1712, Berlin, Germany. Died: August 17, 1797, Potsdam, Germany.

Svetozar Gligoric was a Serbian and Yugoslavian grandmaster, winning the Yugoslavian championship a record twelve times. One of the most successful tournament players of the 20th century, he nonetheless had a hard time in consecutive world championship qualifying events, capping a career with a loss to Mikhail Tal in 1968. Born February 2, 1923, Belgrade. Died August 14, 2012 Belgrade, Serbia.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe was a literary celebrity of his time; a member of the Sturm und Drang literary movement, a German writer, artist, and politician. His body of work includes epic and lyric poetry memoirs, literary criticisms, essays on scientific subjects. Born: August 28, 1749, Frankfurt, Germany. Died: March 22, 1832, Weimar, Germany.

Harry Golombek was a British chess International Master, honorary grandmaster, chess arbiter, chess author and during WWII he worked at Bletchley Park deciphering the German enigma codes. Born: March 1, 1911, London, England. Died: January 7, 1995, London, England.

John Gray

Michael "Mig" Greengard is an American chess author, commentator and journalist having written several columns online and on twitter. Born: June 9, 1969, California.

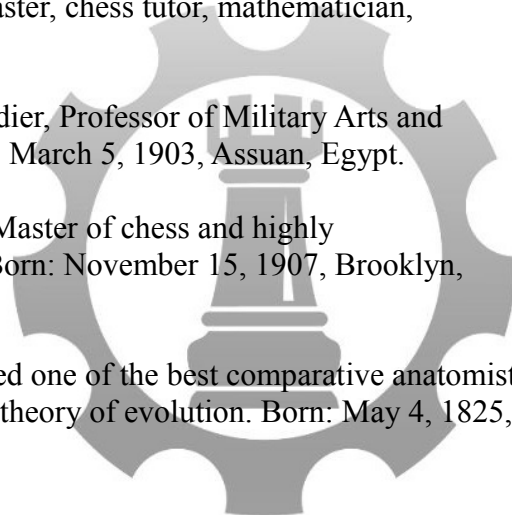
Eduard Yefimovich Gufeld was a Soviet International Grandmaster of chess, a prolific chess author of over 100 books on chess and a chess trainer who started the FIDE Committee on Chess Art and Exhibition. Born: March 19, 1936, Kiev, Russia. Died: September 23, 2002, Los Angeles, California.

Dan Heisman is a United States Chess Federation National Master, chess tutor, mathematician, engineer and author. Born: 1950, Willow Grove, Pennsylvania.

Colonel George Francis Robert Henderson was a British soldier, Professor of Military Arts and History and military author. Born: 1854, Jersey, England. Died: March 5, 1903, Assuan, Egypt.

Israel Albert Horowitz was a Jewish-American International Master of chess and highly recommended chess author known for the Horowitz Defense. Born: November 15, 1907, Brooklyn, New York. Died: January 18, 1973, Brooklyn, New York.

Thomas Henry Huxley was an English biologist and considered one of the best comparative anatomists of the late 19th century. He was a strong advocate of Darwin's theory of evolution. Born: May 4, 1825,



Ealing, England. Died: June 29, 1895, Eastbourne, England.

Dawid Markelowicz Janowski was a Polish chess master whose style of quick play and tactics was devastating with the Bishop Pair. The Janowski Indian Defense is named after him. Born: May 25, 1868, Vawkavysky, Poland. Died: January 15, 1927, Hyeres, France.

Alfred Ernest Jones was a British neurologist and psychoanalyst, author and Sigmund Freud's official biographer. He was a passionate chess player and authored a psychoanalytical study of the life of American chess genius Paul Morphy. Born: January 1, 1879, Gowerton, England. Died: February 11, 1958, London, England.

W.J. Jordan, or **Bill Jordan** was an Australian chess FIDE Master, chess coach and computer chess programmer author of various chess tools.

Anatoly Yevgenyevich Karpov, PhD is a Russian chess Grandmaster and politician. Born: May 23, 1951, Zlatoust, Russia.

