11 - Solution to Opening Remarks

The answers to the questions are hidden in the grid itself and in order, they are

- Lopez
- Larsen
- Bird
- Dunst
- Wade
- Napolean
- Greco
- Torre

The puzzle is based on the different chess openings. This is clued by the title of the puzzle and the $8 \times 8$ nature of the grid. All the answers above are actually names of chess openings. To find out where the words lead us, we need to follow the sequence of moves indicated by each opening and take the letter of the final square we end up in.

For example, in standard chess notation, the Lopez opening is 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5. The letter in square b5 is $a$. Proceeding in this manner, the final squares for each opening are b5, b3, f4, c3, d6, f3, f6, g5. The letters in these squares in order read Acrostic which is the answer to the puzzle.

It turns out there is more than one opening with the name Lopez. The one I refer to here is the “Ruy Lopez” opening. This caused quite a lot of confusion for the solvers.