

Read the text and think of the word which best fits each gap.

## CHESS



Chess is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of the world's oldest games of war. It is generally said to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ developed in India (3) \_\_\_\_\_ some period before 500 AD. The original pieces, much less mobile (4) \_\_\_\_\_ their modern counterparts, represented units (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the ancient Indian army, foot-soldiers, cavalry, armed chariots (6) \_\_\_\_\_, of course, elephants. The fighting troops (7) \_\_\_\_\_ led on the chessboard, as (8) \_\_\_\_\_ real life, by the king and his senior minister, the vizier, which became the queen in (9) \_\_\_\_\_ modern game. From India, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ is said, chess spread through China, Persia and Europe. Once the game (11) \_\_\_\_\_ reached the West, the identity and design of the individual chess pieces (12) \_\_\_\_\_ modified to reflect the social milieu (13) \_\_\_\_\_ medieval Europe. The biggest change was the emergence of the queen as the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ powerful piece (15) \_\_\_\_\_ the chessboard.

Until the twentieth (16) \_\_\_\_\_, chess was often regarded (17) \_\_\_\_\_ a game for the aristocracy of society, but today it exerts a (18) \_\_\_\_\_ broader appeal. Among board games, chess (19) \_\_\_\_\_ the ideal blend of strategy, tactics and pure skill. The only games which compare (20) \_\_\_\_\_ subtlety, science and depth (21) \_\_\_\_\_ shogi and go.

The competition aspect of chess makes it a battle (22) \_\_\_\_\_ two individuals, a battle (23) \_\_\_\_\_ bloodshed, but still (24) \_\_\_\_\_ fierce struggle of mind, will and physical endurance. More than anything (25) \_\_\_\_\_ though, chess has an ancient (26) \_\_\_\_\_ distinguished history. The game provides (27) \_\_\_\_\_ deep sense of continuity (28) \_\_\_\_\_ the intellectual community (29) \_\_\_\_\_ past ages, extending through hundreds of years and embracing (30) \_\_\_\_\_ nations.

Adapted from: CAE Practice Tests Plus 1