Garry Kimovich Kasparov is a Russian chess grandmaster, a former World Chess Champion, author and political activist, considered to be one of the greatest chess player of all time he was known for his chess games against the IBM computers, Deep Thought, Deep Blue, Deep Jr. and X3D Fritz. Born: April 13, 1963, Baku, Russia.

Paul Keres was an Estonian chess Grandmaster and chess author. Born: January 7, 1916, Narva, Estonia. Died: June 5, 1975, Helsinki, Finland.

George Kieninger was a German chess master and International Master. Born: June 5, 1902, Munich, Germany. Died: January 25, 1975, Dusseldorf, Germany.

Johann "Hans" Joseph Kmoeh was an Austrian-Dutch-American chess International Master, International Arbiter, and a chess journalist and author. Born: July 25, 1894, Vienna, Austria. Died: February 13, 1973, NYC, New York.

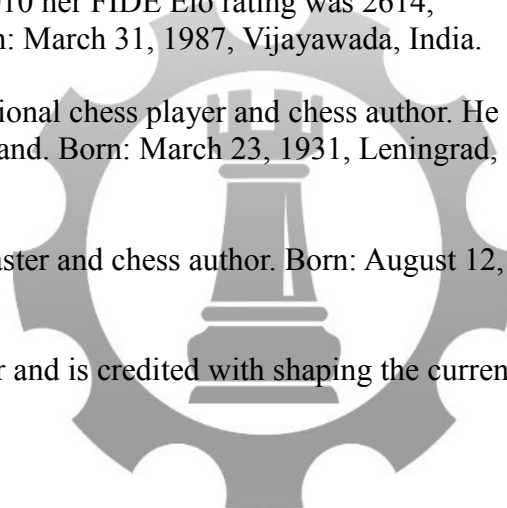
Arthur Koestler was a Hungarian-British author and journalist best know for his work "Darkness at Noon." Born: September 5, 1905, Budapest, Hungary. Died: March 1, 1983, London, England.

Humpy Koneru is an Indian chess Grandmaster. In January 2010 her FIDE Elo rating was 2614, ranking her number two in the world for women's players. Born: March 31, 1987, Vijayawada, India.

Viktor Lvovich Korchnoi is a Russian Grandmaster, a professional chess player and chess author. He defected from Russia in 1976, and currently resides in Switzerland. Born: March 23, 1931, Leningrad, Russia.

Alexander Alexandrovich Kotov was a Soviet chess Grandmaster and chess author. Born: August 12, 1913, Tula, Russia. Died: January 8, 1981, Moscow, Russia.

Vladimir Borisovich Kramnik is a Russian chess grandmaster and is credited with shaping the current opening theory of chess. Born: June 25, 1975, Tuapse, Russia.



Stanley Kubrick was an American film director, screenwriter, producer, cinematographer, editor and chess player who said "*If chess has any relationship to filmmaking, it would be in the way it helps you develop patience and discipline in choosing between alternatives at a time when an impulsive decision seems very attractive.*" He is regarded as one of the greatest filmmakers of all time. Born: July 26, 1928, Bronx, New York. Died: March 7, 1999, St Albans, England.

Wu Kung-tsao was a famous Chinese martial arts teacher of t'ai chi ch'uan. Born: 1902, China. Died: 1983, China.

J to N:

Omar Khayyam was the poetic author of the *Rubaiyat*, and a multi-disciplined philosopher, mathematician, astronomer, and musician. Born May 18, 1048, Nishapur. Died December 4, 1131, Nishapur, modern-day Iran.

Jørgen Bent Larsen was a Danish chess Grandmaster and chess author. Larsen was regarded as a deep thinking and highly imaginative player, more willing to try unorthodox ideas and to take more risks than most of his peers. Born: March 4, 1935, Thisted, Denmark. Died: September 9, 2010, Buenos Aires, Brazil.

Edward Lasker was a leading German-American chess and Go player, an International Master engineer and chess author. Born: December 3, 1885, Kempo, Poland. Died: March 25, 1981, NYC, New York.

Emanuel Lasker, PhD was a German chess player, mathematician, philosopher and World Chess Champion for 27 years who by recent analysis of his flexible approach to chess was considered one of the strongest players ever and ahead of his time. Born: December 24, 1868, Barlinke, Poland. Died: January 11, 1941, NYC, New York.

