

Efstratios Grivas

# GRIVAS OPENING LABORATORY

VOLUME 3



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# KEY TO SYMBOLS

=	Equality or equal chances
±	White has a slight advantage
∓	Black has a slight advantage
±	White is better
∓	Black is better
+-	White has a decisive advantage
-+	Black has a decisive advantage
∞	unclear
≡	with compensation
↳	with counterplay
↑	with initiative
→	with an attack
Δ	with the idea
□	only move

N	novelty
!	a good move
!!	an excellent move
?	a weak move
??	a blunder
!?	an interesting move
?!	a dubious move
+	check
#	mate



# FOREWORD

Dear Reader,

The series continuing with this book is aimed at offering a full repertoire for White based on **1.d4**.

The idea of small opening repertoire books is not new, but here the purpose and the presentation are different.

The choice of variations against each reply from Black will be mine and will be based on my long experience, having played the game for over 40 years, and also served as a professional coach for approximately 20 of those!

I hope that each book in the series will come out every two months and one to three openings will be offered in each of them.

Maybe not all of the choices will appeal to you, but you should understand that what is important is to learn them in depth, rather than looking for something astounding—this is simply an illusion.

What I mean by this is that nowadays no opening offers all that much; what you can expect is something between a tiny bit better and slightly better, if

you have done your homework! Otherwise there is no point in the Black player following it!

The recommendations are geared towards posing Black unconventional problems. Your opponents will not be able to churn out lengthy, memorised variations but will need to solve problems at the board, in positions that are somewhat different in character from those normally reached in the openings under discussion.

I have also selected the systems within the repertoire in such a way that they form a seamless whole and are also reachable by transpositions.

I have tried to describe the suggested systems in detail, giving my assessments as clearly and responsibly as possible, and have generally aimed to provide useful guidelines as well as many new ideas and moves.

Many things in chess theory, as in life, are relative and a matter of taste. Actually, there are no ‘good’ or ‘bad’ openings. There are openings that you know and understand, and openings that you do not know and do not understand.

Thus, I believe that my recommended systems will offer a lot of possibilities, new ideas and practical benefits, aspects that should not be underestimated in modern chess. Among other things, I have tried to make them ‘understandable’ to you.

This book series’ main purpose is to train and educate the reader in territory that is ‘unknown’ to him. We must not forget that this is a theory book series, where concrete reaction to the opponent’s moves is of primary importance.

General principles and plans do merit a place in this project but, in my opinion, move-by-move consideration is most significant.

Of course, it is not necessary to memorise all the variations and moves mentioned in the books — this would probably be impossible.

But then, you may ask, what is the reason for someone to deal with a theory book, one that he does not need to ‘memorise’ in full?

The theory of ‘subconscious education’ will help us to answer this question. By playing through the moves and variations in the books, our subconscious processes and stores similar motifs, repeated moves and plans, and also ‘learns’ to avoid traps and unwelcome positions.

Such proper ‘subconscious memorisation’ will, at the critical moment, enforce the correct choice upon us.

Many of the opening books I have read mainly focus on the general characteristics of the opening or the variation in question, and much less so on move-by-move theory.

This can lead to unresolved questions in the reader’s mind, and the danger that he will mix things up at moments when it is necessary to find one specific concrete move or sequence.

The recommended repertoire is that of a Grandmaster, without omissions or hidden secrets. On the contrary, it contains a great number of new and deeply analysed suggestions, plans, novelties, new ideas, moves, etc!

Let us not forget that the basic characteristics of the openings do not frequently undergo radical changes. On the other hand, the development of move-by-move theory is explosive.

Every chess player stands on the shoulders of those who came before him. Every generation of good chess players learns from and builds upon the experience and creativity of the previous generations.

The chess player of the year 2020 has encountered more types of positions than the chess-player of 1980 and

knows the proper ways to deal with these positions.

Therefore, a chess player today would have a great advantage over a chess player (even one of equal or greater talent) of 40 years ago, simply because he could play the opening with deeper understanding; this understanding is offered to him by the multitude of deeply-analysed variations.

On no occasion do I underestimate the necessity and value of learning the general characteristics and plans of each opening or variation. However, I do strongly believe that move-by-move theory and its (at least) subconscious absorption are necessary in order to survive in the labyrinth of the chess openings.

One question often posed by my students is whether we must simultaneously prepare two or more different systems against an opening. My personal opinion is that only professional Grandmasters can afford this luxury.

All other chess players should focus on one specific system every time, so as to specialise in it and reap maximum benefit. Only if this choice eventually proves undesirable should one change his systems.

As Ernest Hemingway once wrote: 'I guess really good soldiers are really good at very little else'.

The massive development of theory in all openings has clarified that White cannot hope for anything more than a slight advantage, but in some cases even this is unattainable! My recommendations are purely based on a healthy approach.

I must clarify that I took the liberty of changing the original move-order of many games. In this way it was possible to provide clearer coverage and guidance.

Of course, the way you reach a certain position is important, but equally important is to examine how you want to proceed upon reaching it. True value comes from knowing what to keep and what to throw away.

Finally, I would like to thank my (ex) trainees (among others) GM Antoaneta Stefanova, GM Ioan Cristian Chirila, GM Emre Can, GM Mustafa Yilmaz and GM Alex Ipatov, who adopted my repertoire and contributed to the evolution of the theory.

