

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