Lt.Col. Robert R. Leonhard, author of military strategies books.

David Neil Laurence Levy, is a Scottish International Master of chess, a prolific chess author, a businessman connected with computer chess and artificial intelligence, and the founder of the Computer Olympiads and the Mind Sports Olympiads. Born: March 14, 1945, London, England.

Sir Basil Henry Liddell Hart, or Captain B. H. Liddell Hart, was an English soldier, military historian and leading inter-war theorist. He is credited with greatly influencing the development of armored warfare. Born: October 31, 1895, Paris, France. Died: January 29, 1970, Marlow, England.

Niccolo Machiavelli was an Italian renaissance man, known as a historian, political philosopher, humanist, and diplomat. He wrote the famous political treatise *The Prince* for the Medici family in

1953, with a more detailed version called *The Art of War* coming after his semi-forced retirement. Born May 3, 1469, Florence, Republic of Florence (Italy). Died June 21, 1527, Florence.

Paul Thomas Mann was a German novelist, short story writer, social critic, philanthropist, essayist, and 1929 Nobel Prize laureate, known for his use of symbolism and irony. Born: June 6, 1875, Lubeck, Germany. Died: August 12, 1955, Zurich, Switzerland.

Mao Tse-tung, later known by the simple “Chairman Mao,” was a communist revolutionary, military leader, politician, and political theorist who is credited with the distinction of founding the People's Republic government of modern day China. Born December 26, 1893, Shaoshan, Hunan. Died September 9, 1976, Beijing, China.

Frank James Marshall, was a U.S. Chess Champion know for his great tactical skill with a number of chess opening variations named after him. Born: August 10, 1877, NYC, New York. Died: November 9, 1944, Jersey City, New Jersey.

George Catlett Marshall, Jr., was General of the Army, Army of the United States, Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense during the Truman administration. The Marshall Plan (ERP) to help rebuild Europe after WWII was named after him and for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. Born: December 31, 1880, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Died: October 16, 1959, Washington D.C.

James Mason was a famous American chess player of the 19th century and chess writer with a chess opening variation named after him, the Mason Variation. Born: November 19, 1949, Kilkenny, Ireland. Died: January 12, 1905, Rochdale, England.

Luke James McShane is an English chess Grandmaster and former World Youth Champion and chess prodigy, he is a strong blitz chess player, and he is fully employed as a trader in London's financial sector, therefore referred to as the world's strongest amateur. Born: January 7, 1984, London, England.

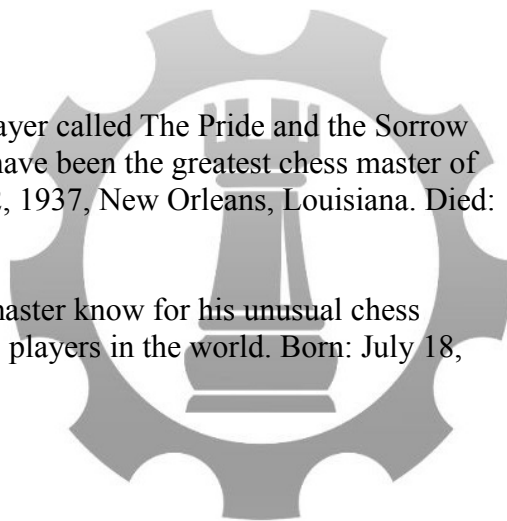
Edmar John Mednis was an American International Grandmaster of chess, engineer, stockbroker and a popular and respected chess writer. Born: March 22, 1937, Riga, Latvia. Died: February 13, 2002, Queens, New York.

Deng Ming-Dao is a Chinese American author, artist, philosopher, teacher and martial artist who studied the Taosist internal arts, Qigong and Kung-Fu. Born: 1954, San Francisco, California.