Efstratios Grivas  
Sharjah, April 2020



# INTRODUCTION

In the third book of the series we are dealing with how to face the ‘Queen’s Indian Defence’, a safe and strategic system which was extremely popular in the 80’s but is still played today even at the highest level.

The proposed system is based on the g3 Catalan structure, a system that has served me well for approximately 30 years, scoring a good 75% in a high number of games.

Well, this looks a bit too high, as the general winrate of the variation is 57.5%, when the expected rate is 51.5% to 52%, the natural average number of White’s ‘superiority’.

My quite high score is purely based on study and understanding of the system, leading to many equal positions being turned into full points!

Then we will move on to study how to face the ‘BogoIndian Defence’, another solid and strategic system, still seen today in top-level chess.

My proposed system is based on the move 4.♗bd2, a system that has served me well for approximately

30 years, scoring a good 72% across a large number of games.

Well, this looks a bit too high, as the generally expected score of the variation is only 59.0% (much better than 4.♗d2), against the expected White rate of 51.5% to 52%.

My quite high score is again purely based on the study and understanding of this system, converting many equal positions into wins!

Finally, we look at how to face the ‘Budapest Gambit’ (which includes the ‘Fajarowicz Variation’), a mainly tactical system which was never extremely popular but still it is played today, though mostly at the club players’ level.

The proposed system is based on the ‘Adler Variation’, a system that once again has served me well for many decades, scoring 75%, though across a limited number of games.

Well, this looks rather high also, as the ‘normal’ winrate of the variation stands at 58.5%, against the average expected White rate of 51.5% to 52%.

My quite high score, to reiterate an important point, is purely based on a deep study and understanding of the system, equal positions becoming full points on a regular basis!

In this book you will find not only a concrete and well-structured move-by-move presentation, but also chapters on the middlegame, endgame and tactics, those that are typical for

this variation, in order to help you to better understand it.

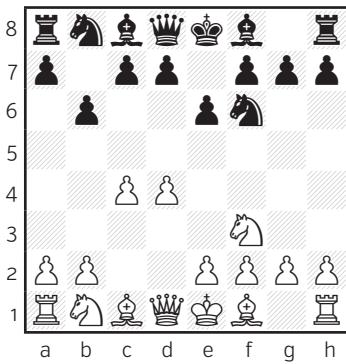
The only two things you have to do are to buy the book (!) and study it! Note that the research on the games included is up to the middle of April 2020.

Efstratios Grivas  
Sharjah, April 2020

# PART 1.

## THE QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENCE (E15–19)

The ‘Queen’s Indian Defence’ (QID) is an opening defined by the moves **1.d4**  $\mathbb{N}f_6$  **2.c4 e6** **3. $\mathbb{N}f_3$  b6**



This opening is considered to be a very solid defence and **3...b6** increases Black’s control over the central light squares e4 and d5 by preparing to fianchetto the queen’s bishop, with the opening deriving its name from this manoeuvre.

As in the other Indian defences, Black attempts to control the centre with pieces in hypermodern style, instead of occupying it with pawns in classical style.

By playing **3. $\mathbb{N}f_3$** , White sidesteps the ‘NimzoIndian Defence’ that arises after **3. $\mathbb{N}c_3 \mathbb{B}b_4$** .

The ‘Queen’s Indian Defence’ is regarded as the sister opening of the

‘NimzoIndian Defence’, since both openings aim to impede White’s efforts to gain full control of the centre by playing e4, or d5. Together, they are a well-respected response to **1.d4**.

The system with **4.g3** (ECO E15–E19) has long been White’s most popular line against the ‘Queen’s Indian Defence’ and has a lot of similarities with the ‘Catalan’.

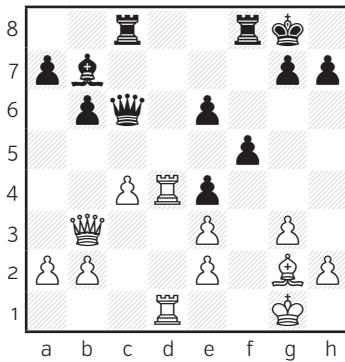
It contests the long diagonal by preparing to fianchetto the light-squared bishop. The standard response for Black through the 1970s was **4... $\mathbb{B}b_7$**  (the classical line), but **4... $\mathbb{B}a_6$**  (the modern line) has since become the topical approach.

Modern line — **4... $\mathbb{B}a_6$** : White can defend the pawn on c4 with a piece by playing **5. $\mathbb{N}bd_2$** , **5. $\mathbb{B}a_4$** , **5. $\mathbb{B}c_2$** , **5.b3** or **5. $\mathbb{B}b_3$**  (the proposed continuation), but these moves all diminish control of d4, making ...c5 (in general) an effective reply for Black.

Classical line — **4... $\mathbb{B}b_7$** : The classical main line of the ‘Queen’s Indian Defence’ and the most frequently played variation from the 1950s until **4... $\mathbb{B}a_6$**  became popular in the 1980s, it usually continues: **5. $\mathbb{B}g_2$   $\mathbb{B}e_7$  6.0–0** **0–0** **7. $\mathbb{N}c_3$   $\mathbb{B}e_4$  8. $\mathbb{B}c_2$   $\mathbb{N}xc_3$  9. $\mathbb{B}xc_3$** .

White has a spatial advantage, but Black has no weaknesses and can choose from a variety of ways to create counterplay, such as 9...c5, 9...f5 or 9...g4.

These lines are well known for their drawish tendencies and 4...b7 is nowadays often employed by Black as a drawing weapon.



