

Three Types of Terminology in Chess

Pius ten Hacken & Maria Koliopoulou

Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck

Chessboard



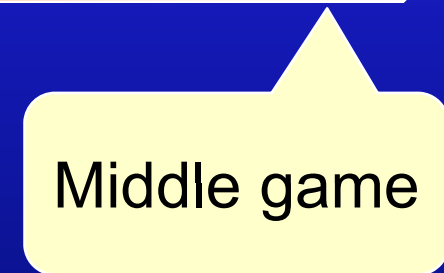
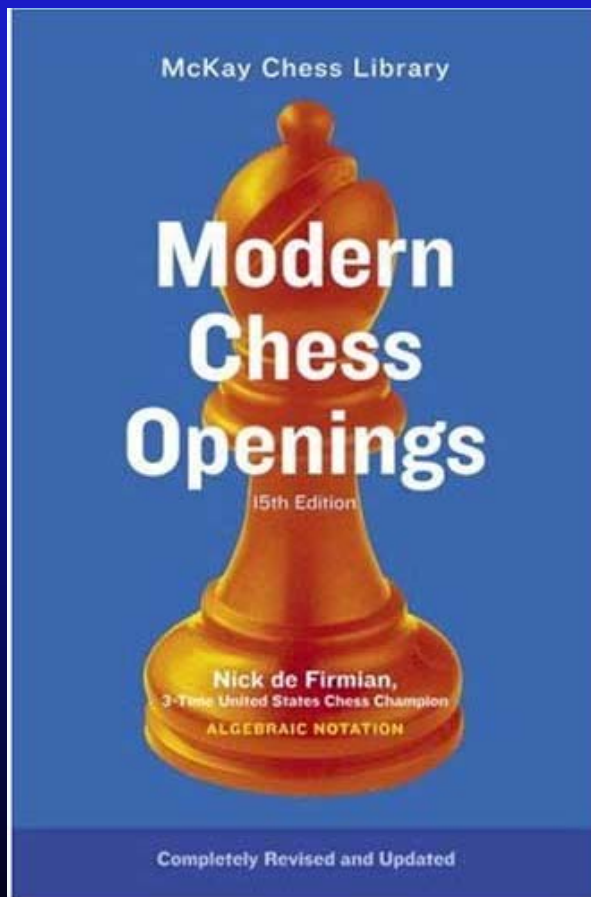
The game of chess is played between two opponents who move their pieces on a square board called a 'chessboard'. [...] (Art. 1.1)

The chessboard is composed of an 8 x 8 grid of 64 squares alternately light (the 'white' squares) and dark (the 'black' squares). [...] (Art. 2.1)

Terms in rules

- There must be a precise definition.
- The definition determines for every entity whether it falls in the domain of the term.
- Definitions arise from authority (FIDE).

Opening



Specialized vocabulary

- There is no need for a precise definition.
- The transition from one concept to an adjacent one is of the continuum type.

French Defence



1. e4 e6

French Defence



1. e4 e6
2. d4 d5

Questions in defining openings

Position or
sequence of
moves?

Which
sequences of
moves belong
together?

Variations

Which positions
are significant?

Terms in chess theory

- Definitions are not necessary to play the game.
- Definitions are necessary to make theoretical statements.
- The choice between definitions is theoretical.

Translation



king
König
roi
βασιλιάς

bishop

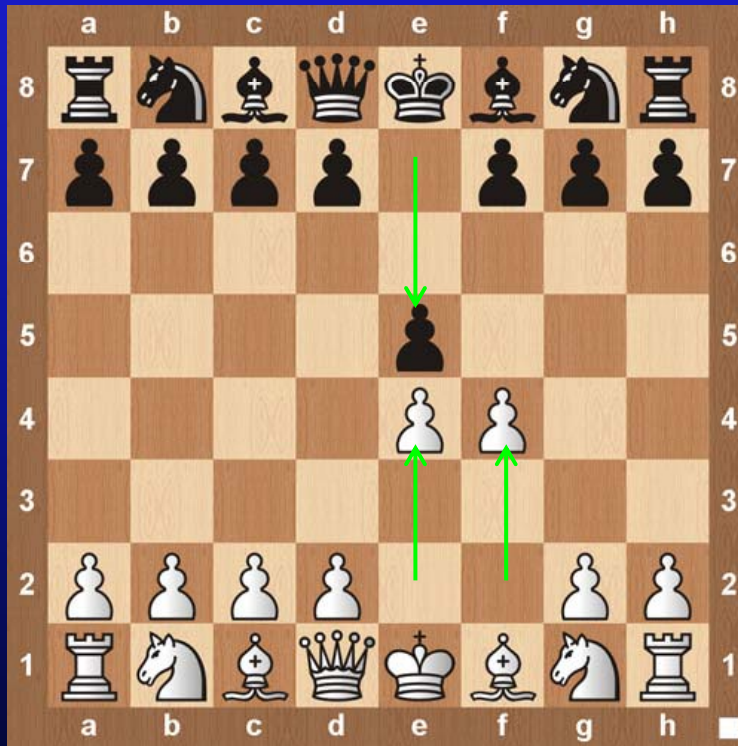
fou



Läufer

αξιωματικός

Borrowing



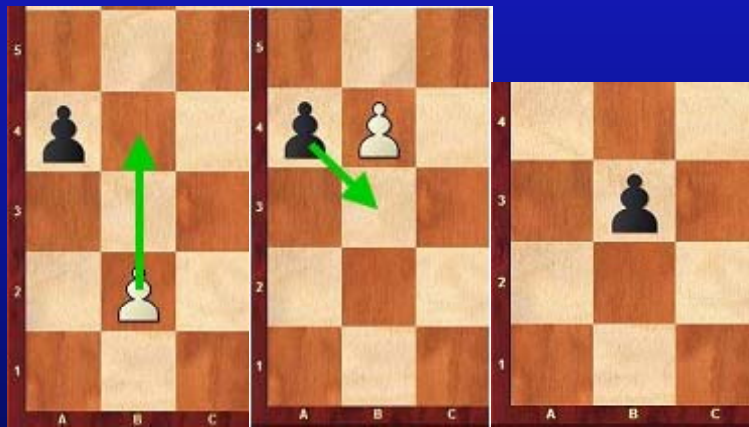
gambit
Gambit
gambit
καμπί

Partial translation



countergambit
Gegengambit
contre-gambit
αντιγκαμπί

Optional translation



en passant
en passant
en passant
ανπασάν / εν διελεύσει

Two classifications