Bruce A. Moon

Paul Charles Morphy was a lawyer and an American chess player called The Pride and the Sorrow because of his brief, brilliant chess career and is considered to have been the greatest chess master of his era and an unofficial World Chess Champion. Born: June 22, 1937, New Orleans, Louisiana. Died: July 10, 1884, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Alexander Sergeyvich Morozevich is a Russian chess Grandmaster know for his unusual chess openings and is considered to be one of the best blindfold chess players in the world. Born: July 18, 1977, Moscow, Russia.



Miyamoto Musashi, born Shinmen Takezō, Miyamoto Bennesuke or, known by his Buddhist name, Niten Dōraku, was a Japanese swordsman and rōnin and author of “The Book of Five Rings.” Born: 1584, Harima Province, Japan. Date debated. Died: June 16, 1645, Higo Province, Japan.

Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov was a Russian-American novelist, a lepidopterist and a creator of chess endgame studies. Born: April 22, 1899, Saint Petersburg, Russia. Died: July 2, 1977, Montreux, Switzerland.

William Ewart Napier was an American chess master, an insurance executive and an author of chess books. Born: January 17, 1881, Surrey, England. Died: September 6, 1952, Washington D.C.

Horatio Nelson, 1st Viscount Nelson, KB was a was a military commander, flag officer famous for his service in the Royal Navy, particularly as an Admiral during the Napoleonic Wars, was noted for his inspirational leadership and understanding of strategy and unconventional tactics, which resulted in a number of decisive naval victories such as the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. Born: September 29, 1758, Norfolk, England. Died: October 21, 1805, Cape Trafalgar, Spain.

Aron Nimzowitsch was a Danish leading chess master and influential chess writer and considered one of the most important players and writers in chess history being leading figure of the hypermodernism movement after WWI. Born: November 7, 1886, Riga, Latvia. Died: March 16, 1935, Copenhagen.

P to S:

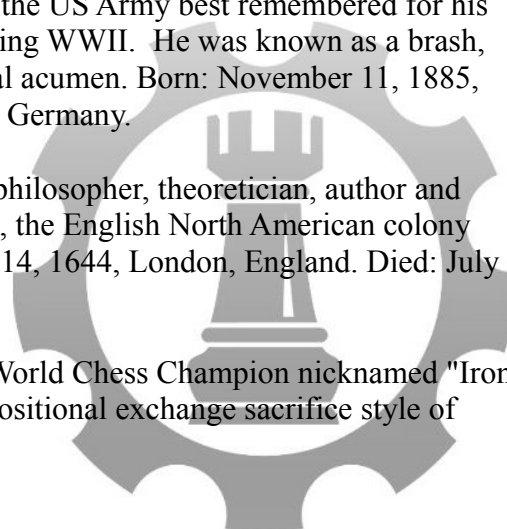
Vasily Nikolayevich Panov was a Soviet chess player, chess author, and journalist, and has a variation of the Caro-Kann Defence named after his play called the Panov Attack. Born: November 1, 1906, Kozelsk, Russia. Died: January 13, 1973, Moscow, Russia.

Blaise Pascal was a home-schooled child prodigy, French mathematician, physicist, inventor, writer and Christian philosopher who made strong contributions to the fields of natural and applied sciences. Born: June 19, 1623, Clermont-Ferrand, France. Died: August 19, 1662, Paris, France.

General George Smith. Patton, Jr., was a four star general in the US Army best remembered for his command of the Seventh US Army and the Third US Army during WWII. He was known as a brash, audacious leader with great oratory skills but lacking in political acumen. Born: November 11, 1885, San Gabriel, California. Died: December 21, 1945, Heidelberg, Germany.

William Penn was a Quaker, English real estate entrepreneur, philosopher, theoretician, author and influential scholar and founder of the Province of Pennsylvania, the English North American colony and the future Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Born: October 14, 1644, London, England. Died: July 30, 1718, Berkshire, England.

Tigran Petrosian was a Russian Armenian Grandmaster, and World Chess Champion nicknamed "Iron Tigran" due to his defensive playing style, was known for his positional exchange sacrifice style of



play and his expertise in opening theory known as the Petrosian System. Born: June 17, 1929, Tbilisi, Georgia. Died: August 18, 1984, Moscow, Russia.