## Historical Approach

The first time that the 4.g3 system appeared in the chess world was back in 1920 (at least according to ChessBase MegaBase) although I do believe that there are earlier games...

But anyway, 1920 suits us best, as in this case we do have the 100 years anniversary to celebrate!

Two legends battled out a rather modest game, where Black succeeded in cashing an early point.

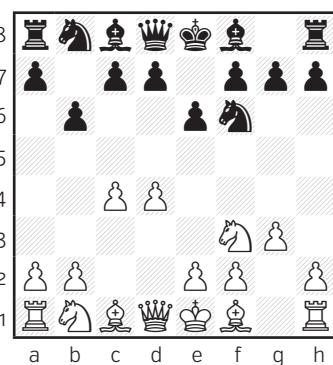
► **Rubinstein Akiba**  
► **Bogoljubow Efim**  
**E18** Gothenburg [6] 09.08.1920

1.d4 g5 2.f3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 b7  
5.g2 e7 6.c3 d5 7.e5 0-0  
8.o-o c5 9.dxc5 x5 10.f4 e4  
11.xe4 dx4 12.b3 c8 13.e3  
x3 14.fxe3 c6 15.xc6 xc6  
16.ad1 ac8 17.d4 f5 18.fdi

18...a6 19.c5 xe2 20.d6 xc5  
21.xe6+ h8 22.d4 c1+  
23.f2 c2 0-1

## Starting Out

The system proposed against the 'Queen's Indian Defence' commences with the moves 1.d4 f6 2.c4 e6 3.f3 b6 4.g3

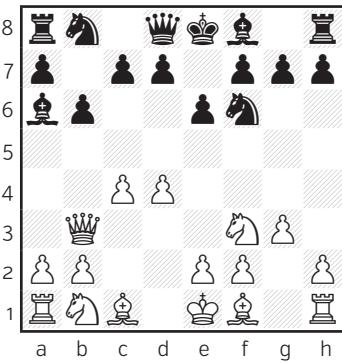


And here is where our examination starts; Black can choose between 4...a6 (Modern Line — E15) and 4...b7 (Classical Line — E16-19).

# CHAPTER 1.

## THE MODERN 4... $\mathbb{Q}a6$ [E15]

1.d4  $\mathbb{Q}f6$  2.c4 e6 3. $\mathbb{Q}f3$  b6 4.g3  $\mathbb{Q}a6$   
5. $\mathbb{Q}b3$



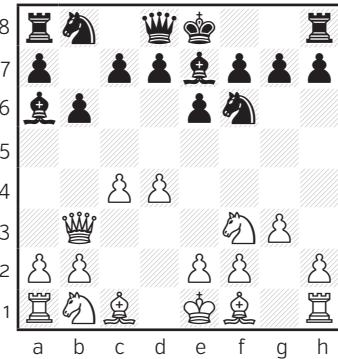
This is the proposed repertoire line.

A few strong players like Vladimir Kramnik, Alexander Morozevich, Boris Gelfand, Loek van Wely, Joel Lautier as well as many others have tried to prove an advantage with the text.

White seems to hold his usual opening tiny/slight advantage without much risk of losing. On the other hand, the opposing side seems to be happy with a draw, even if it includes a bit of suffering... Black can now choose between 5... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ , 5... $\mathbb{Q}b7$ , 5... $c5$ , 5... $d5$ , 5... $c6$  and 5... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ .

1.1 – 5...  $\mathbb{Q}e7$

1.d4  $\mathbb{Q}f6$  2.c4 e6 3. $\mathbb{Q}f3$  b6 4.g3  $\mathbb{Q}a6$   
5. $\mathbb{Q}b3$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$



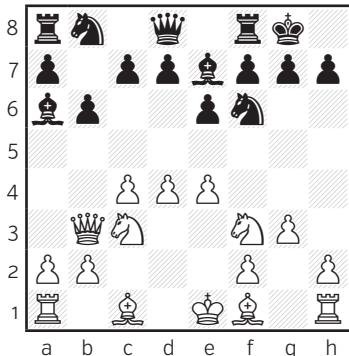
A rather passive continuation, although as nearly always in the 'QID' it is quite solid. I slightly prefer White as he seems to be in the driver's seat.

6. $\mathbb{Q}c3$  o-o

As 6... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ ?! 7.e4  $\mathbb{Q}a5$  8. $\mathbb{Q}a4\pm$  is unsatisfactory, Black might try 6... $\mathbb{Q}b7$  7. $\mathbb{Q}g2$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$  8. $\mathbb{Q}d1$  (8.o-o!? is interesting: 8... $\mathbb{Q}a5$  9. $\mathbb{Q}a4$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$ ! [9... $\mathbb{Q}e4$ ?! 10. $\mathbb{Q}xe4$   $\mathbb{Q}xe4$  11. $\mathbb{Q}e5$   $\mathbb{Q}xg2$  12. $\mathbb{Q}xg2\pm$  Sargissian,G-Jobava,B Abu Dhabi 2003] 10. $\mathbb{Q}c2$   $\mathbb{Q}xc4$  11.e4 $\cong$ ) 8... $\mathbb{Q}a5$  (8...o-o 9.o-o $\pm$ ) 9.b3 d5 10.cxd5

$\text{exd}5$  11.0-0 0-0 12.  $\mathbb{Q}b2$  c5 13. dxc5 (13.  $\mathbb{Q}e5?$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$  14. e3±) 13... bxc5 14. e3± Beliavsky,A-Nikolic,P Celje 2003.

