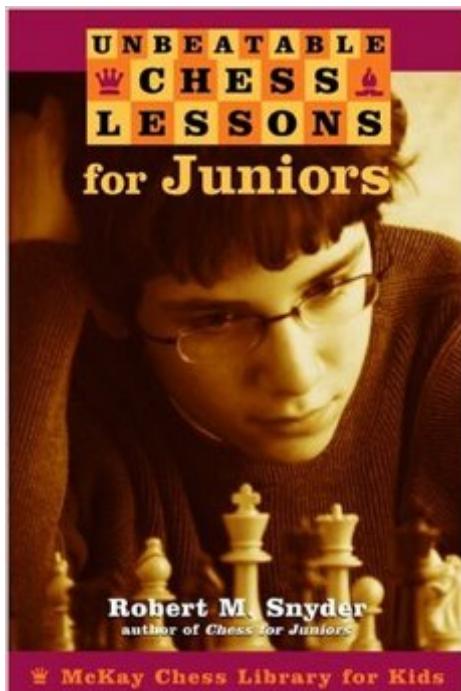


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Unbeatable Chess Lessons For Juniors [McKay Chess Library For Kids]



Synopsis

In *Unbeatable Chess Lessons for Juniors*, game master Robert M. Snyder takes games played by the world's best players—including Bobby Fischer, Reuben Fine, Samuel Reshevsky—and creates lessons designed for rapid game improvement. Targeted at 8-13-year-olds, this book explains the ideas behind every move in a format that both the advanced beginner can understand and the intermediate player can greatly benefit from. As he did in his best-selling *Chess for Juniors*, Snyder provides clear step-by-step instruction in clear language. He applies the lessons learned by the greats to the games that every student plays.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 and up

Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

Mr. Snyder's two books, "Unbeatable Chess Lessons For Juniors" and then the sequel "More Unbeatable Chess For Juniors" take you through 24 complete games per book. These are turned into excellent lessons (used by Mr. Snyder in his private lessons through the internet and face to face for many years) where each move is analyzed. A nice focus is the TECHNIQUE used to accomplish victory. When called for the actual plans are broken down in the analysis pointing out weakness and then a step by step analysis of the planning process. Let's take a look at a major example taken from an endgame in one of the games titled "Planning Ahead" - the author writes, "White's plan consists of the following ideas (not necessarily in the exact order that they are carried out), "1. White will make sure that his Kingside Pawns are secure against any threats by

Black's Bishop. This may require placing the Kingside Pawns on the same color as his Bishop, which may be a drawback; however, it will prevent Black's Bishop from attacking then in the absence of White's King.2. White will move his King toward Black's weak isolated Queenside Pawns. The King can easily threaten them from the White squares and can aid in the creation and support of a White Queenside passed Pawn. The author goes on with two more (3. & 4.) parts of his step by step ideas behind the plans as well. This is just a small example of the detail and quality of the lessons you will find in Mr. Snyder's books. Mr. Snyder is not one of these authors who has a new book coming out every couple of months. His recent books have only come out at the rate of about one a year, showing he puts in the time for a quality job. Within the games you will be asked to "find the best move here".

I am an experienced scholastic chess player who has been playing and studying chess for some years now. I have a large collection of chess books (numbering in the hundreds) and have read every one of them from cover to cover (I must point out that I have a life outside of chess as well - though chess is my number one thing). Out of every single book I can say that UNBEATABLE CHESS LESSONS FOR JUNIORS is my absolute favorite. Now to why I rank it at the top of my list (I cannot wait for Robert Snyder's MORE UNBEATABLE CHESS FOR JUNIORS to be released):#1) The games are selected for instructional purposes based on many years of teachings by the author (this is why there are no recent games in the book - which is just fine with me). Robert Snyder having produced a record number of national champions has a great insight into the mind of the player and consistently answers questions on a "comment on every move" basis (he hits the spot much better than other books using the same concept such as "Logical Chess" and "Understanding Chess"). UNBEATABLE CHESS LESSONS FOR JUNIORS avoids the unnecessary repetition found in "Logical Chess" and the long complex analysis which loses the reader found in "Understanding Chess" which are supposed to be for the Intermediate Player.#2) General Rules are outlined as they are applied in each game. Also, where the exceptions to the rules are pointed out as well.#3) Find the best move! Robert Snyder challenges you to find the best move at critical junctures and many points throughout each game (making a game collection book have many of the advantages of a problem solving book!).#4) Critical Opening Lines are covered throughout the book with some new improvements over previously published books on openings.

I really enjoyed reading Unbeatable Chess Lessons For Juniors. I felt that I gained a lot of knowledge especially in the following areas,a) Learning how to build an attack. The placement of

your pieces and planning ahead.y.b) Learning how to use sacrifices and to recognize when they work and do not work.c) Positional play - manuvering your pieces and planning the use of Pawn structures.d) Many tactical ideas were covered.e) Learning the openings. The openings in the complete games are well covered with important opening lines being show. The games are organized by the type of openings being used. This makes it easy to study openings. The lines being shown are up to date and very accurate.f) There are not a lot of endgames but the ones covered are very instructive. What I like is to see how plans were made to get to the winning endgame right from the opening! This book then gives a step by step explaination of how to win the endgame.Some special features I liked about Unbeatable Chess Lessons For Juniors,a) You are asked to find the best move. This forces you to think and makes for fun problems to solve out of games. This is much different than most books.b) All the moves are analyzed.c) General rules are pointed out. But, what makes it really nice is when the exceptions to the general rules happen, they are pointed out.I like the nice easy flowing style of the author. For a person who already knows the very basic stuff about chess this book is just right. This is because there is both a review of important ideas and a depth of analysis making this book interesting for a more advanced player as well.

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