François-André Danican Philidor, or André Danican Philidor, was a French composer, chess player and chess author, known for his development to early opera-comique and chess moves known as Philidor Defense, an opening, and Philidor's position, an endgame position. Born: September 7, 1726, Dreux, France. Died: August 31, 1795, London England.

Judit Polgár is a Hungarian chess Grandmaster. She is the strongest female chess player to date, achieving the title of Grandmaster at the age of 15 years and 4 months, the youngest person ever to do so at that time. She is known for her an aggressive playing style, with an understanding of positional play and she excels in tactics. (Younger sister to Susan Polgar). Born: July 23, 1976, Budapest Hungary.

Susan Polgar, or **Zsuzsa Polgar**, is a Hungarian-American chess Grandmaster, an Olympic chess champion, a chess teacher, coach, chess author, and the head of the Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence and the Susan Polgar Foundation which gives chess training to children. Born: April 19, 1969, Budapest, Hungry.

Lev Abramovich Polugaevsky was a Belarusian International chess Grandmaster, chess author and opening theorist remembered for a variation of the Sicilian Defense know as the Polugaevsky Variation. Born: November 30, 1934, Mogilev, Belarus. Died: August 30, 1995, Paris, France.

Lt. General Lewis Burwell “Chesty” Puller was debatably the most decorated Marine in Marine Corps history; awarded 5 Navy Crosses and serving in WWII and the Korean War. Born June 26, 1898, West Point, Virginia. Died October 11, 1971, Hampton, Virginia, USA.

John Spencer Purdy was an Australian chess Master, accountant, barrister, administrator and Family Court Judge of Australia. Born: September 25, 1935, Sydney, Australia. Died: August 27, 2011, Taree, Australia.

Norman Reider is a psychologist who wrote *Chess, Oedipus and the Mater Dolorosa*.

Samuel Herman Reshevsky was a chess prodigy, a American chess Grandmaster, accountant and a chess author known as an excellent match player excelling at positional play and tactics. Born: November 26, 1911, Ozorkow, Poland. Died: April 4, 1992, NYC, New York.

Richard Réti was a Czechoslovak chess player, chess author, a composer of endgame studies and a proponent of hypermodernism. Born: May 28, 1889, Pezinok, Slovakia. Died: June 6, 1929, Prague, Czechoslovakia.

Hyman George Rickover, called the "Father of the Nuclear Navy" was a four-star admiral of the United States Navy who directed the development of naval nuclear propulsion and controlled its operations for 30 years as director of Naval Reactors with a record of zero nuclear reactor accidents. Born: January 27, 1900, Makow Mazowiecki, Poland. Died: July 8, 1986, Arlington, Virginia.

Kurt Paul Otto Joseph Richter was a German chess International Master and chess writer who was

influential in chess opening with the Richter-Rauzer Variation and the Richter-Veresov Attack named after his style of play. Born: November 24, 1900, Berlin: 15, Germany. Died: December 29, 1969, Berlin, Germany.

Field Marshall Erwin Johannes Eugen Rommel, known as the Desert Fox, was a highly decorated German General during WWI and WWII and was highly regarded by his troops and the opponents he faced. He was considered a humane and professional officer, his prisoners were always treated well and not killed as he had been ordered by the Wehrmacht high command.

Akiba Kiwelowicz Rubinstein a Polish chess Grandmaster, was one of the earliest chess players to factor the endgame when choosing and playing the opening. He had exceptional skill with his endgame, particularly in rook endings, where he is credited with breaking new ground in chess knowledge. Born: December 12, 1882, Stawiski, Poland. Died: March 15, 1961, Antwerp, Belgium.

Yasser Seirawan, is a Syrian American chess Grandmaster, a respected chess author and commentator. Born: March 24, 1960, Damascus, Syria.

Matthew Selmán is an American screenwriter, producer and was editor-in-chief of student magazine of the University of Pennsylvania, *34th Street Magazine*. Born: 1970-71 Watertown, Pennsylvania.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca, also known as Seneca the younger, was a Roman Stoic philosopher, statesman, orator, dramatist of Latin literature, and was tutor and advisor to Nero. Born: 4 BCE, Cordoba, Spain. Died: 65 AD, Rome, Italy.