### 7.e4



### 7...c5

As 7...d5? 8.cxd5  $\mathbb{Q}xf1$  9.  $\mathbb{Q}xf1$  exd5 10. e5  $\mathbb{Q}fd7$  11.  $\mathbb{Q}xd5\pm$  is unplayable, Black's main option should be found in 7...  $\mathbb{Q}b7$  8.  $\mathbb{Q}d3!$  (8.d5 exd5 9.exd5  $\mathbb{Q}e8!$  [9...c6 10.  $\mathbb{Q}g2$   $\mathbb{Q}a6$  11.0-0  $\mathbb{Q}c5$  {11...cxd5 12.cxd5  $\mathbb{Q}b4$  {12... $\mathbb{Q}b4$  13.  $\mathbb{Q}d1\pm$ } 13.  $\mathbb{Q}h4!$   $\mathbb{Q}xc3$  14.bxc3  $\mathbb{Q}c5$  15.  $\mathbb{Q}d1\pm$ } 12.  $\mathbb{Q}d1$  cxd5 13. cxd5± Lautier,J-Sokolov,A Aix les Bains 2003] 10.  $\mathbb{Q}e2$  c6 11.0-0 cxd5 12. cxd5  $\mathbb{Q}a6\infty$ ) 8...  $\mathbb{Q}c6$  (8...d5?! 9. cxd5 exd5 10. e5  $\mathbb{Q}e4$  11.  $\mathbb{Q}c2$  f5 12. exf6  $\mathbb{Q}xf6$  13.  $\mathbb{Q}g5$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$  14.  $\mathbb{Q}xh7+$   $\mathbb{Q}h8$  15.  $\mathbb{Q}e3!$  [15.  $\mathbb{Q}e6?$   $\mathbb{Q}xd4$  16.  $\mathbb{Q}xd4$   $\mathbb{Q}xh7$  17.  $\mathbb{Q}e6$   $\mathbb{Q}d7$  18.  $\mathbb{Q}xf8$   $\mathbb{Q}xf8$  19.  $\mathbb{Q}e3$  d4 20. 0-0-0  $\mathbb{Q}xh1-$ - Morozevich,A-Svidler,P Monte Carlo 2007] 15...  $\mathbb{Q}b4$  16.  $\mathbb{Q}b1\pm$  9. 0-0 (9. d5  $\mathbb{Q}b4$  10.  $\mathbb{Q}e2$  exd5 11. exd5 c6∞) 9... d6 10.  $\mathbb{Q}e3\pm$

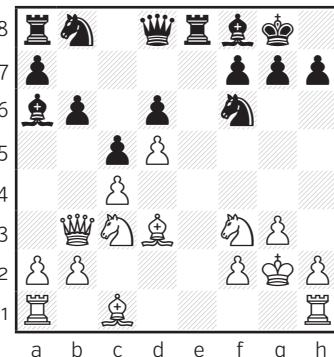
### 8.d5 exd5

8...d6 9.  $\mathbb{Q}h3$   $\mathbb{Q}c8$  10.  $\mathbb{Q}g2$  e5 11. 0-0± might be a better try, but it is hardly appealing.

### 9.exd5

Black has managed to stabilise the situation in the centre, but faces the difficult task of activating his queen's bishop.

9...  $\mathbb{Q}e8$  10.  $\mathbb{Q}d3!$   $\mathbb{Q}f8+$  11.  $\mathbb{Q}f1$  d6 12.  $\mathbb{Q}g2\pm$

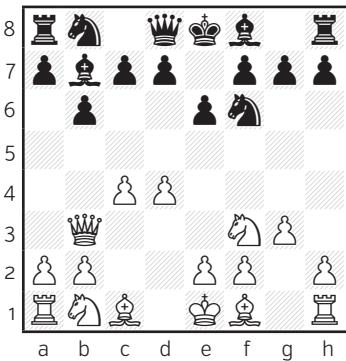


Morozevich,A-Leko,P Morelia/Linares 2007. White's spatial advantage is a great plus, while Black hardly has any good plans at his disposal.

### 1.2 – 5... $\mathbb{Q}b7$

1. d4  $\mathbb{Q}f6$  2. c4 e6 3.  $\mathbb{Q}f3$  b6 4. g3  $\mathbb{Q}a6$  5.  $\mathbb{Q}b3$   $\mathbb{Q}b7$

A natural response, taking control over the critical squares d5 and e4 and preparing an eventual ...c5 advance.

