

Chess Trivia Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Chess Trivia trivia explores one of the world's oldest and most influential strategy games, whose modern rules took shape in Europe after earlier forms spread from South Asia across the medieval world. Expect a concise mix of easy crowd-pleasers, funny surprises, and harder stumpers that reward both casual players and seasoned fans.

HARD CHESS TRIVIA

1. Which champion first took the world title in 1894 and did not relinquish it until 1921?

Answer: Emanuel Lasker

2. Who owns the longest reign as undisputed World Chess Champion?

Answer: Emanuel Lasker

3. Across the 1970 Interzonal and 1971 Candidates, how many consecutive games did Bobby Fischer win?

Answer: 20 straight games

4. In what year was the Immortal Game played in London?

Answer: 1851

5. Who beat Lionel Kieseritzky in the famous Immortal Game?

Answer: Adolf Anderssen

6. Jean Dufresne was on the losing side of which celebrated 1852 victory by Adolf Anderssen?

Answer: The Evergreen Game

7. Which famous game features Paul Morphy defeating Duke Karl and Count Isouard?

Answer: The Opera Game

8. Name the city where the Opera Game was played in 1858.?

Answer: Paris

9. What year saw the first official World Chess Championship match?

Answer: 1886

10. In the 1886 title match, Wilhelm Steinitz defeated which opponent?

Answer: Johannes Zukertort

11. Which country dominated the Chess Olympiad for much of the 20th century?

Answer: The Soviet Union

12. The 1972 Fischer-Spassky world championship match took place in what city?

Answer: Reykjavík

13. Magnus Carlsen became World Chess Champion in which year?

Answer: 2013

14. In what year was the women's world title first won by Vera Menchik?

Answer: 1927

FUNNY CHESS TRIVIA

1. In chess, what do you call a move that attacks two targets at once, like a piece suddenly deciding multitasking is its true calling?

Answer: fork

2. When one piece moves aside and reveals an attack from the piece behind it, what is that sneaky reveal called?

Answer: discovered attack

3. What is the name for a fork that attacks both the king and queen, otherwise known as the royal family emergency?

Answer: royal fork

4. If a piece cannot legally or safely move because it would expose a more valuable piece behind it, what condition is it under?

Answer: pinned

5. What tactic forces one defending piece away so its buddy is left hanging like it missed the last bus?

Answer: deflection

6. If you lure an enemy piece onto a bad square with all the subtlety of a cartoon banana peel, what tactic is that?

Answer: decoy

7. A player has lost every piece except the monarch. What phrase is sometimes used for that lonely situation?

Answer: bare king

8. What is the common name for a checkmate by queen and knight when the king is boxed in by its own pieces and basically smothered by its roommates?

Answer: smothered mate

9. A pawn zooms forward two squares on its first move. Which special capture is only available on the very next move if the conditions are right?

Answer: en passant

10. What is the gloriously hard-to-pronounce term for a move inserted between two expected moves in a sequence?

Answer: zwischenzug

11. What do chess players call the miserable position where you'd love to pass your turn, but the rules say 'absolutely not'?

Answer: zugzwang

12. What tactic wins material by attacking through one piece to the more valuable one behind it, like a very rude kebab order?

Answer: skewer

13. A forcing series of checks aimed at trapping the king is often called what, even if it feels more like legal paperwork for doom?

Answer: mating net

FUN CHESS TRIVIA

1. Which region lent its name to the Catalan Opening?

Answer: Catalonia

2. If an opening sounds like it ordered coffee and cake in Austria, which city names the Vienna Game?

Answer: Vienna

3. The Berlin Defense is named after what city?

Answer: Berlin

4. Despite its passport-stamped name, the Dutch Defense takes its name from which country?

Answer: the Netherlands

5. What country gives the English Opening its straightforward name?

Answer: England

6. Which player gave his name to the Grünfeld Defense?

Answer: Ernst Grünfeld

7. The Chigorin Defense is named after which chess master?

Answer: Mikhail Chigorin

8. Whose surname appears in the Tarrasch Defense?

Answer: Siegbert Tarrasch

9. Which famous figure is honored in the name of the Philidor Defense?

Answer: François-André Danican Philidor

10. Against 1.e4, what black move starts the Sicilian Defense?

Answer: c5

11. What is Black's first move in the French Defense after 1.e4?

Answer: e6

12. If Black answers 1.e4 with c6, which opening move have they just played?

Answer: c6

13. Which pawn move starts the Scandinavian Defense against 1.e4?

Answer: d5

CHESS FAMILY TRIVIA

1. In what year was FIDE founded?

Answer: 1924

2. Which city is home to FIDE's headquarters?

Answer: Lausanne, Switzerland

3. Who is recognized as the first official World Chess Champion?

Answer: Wilhelm Steinitz

4. Which world chess champion came from Cuba?

Answer: Jos[^] Ra[™]l Capablanca

5. Bobby Fischer won the World Chess Championship in which year?

Answer: 1972

6. Anatoly Karpov became World Chess Champion in what year?

Answer: 1975

7. What year did Garry Kasparov become World Chess Champion?

Answer: 1985

8. Which world champion in this fact set is from India?

Answer: Viswanathan Anand

9. Who was the first Women's World Chess Champion?

Answer: Vera Menchik

10. Who created the rating system widely used in chess today?

Answer: Arpad Elo

11. What is the name of FIDE's major team competition?

Answer: Chess Olympiad

12. On a chessboard, what do players call the queen's side?

Answer: queenside

EASY CHESS TRIVIA

1. How many squares are on a standard chessboard?

Answer: 64 squares

2. At the start of a standard chess game, how many pieces does each player have?

Answer: 16 pieces

3. Which chess piece can move one square in any direction?

Answer: The king

4. Which piece is the only one that can jump over other pieces?

Answer: The knight

5. If a chess piece moves only diagonally, which piece is it?

Answer: The bishop

6. Which piece moves in straight lines horizontally or vertically?

Answer: The rook

7. Which chess piece combines the movement of a rook and a bishop?

Answer: The queen

8. What is it called when a pawn reaches the back rank and can become another piece?

Answer: Promotion

9. What is the main goal in chess?

Answer: To checkmate the opponent's king

10. Who moves first in standard chess?

Answer: White

11. What is the special move called that involves the king and a rook?

Answer: Castling

12. What pattern do the squares on a standard chessboard follow?

Answer: They alternate light and dark squares

13. In the starting setup, where do the queens go?

Answer: On their own color

Source: <https://triviagong.com/trivia/chess-trivia-trivia>