Philip Henry Sheridan was a General of the United States Army known for his actions during the Civil War and the Indian Wars of the Great Plains. He was also instrumental in the preservation and development of Yellowstone National Park. Born: March 6, 1831, Albany, New York. Died: August 5, 1888, Nonquitt, Massachusetts.

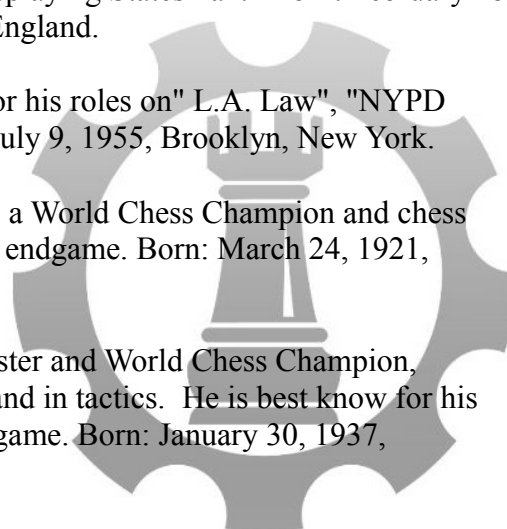
Jeremy D. Silman is an American International Master of chess, a coach and an author of chess and gaming books and chess periodicals. He also served as a chess consultant on the 2001 film "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone." Born: August 28, 1954, Del Rio, Texas.

John Allsebrook Simon, 1st Viscount Simon, was a lawyer and a British politician who held senior Cabinet posts during the WWI and WWII, known as the "Chessplaying Statesman." Born: February 28, 1873, Manchester, England. Died: January 11, 1954, London, England.

Jimmy Smits is an Emmy nominated American actor known for his roles on "L.A. Law", "NYPD Blue", "The West Wing" and the pilot of "Miami Vice". Born: July 9, 1955, Brooklyn, New York.

Vasily Vasilyevich Smyslov was a Russian chess Grandmaster, a World Chess Champion and chess author known for his positional style of play and handling of the endgame. Born: March 24, 1921, Moscow, Russia. Died: March 27, 2010, Moscow, Russia.

Boris Vasilievich Spassky is a Russian French chess Grandmaster and World Chess Champion, described as a universal player he excelled in the middlegame and in tactics. He is best known for his role in the famous 1972 Fischer-Spassky World championship game. Born: January 30, 1937,



Leningrad, Russia.

Rudolf Spielmann was an Austrian chess player, chess author and non-practicing lawyer known as "The Master of Attack", "The Last Knight of the King's Gambit" and "The Last Romantic." Born: May, 5 1883, Vienna, Austria. Died: August 20, 1942, Stockholm, Sweden.

Michael Francis Stean is an English chess Grandmaster and chess author. Born: September 4, 1953, London, England.

Wilhelm/William Steinitz, was an Austrian American chess player, the first undisputed world chess champion, a Talmudic scholar and a chess author contributing to periodicals. Born: May 17, 1836, Prague, Czechoslovakia. Died: August 12, 1900, NYC, New York.

T to Z:

Mikhail Tal was a Russian-Latvian chess Grandmaster and chess author who was regarded as a creative genius and the best attacking player of all time. Born: November 9, 1936, Riga, Latvia. Died: June 28, 1992, Moscow, Russia.

Siegbert Tarrasch was a physician, German chess master, chess teacher and author of chess books with several chess openings named after him. Born: March 5, 1862, Wroclaw, Poland. Died: February 17, 1934, Munich, Germany.