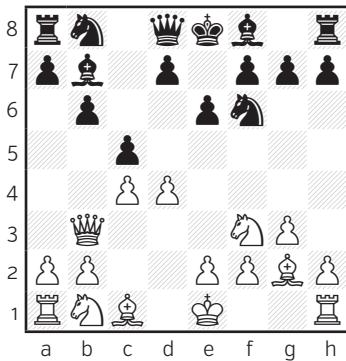


### 6. $\mathbb{Q}g2$

White can also think of 6.  $\mathbb{Q}c3$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$  (6...  $\mathbb{Q}e4$  7.  $\mathbb{Q}g2$   $\mathbb{Q}xc3$  8.  $\mathbb{Q}xc3$  d6 9. o-o  $\mathbb{Q}d7$  10. b3  $\mathbb{Q}e7$  11.  $\mathbb{Q}b2$  o-o 12.  $\mathbb{Q}ad1$  a5 13.  $\mathbb{Q}c2\pm$  Grivas,E-Yakubboev,N Sharjah 2018) 7.e4  $\mathbb{Q}a5$  8.  $\mathbb{Q}c2$   $\mathbb{Q}b4$  9.  $\mathbb{Q}d3$   $\mathbb{Q}xc3+$  10. bxc3 d6 11. o-o c5 12. d5 o-o 13. dxе6 (13. e5? dxе5 14.  $\mathbb{Q}xe5$  exd5 15.  $\mathbb{Q}g5$  h6 16.  $\mathbb{Q}xf6$   $\mathbb{Q}xf6$  17.  $\mathbb{Q}d7$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$  18.  $\mathbb{Q}xf8$  dxс4 19.  $\mathbb{Q}e4$   $\mathbb{Q}xe4$  20.  $\mathbb{Q}xe4$   $\mathbb{Q}xe4$  21.  $\mathbb{Q}d7$  f6+ – Narciso Dublan,M-Lenic,L Iraklion 2007) 13...  $\mathbb{Q}e7$  (13...fxе6?! 14.  $\mathbb{Q}g5$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  15. e5 dxе5 16.  $\mathbb{Q}xh7+$   $\mathbb{Q}h8$  17.  $\mathbb{Q}g6\pm$ ) 14.  $\mathbb{Q}g5$  h6 15. exf7+  $\mathbb{Q}h8$  16. f4! (16.  $\mathbb{Q}h3$   $\mathbb{Q}xf7$  17.  $\mathbb{Q}f4$   $\mathbb{Q}g4$  18.  $\mathbb{Q}e2$   $\mathbb{Q}e5$  19. f3  $\mathbb{Q}ae8\approx$  Romanov,E-Urkedal,F Norway 2016) 16...hxg5 17. fxg5  $\mathbb{Q}xf7$  (17...  $\mathbb{Q}d7?$  18. g6+–) 18. gx $\mathbb{Q}$ 6  $\mathbb{Q}xf6$  19.  $\mathbb{Q}xf6$   $\mathbb{Q}xf6$  20.  $\mathbb{Q}f4\pm$

### 6...c5

The natural follow-up. Passive is 6...  $\mathbb{Q}e7$  7. o-o o-o 8.  $\mathbb{Q}c3$  d6 9.  $\mathbb{Q}d1$   $\mathbb{Q}bd7$  10.  $\mathbb{Q}c2\pm$  Grivas,E-Nikolic,S Aegina 1995.



### 7.d5!

Also possible is 7.o-o – see Sub-Chapter 1.1.

### 7...exd5

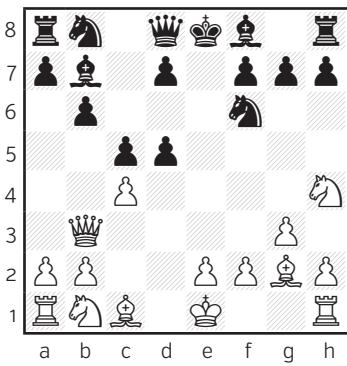
Black can choose some other pawn structure:

a) 7...d6 8.  $\mathbb{Q}c3$  e5?! (Black decides on a totally different approach, closing up the position and a ‘King’s Indian Defence’ type of position arises, rather than the usual ‘Benoni Defence’-like positions that arise after 8...exd5) 9.o-o g6 10.e4  $\mathbb{Q}g7$  11.  $\mathbb{Q}e1$ ! (The correct approach. White will place his knight on d3 and then he will try to open the position. His spatial advantage will tell in the end.) 11...o-o 12.  $\mathbb{Q}g5$   $\mathbb{Q}bd7$  13.  $\mathbb{Q}d3\pm$  Van Wely,L-Dao,T Mallorca 2004.

b) 7...  $\mathbb{Q}e7$  8.  $\mathbb{Q}c3$  exd5 9. cx $\mathbb{Q}$ d5 o-o 10. e4 (10. o-o d6 11.  $\mathbb{Q}d2$  a6 12. a4  $\mathbb{Q}bd7$  13.  $\mathbb{Q}c4$   $\mathbb{Q}c7$  14. e4  $\mathbb{Q}fe8$  [14...  $\mathbb{Q}ab8$ ?! 15. f4± Berczes,D-Varasdy,I Hungary 2012] 15.  $\mathbb{Q}d2$   $\mathbb{Q}ab8$  16.  $\mathbb{Q}fe1\pm$

Tunik,G-Soltanici,R Minsk 2005) 10...d6 11.0-o-0  $\text{Q}bd7$  12.  $\text{Q}f4$   $\text{Q}h5$  13.  $\text{Q}e3$   $\text{Q}e8$  14.  $\text{Q}ad1$   $\text{Q}f8$  15.  $\text{Q}fe1\pm$  Nikitin,A-Smirnov,I Alushta 2002.

