

## Nearly Chess

This is a collaborative very-short-story writing project, intended for groups of approximately 8 players. Ten chess-related words are at the bottom of the page. You are not allowed to use them in your story. However you are required to use two or more *nearly chess* words in each sentence.

### Rules

*Nearly chess* words must have *three or more* letters. They are created by modifying one of the chess-related words, using these four rules:

- ◇ **Anagram:** a word that is obtained by rearranging *all* the letters of the starting word.
- ◇ **Deletion:** one or more *consecutive* letters are deleted from the starting word.
- ◇ **Letter Change:** a word obtained from the starting word by changing *one* letter.
- ◇ **Substring:** a word that is there as *an unbroken string* of letters anywhere in the starting word.

You may use any of the rules, *or two rules in sequence*.

### Example

If PARTY was one of the chess-related words, you would not be allowed to use the word PARTY in your story, but you would be required to use two or more of these words in your contribution to the story:

**One-Step Words:** PATTY, PASTY, ARTY, PART, PAR, ART, PAY

**Two-Step Words:** PATSY, PAT, PAST, CART, STY, TRAY, TRAP, RAP, RAT, TAR

- ◇ PA is not OK, because it is too short.
- ◇ Two-step words can only be created from one-step words. (You can't get PRY from PARY, because PARY is not a word.)
- ◇ Proper nouns are acceptable, e.g. Patty, Art, Patsy, Pat.

### Writing the Story

1. On the back of this page, choose a chess-related word that is not already crossed out, and cross it out. Using it as your starting word, create two or more *nearly chess* words, following the rules.
2. Write a sentence that includes your *nearly chess* words. Underline the *nearly chess* words in the story. Do your best to not re-use the same *nearly chess* words in other stories. You may re-use *nearly chess* words from previous sentences, but don't underline them.
3. Pass the paper to your left, and receive a paper from your right.

Repeat. When eight slots have been filled in the paper you receive, write a title for that story.

Read the stories to the group. Post the best one(s) on the wall.

### Chess-Related Words

BISHOP	BOARD	CAPTURE	CASTLE	CHECK
KING	KNIGHT	MATE	PAWN	ROOK

9. (title, entered at the end)

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1. (start the story here)

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2.

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3.

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4.

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5.

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6.

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7.

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8. (end the story here)

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BISHOP      BOARD      CAPTURE      CASTLE      CHECK  
KING      KNIGHT      MATE      PAWN      ROOK

- ◇ Cross out a chess-related word at the bottom.
- ◇ Find *two or more* words derived from it, following the rules. You may use the margins to do that.
- ◇ Write a sentence including those words, underlined in the next available space.
- ◇ Pass the paper clockwise.
- ◇ Try to avoid reusing the same words in other stories.