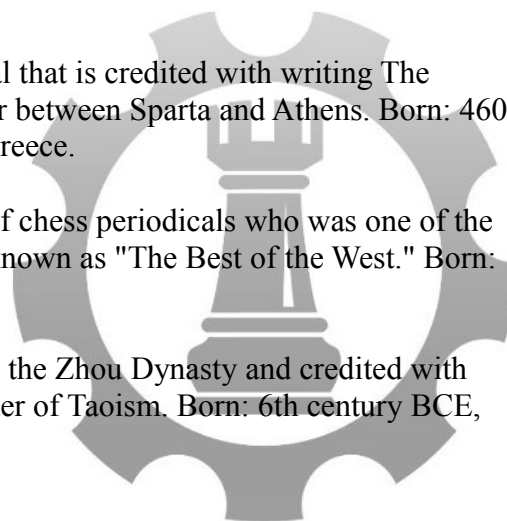
Savielly Tartakower or Ksawery Tartakower, PhD in law, was a Polish and French chess Grandmaster, a chess journalist and chess author who is remembered for his sharp wit and aphorisms. Born: February 22, 1887, Rostov-on-Don, Russia. Died: February 4, 1956, Paris, France.

Henry David Thoreau was an American author known for "Walden" and his essay "Civil Disobedience", an early proponent of environmentalism, poet, philosopher, abolitionist, naturalist, tax resister, development critic, surveyor, historian, and leading transcendentalist believing in the inherent goodness of both people and nature. Born: July 12, 1817, Concord, Massachusetts. Died: May 6, 1862, Concord, Massachusetts.

Thucydides was a Greek historian, author and Athenian general that is credited with writing The History of the Peloponnesian War about the 5th century BC war between Sparta and Athens. Born: 460-455 BCE, Alimos, Greece. Died: 411-404 BCE, near Athens, Greece.

Jan Tinman is a Dutch chess Grandmaster, author and editor of chess periodicals who was one of the world's leading players from the late 1970s to the early 1990s known as "The Best of the West." Born: December 14, 1951, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Lao Tzu, or **Laozi** was a Chinese philosopher that lived during the Zhou Dynasty and credited with being the author of the Tao Te Ching and the philosophic founder of Taoism. Born: 6th century BCE,



China.

Sun Tzu, Sun Wu, style name Changqing, more familiarly known as Sun Tzu or **Sunzi**, was an ancient Chinese military general, strategist and philosopher from the Zhou Dynasty credited with writing "The Art of War". Born: 544 BCE, Qi, China. Died: 496 BCE, Wu, China.

Hung Tzu-ch'eng was a Chinese author of the *Caigentan*, or, *Vegetable Roots Discourse*, a diverse group of philosophical aphorisms brought out of Taoism, Chan Buddhism, and Confucianism. Lived during the Wanli Emperor's reign, 1572 – 1620.

Morihei Ueshiba was a famous martial artist, founder of the Japanese martial art of Aikido, and a Go player. Often referred to as "the founder" Kaiso or Ōsensei, "Great Teacher", he was considered a simple but wise man and a gifted farmer. Born: December 14, 1883, Tanabe, Wakayama, Japan. Died: April 26, 1969, Iwama, Ibaraki, Japan.

William Winter was a British chess Champion, radical politician and chess author. Born: September 11, 1898, Medstead, England. Died: December 18, 1955, London, England.

Frederick Dewhurst Yated was a British chess Master, accountant and chess columnist. Born: January 16, 1884, Birstall, England. Died: November 11, 1932, London, England.

Eugene Alexandrovich Znosko-Borovsky was a Russian chess master, music and drama critic, chess teacher and author of chess books. Born: August 16, 1884, Saint Petersburg, Russia. Died: December 31, 1954, Paris, France.

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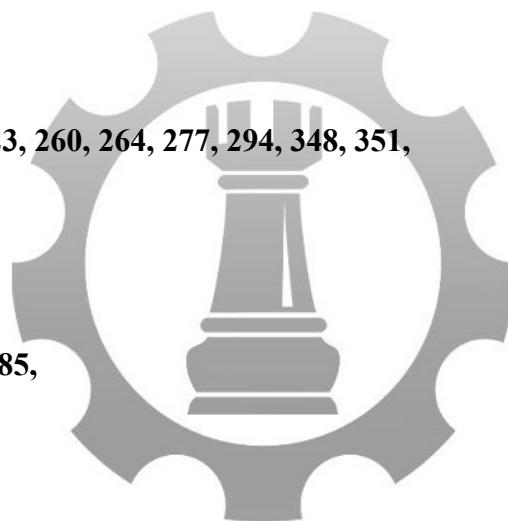
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