### 8. $\text{Q}h4$



### 8...g6

Probably best, taking care of the e5-square. Another way is 8... $\text{Q}c6$  (8... $\text{dx}c4?$  9.  $\text{Q}e3++-$ ) 9.  $\text{cx}d5$   $\text{Q}d4$  10.  $\text{Q}d1$   $\text{Q}xd5$  11.  $e3$  (11.0-o!  $g5$  12.  $\text{Q}f3$   $\text{Q}e6$  13.  $\text{Q}e5\pm$ ) 11... $g5$  12.0-o!  $\text{Q}c6$  (12... $\text{gx}h4$  13.  $\text{ex}d4\pm$ ) 13.  $\text{Q}xd5$  (13.  $\text{Q}f5!$ ?  $\text{Q}c7$  14.  $\text{Q}d2$  [14.  $e4$   $\text{Q}f6$  15.  $\text{Q}d2$   $\text{Q}g8$  16.  $\text{Q}c3$   $\text{Q}g6$  17.  $\text{Q}d2$  o-o-o $\equiv$   $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$  Chirila,I-Xu,G Orlando 2014] 14... $d5$  15.  $\text{Q}c3$   $\text{Q}g8$  16.  $\text{Q}h5\cong$ ) 13... $\text{gx}h4$  14.  $\text{Q}c3$   $\text{Q}e7$  15.  $\text{Q}h5\cong$  Morchat,M-Galkiewicz,D Augustow 1996.

### 9. $\text{cx}d5$ $d6$

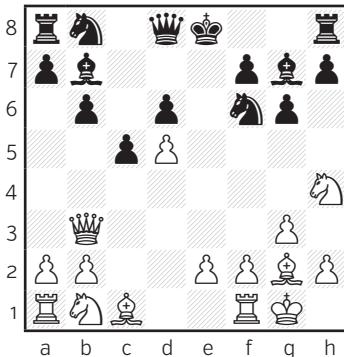
Possible is 9... $\text{Q}g7$  10.  $\text{Q}e3+$   $\text{Q}f8$  (10... $\text{Q}e7?$  11.  $\text{Q}xe7+$   $\text{Q}xe7$  12.  $d6++-$ ) 11.  $\text{Q}c3$   $d6$  12.0-o (12.  $f4$   $\text{Q}a6$  13.  $\text{Q}d2$   $\text{Q}c7$  14.0-o  $b5$  15.  $e4$   $b4$  16.  $\text{Q}d1$   $\text{Q}d7$  17.  $\text{Q}c2$   $\text{Q}b5$  18.  $\text{Q}f3$   $\text{Q}c7$  19.  $\text{Q}e3\pm$  Sebenik,M-Schneider Zinner,H

Aschach 2005) 12... $\text{Q}a6$  13.  $\text{Q}d2$   $\text{Q}d7$  14.  $e4\pm$  Meister,P-Priehoda,V Germany 1997.

### 10.0-o

10.  $\text{Q}c3$  is mostly a transposition: 10... $\text{Q}g7$  (10... $a6$  11.  $\text{Q}g5$   $\text{Q}e7$  12.  $a4$  0-o 13.0-o  $\text{Q}bd7$  14.  $\text{Q}h6$   $\text{Q}e8$  15.  $h3$   $\text{Q}f8$  16.  $\text{Q}xf8$   $\text{Q}xf8$  17.  $e4$   $\text{Q}h5$  18.  $\text{Q}f3$   $\text{Q}d7$  19.  $\text{Q}d2\pm$  Kiproski,B-Matic,P Belgrade 2019) 11.  $\text{Q}a4+?!$  (11.  $\text{Q}f4\pm$ ) 11... $\text{Q}d7$  12.  $\text{Q}xd7$ +  $\text{Q}bx\text{d}7$   $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$  Jaeger,F-Hanssen,G Kalottturneringen 2004.

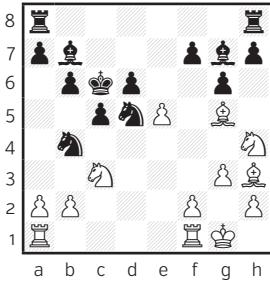
### 10... $\text{Q}g7$



### 11. $\text{Q}c3$

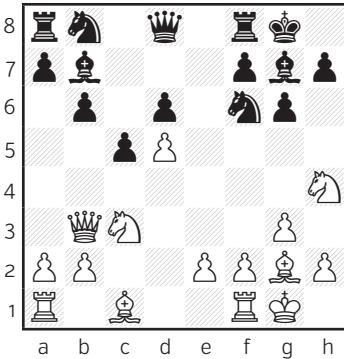
11.  $\text{Q}e3+$  looks like a valuable choice: 11... $\text{Q}e7$  12.  $\text{Q}xe7+$   $\text{Q}xe7$  13.  $\text{Q}c3$   $\text{Q}bd7$  (13... $a6?$  14.  $e4$   $\text{Q}bd7$  15.  $f4!$   $\text{Q}hb8$  16.  $e5!$   $dx\text{e}5$  17.  $fx\text{e}5$   $\text{Q}xe5$  18.  $\text{Q}g5$   $\text{Q}ed7$  19.  $\text{Q}e4$   $h6$  20.  $\text{Q}xf6+$  1-o Huzman,A-Pikula,D Biel 2002; 13... $a6$  14.  $e4$   $\text{Q}b4$  15.  $\text{Q}d1$  [15.  $e5?$ !  $\text{Q}fx\text{d}5$  {15...  $\text{Q}e8?$ ! 16.  $\text{Q}g5+$   $f6$  17.  $ex\text{f}6$ +  $\text{Q}xf6$  18.  $\text{Q}ae1+$   $\text{Q}f7$  19.  $\text{Q}e4$   $\text{Q}xd5$  20.  $\text{Q}xf6$   $\text{Q}xf6$  21.  $\text{Q}xd6+$   $\text{Q}f8$  22.  $a3\pm$  Riazant-

sev,A-Grigoriants,S Moscow 2006}  
 16.  $\mathbb{Q}g5+$   $\mathbb{Q}d7$  17.  $\mathbb{Q}h3+$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$



