

The Chessboard Lesson

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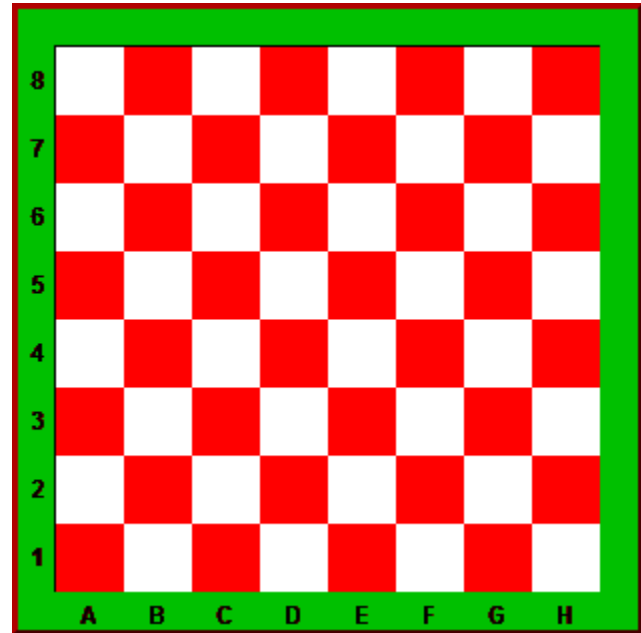
This is the chessboard.

It's a square made up of a lot of small squares.

If you count them you'll see that there are eight squares going from top to bottom.

There are also eight squares going from left to right.

There are 64 squares in total.



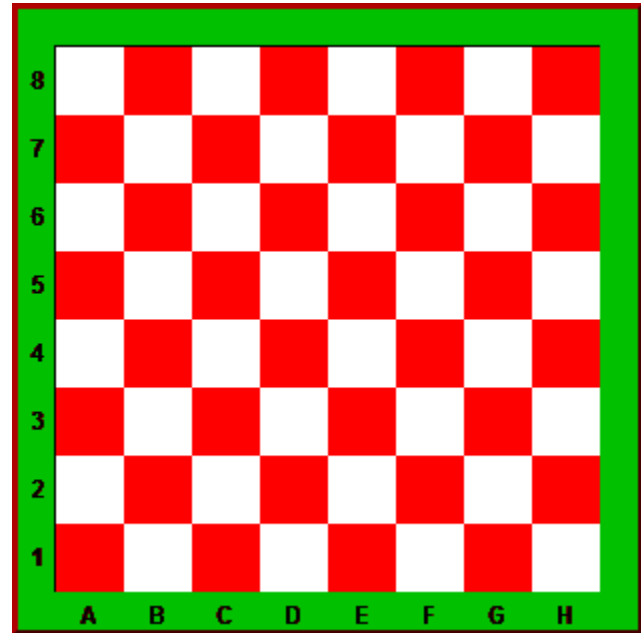
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You will see that half the squares in the diagram are dark colored.

These squares we call **BLACK SQUARES** or **DARK SQUARES**.

The other squares are called **WHITE SQUARES** or **LIGHT SQUARES**.

It doesn't matter what color they are on your screen - or even on your chessboard. That's what we call them.



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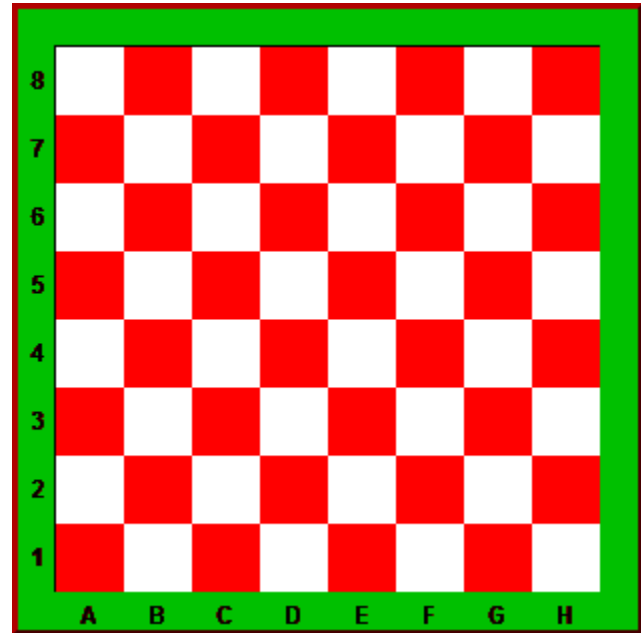
You will also see that the bottom right hand square is a LIGHT SQUARE.

It's VERY IMPORTANT that you get this right.

It's easy to remember - WHITE ON THE RIGHT. It rhymes, you see.

If the square on your right is WHITE you've got it RIGHT. If the square on your right is BLACK you LACK brains!!

If the square on your right is LIGHT you're still RIGHT. If the square on your right is DARK you get a BLACK MARK.



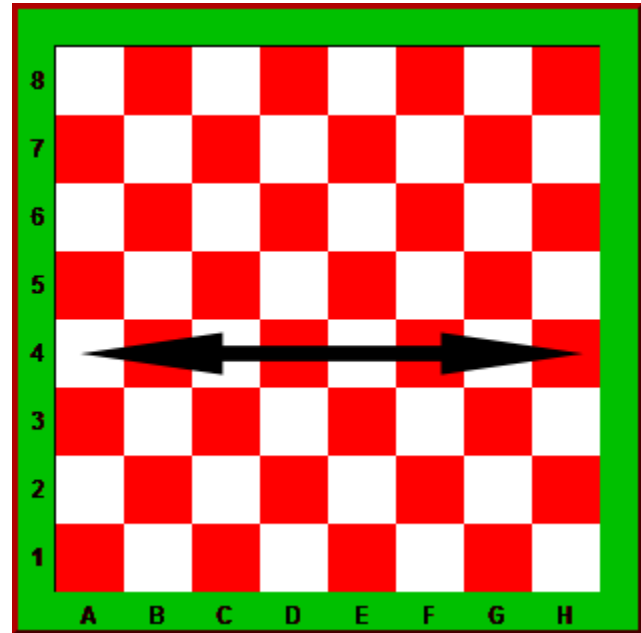
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You see the lines going across the board from left to right?

These are called RANKS.
Remember that word.

There are EIGHT RANKS on the chessboard.

We call them the FIRST RANK, the SECOND RANK, up to the EIGHTH RANK.



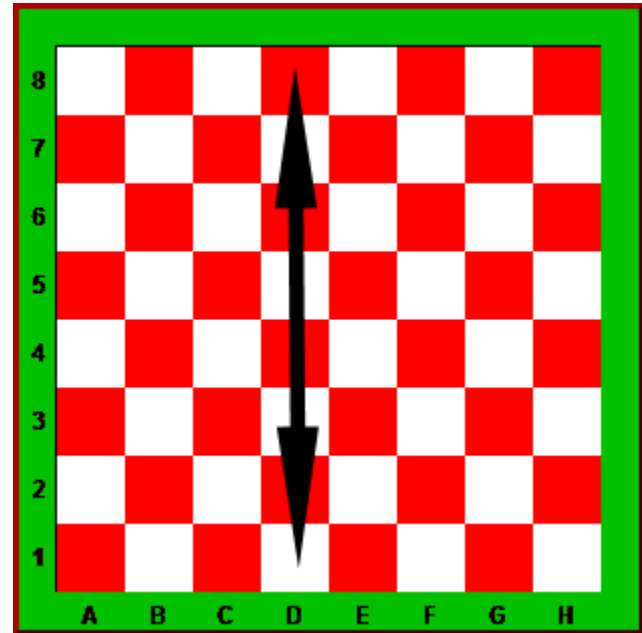
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The lines going from top to bottom are called FILES. Don't you ever forget it!

You see that there are letters at the bottom of the board. Each FILE is named after a letter.

There are EIGHT FILES on the battlefield.

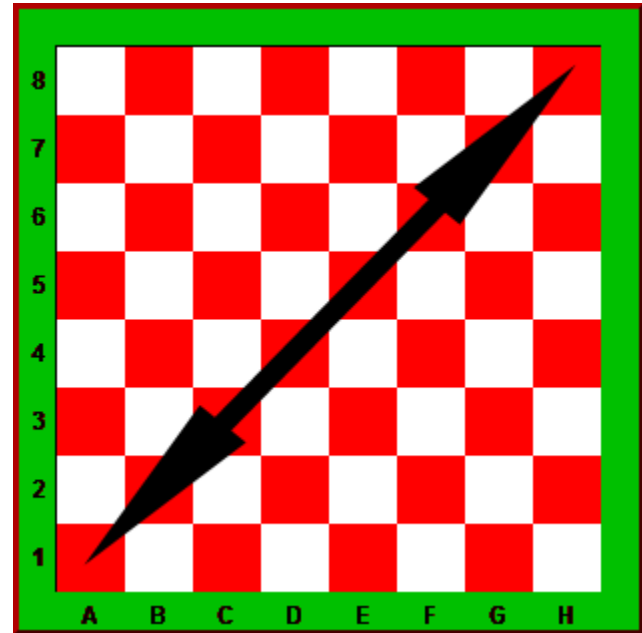
There's the A-FILE, the B-FILE, right the way up to the H-FILE.



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There are also lines of squares going diagonally from corner to corner. Guess what they're called. **DIAGONALS!**

What do you notice about the squares on each **DIAGONAL**? Yes, they're all the same color.



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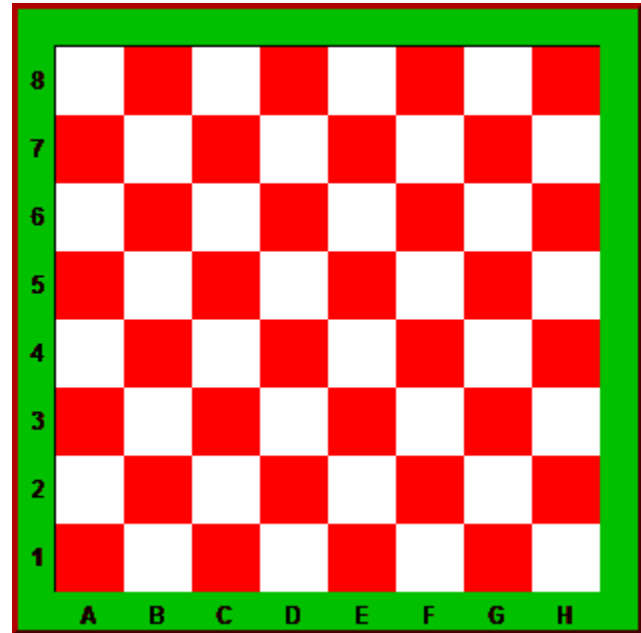
Now look round the side of the chessboard.

What do you see? That's right: letters and numbers.

Can you count up to 8? Do you know your alphabet as far as h?

In that case you should be OK.

Now comes the hard bit. Each square has a name, made up of the LETTER of its FILE followed by the NUMBER of its RANK. So the squares in the corners are a1, a8, h1 and h8.



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1. How many small squares are there on the chessboard?

- 60
- 64
- 80

2. When you set up the chessboard, which color square should be on your right?

- White
- Black
- Orange & purple spots

3. Anyone who puts a black square in their right hand corner should be...

- Praised
- Rewarded
- Told they're wrong

4. The lines running from left to right on the chessboard are called...

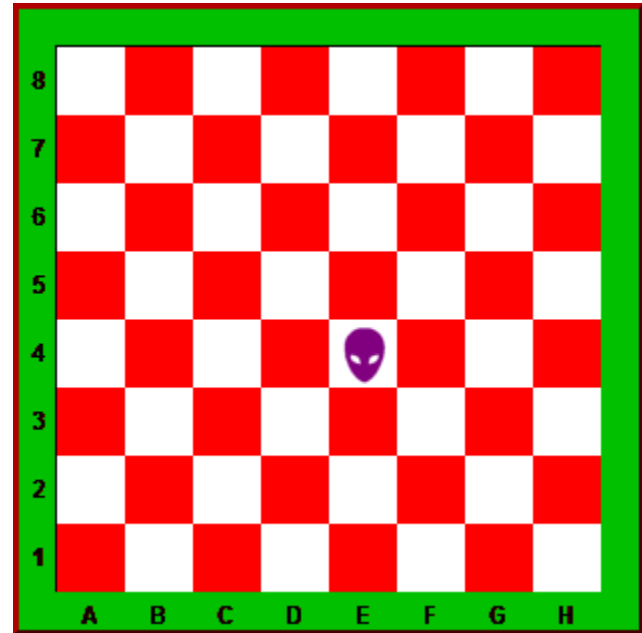
- Banks
- Ranks
- Tanks

5. The lines running from top to bottom on the chessboard are called...

- Smiles
- Stiles
- Files

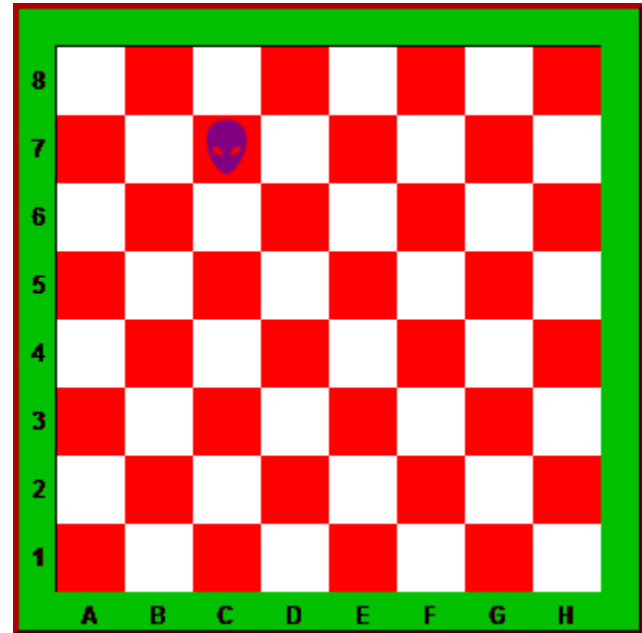
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- If you look below you'll see a keypad which you will use for the remaining questions in this exam. Indicate the location of the alien on the chessboard by selecting the name of the square (letter followed by number)



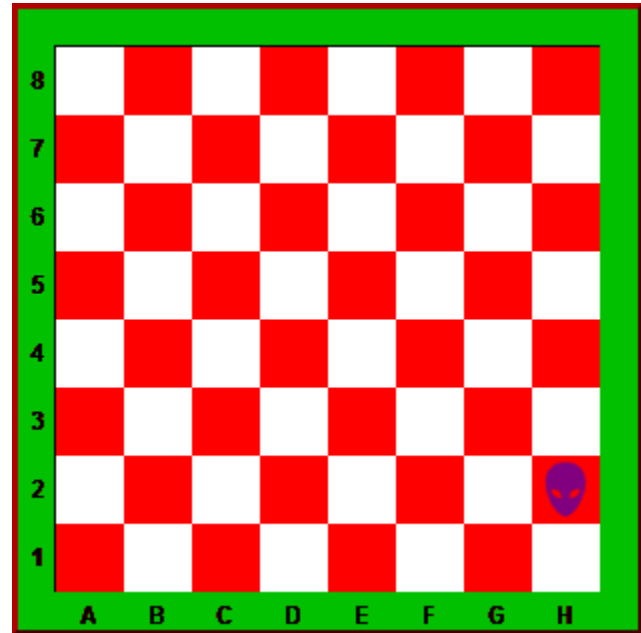
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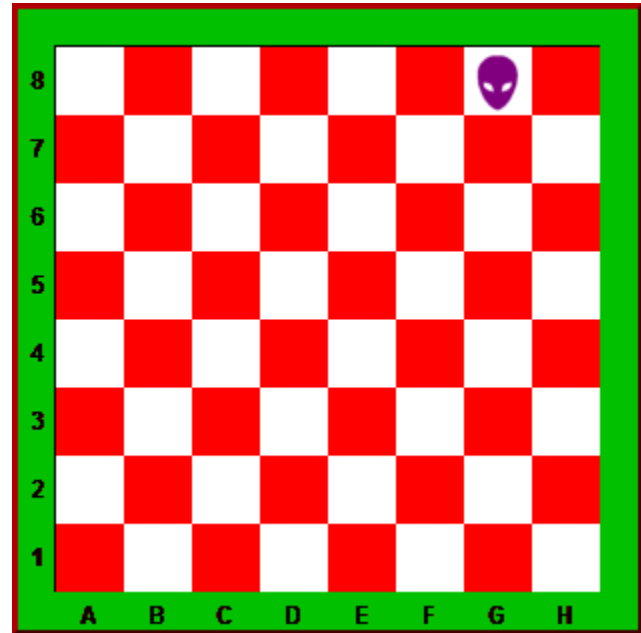
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