18.  $\mathbb{Q}g2$   $\mathbb{Q}d7=$  15...  $\mathbb{Q}d7$  16.  $\mathbb{Q}f1\pm$   
 14.e4  $\mathbb{Q}g4$  15.  $\mathbb{Q}g5+$   $\mathbb{Q}f8$  (15...  $\mathbb{Q}f6?!$ )  
 16.  $\mathbb{Q}xf6+$   $\mathbb{Q}xf6$  17.h3  $\mathbb{Q}ge5$  18.f4±  
 Mekhitarian,K-Veiga,E Maraba 2014)  
 16.  $\mathbb{Q}f4$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  17.  $\mathbb{Q}b5\pm$

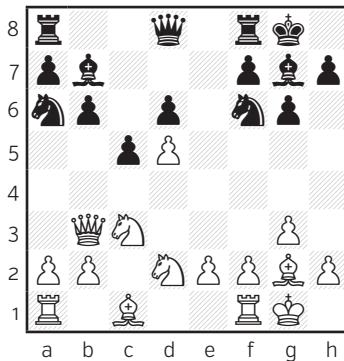
11...o-o



12.  $\mathbb{Q}f3$

A flexible move, compared to the  
 12.  $\mathbb{Q}e1$  a6 13.a4  $\mathbb{Q}bd7$  14.  $\mathbb{Q}f4$   $\mathbb{Q}c7$   
 15.  $\mathbb{Q}ad1$   $\mathbb{Q}fe8$  16.h3  $\mathbb{Q}e5$  17.  $\mathbb{Q}c2$   $\mathbb{Q}d7$   
 18.  $\mathbb{Q}b3$   $\mathbb{Q}c7$  19.  $\mathbb{Q}c2$   $\mathbb{Q}d7$  20.  $\mathbb{Q}b3$   
 ½-½ of Erdos,V-Hambleton,A Karlsruhe 2017, or 12.e4  $\mathbb{Q}a6$  13.a3  $\mathbb{Q}c7$   
 14.  $\mathbb{Q}f4$   $\mathbb{Q}h5$  15.  $\mathbb{Q}e3$   $\mathbb{Q}f6$  16.  $\mathbb{Q}f3\pm$   
 Purelle,B-Maupin,J Avoine 2011.

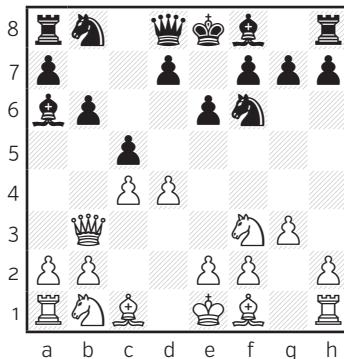
12...  $\mathbb{Q}a6$  13.  $\mathbb{Q}d2$



Barlov,D-Dizdarevic,E Banja Vrućica 1991. White has achieved the usual spatial advantage and has the c4-square for his knight. A typical 'Benoni Defence' set-up, where White should feel quite comfortable.

### 1.3 – 5...c5

1.d4  $\mathbb{Q}f6$  2.  $\mathbb{Q}f3$  e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3  $\mathbb{Q}a6$   
 5.  $\mathbb{Q}b3$  c5



This move leads to another 'Benoni Defence' (or Hedgehog) pawn structure position types.

White benefits as in the very similar 5... $\mathbb{Q}b7$ .

### 6.d5

6. $\mathbb{Q}g2$   $\mathbb{Q}b7$  7.d5, transposes to Sub-Chapter 1.2. White can also try 7.o-o!? cxd4 8. $\mathbb{Q}xd4$   $\mathbb{Q}xg2$  9. $\mathbb{Q}xg2$

a) 9... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ ?! 10. $\mathbb{Q}f3$  d5 (10... $\mathbb{Q}a6$  11. $\mathbb{Q}c3$  o-o 12. $\mathbb{Q}d1\pm$ ) 11. $\mathbb{Q}c3$   $\mathbb{Q}b4$  12. $\mathbb{Q}d1\pm$  Georgiev,K-Olafsson,H Saint John 1988.

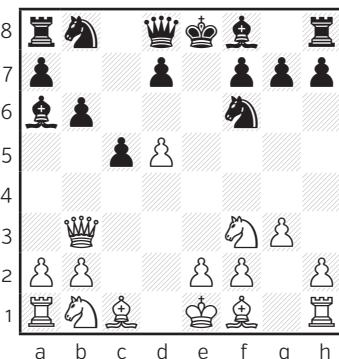
b) 9...a6 10. $\mathbb{Q}f3$  (10. $\mathbb{Q}f4$  d6 11. $\mathbb{Q}d1$   $\mathbb{Q}bd7$  12. $\mathbb{Q}f3$   $\mathbb{Q}c7$  13. $\mathbb{Q}c3$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  14. $\mathbb{Q}a3\pm$  Bunzmann,D-Vavrak,P Oropesa del Mar 1998) 10... $\mathbb{Q}a7$  11. $\mathbb{Q}c3\pm$

c) 9... $\mathbb{Q}c5$  10. $\mathbb{Q}d1$  o-o 11. $\mathbb{Q}c3$  a6 12. $\mathbb{Q}f4\pm$  Fillion,S-Gauthier,D Montreal 2003.

d) 9... $\mathbb{Q}c7$  10. $\mathbb{Q}f3$   $\mathbb{Q}c6$  11. $\mathbb{Q}f4$   $\mathbb{Q}b7$  12. $\mathbb{Q}b5$   $\mathbb{Q}c8$  13. $\mathbb{Q}c3$  (13. $\mathbb{Q}d2!$ ? a6 14. $\mathbb{Q}d6+$   $\mathbb{Q}xd6$  15. $\mathbb{Q}xd6\pm$ ) 13...a6 14. $\mathbb{Q}d6+$   $\mathbb{Q}xd6$  15. $\mathbb{Q}xd6\pm$  Sorin,A-Olszewski,M Buenos Aires 2006:

e) 9... $\mathbb{Q}c6$  10. $\mathbb{Q}xc6$  dxc6 11. $\mathbb{Q}f3$  (11. $\mathbb{Q}g5$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  12. $\mathbb{Q}c3$  o-o 13. $\mathbb{Q}xf6$   $\mathbb{Q}xf6$  14. $\mathbb{Q}ad1$   $\mathbb{Q}c7$  15. $\mathbb{Q}e4$   $\mathbb{Q}e7=$  Reich,T-Graf,F Germany 2009) 11... $\mathbb{Q}c7$  (11... $\mathbb{Q}c8$  12. $\mathbb{Q}c3$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  13. $\mathbb{Q}f4$  o-o 14. $\mathbb{Q}fd1\pm$  Kempinski,R-Socko,B Germany 2003) 12. $\mathbb{Q}c3$   $\mathbb{Q}d8$  13. $\mathbb{Q}f4$   $\mathbb{Q}d6$  14. $\mathbb{Q}xd6$   $\mathbb{Q}xd6$  15. $\mathbb{Q}ad1$   $\mathbb{Q}xd1$  16. $\mathbb{Q}xd1$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  17. $\mathbb{Q}e4$   $\mathbb{Q}xe4$  18. $\mathbb{Q}xe4\pm$  Grivas,E-Fish,G Iraklion 1995.

### 6...exd5 7.cxd5



### 7...d6

Black's alternatives are:

a) 7...c4 8. $\mathbb{Q}e3+!$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  9. $\mathbb{Q}c3$   $\mathbb{Q}xe3$  10. $\mathbb{Q}xe3$   $\mathbb{Q}b4$  11. $\mathbb{Q}d4$ ? (11.o-o-o  $\mathbb{Q}xc3$  12.bxc3  $\mathbb{Q}b7$  13. $\mathbb{Q}d4$   $\mathbb{Q}xd5$  14. $\mathbb{Q}xg7$   $\mathbb{Q}g8$  15. $\mathbb{Q}d4\pm$  Remman,N-Schneider,L Eksjo 1981) 11... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ ! (11... $\mathbb{Q}xd5$ ?! 12. $\mathbb{Q}xg7$   $\mathbb{Q}g8$  13.o-o-o!  $\mathbb{Q}e7$  [13... $\mathbb{Q}xc3$  14. $\mathbb{Q}xc3$   $\mathbb{Q}xc3$  15.bxc3  $\mathbb{Q}b7$  16. $\mathbb{Q}h3!$  b5 17. $\mathbb{Q}f5\pm$ ] 14. $\mathbb{Q}e5$   $\mathbb{Q}bc6$  15. $\mathbb{Q}e4$  o-o-o [15... $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ ? 16. $\mathbb{Q}f6++-$ ] 16. $\mathbb{Q}d6+$   $\mathbb{Q}xd6$  17. $\mathbb{Q}xd6\pm$  Epishin,V-Komarov,D St Petersburg 1997) 12.o-o-o d6 (12... $\mathbb{Q}e8$ ? 13.d6+!  $\mathbb{Q}xd6$  14. $\mathbb{Q}xf6+$   $\mathbb{Q}xf6$  15. $\mathbb{Q}d5+$   $\mathbb{Q}d8$  16. $\mathbb{Q}xf6$   $\mathbb{Q}e6$  17. $\mathbb{Q}xh7+-$ ; 12... $\mathbb{Q}b7$ ? 13.e4  $\mathbb{Q}xc3$  14. $\mathbb{Q}xc3$   $\mathbb{Q}xe4$  15. $\mathbb{Q}e1$  f5 [15... $\mathbb{Q}xd5$  16. $\mathbb{Q}d2$  f5 17.f3+-] 16. $\mathbb{Q}g5$   $\mathbb{Q}f8$  17. $\mathbb{Q}xe4$   $\mathbb{Q}xe4$  18. $\mathbb{Q}xc4+-$ ) 13.e4  $\mathbb{Q}bd7$  14. $\mathbb{Q}h4\pm$

b) 7...g6 8. $\mathbb{Q}f4$  (8. $\mathbb{Q}g2$   $\mathbb{Q}g7$  9. $\mathbb{Q}e3+$   $\mathbb{Q}e7$  10. $\mathbb{Q}xe7+$  [10. $\mathbb{Q}c3$  d6 11.o-o  $\mathbb{Q}bd7$  12. $\mathbb{Q}e1$  b5 13.a3  $\mathbb{Q}g4$  14. $\mathbb{Q}xe7+$   $\mathbb{Q}xe7$  15. $\mathbb{Q}g5+$   $\mathbb{Q}f6$  16. $\mathbb{Q}xf6+$   $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ ]