

Striking Back: The Sicilian Defense Help Guide

Diagram 4:

The reason Black plays c5 is to eliminate Whites control of the center when White plays d4. The Black Pawn on c5 is attacking d4. Remember center Pawns are the ones directly in front of the King, and Queen.

Diagram 6:

White develops the Knight to c3 (Nc3). This Knight is now on a half open file, because Blacks c Pawn is not on that file (Up and Down). Black likes this half open file for his Queen and two Rooks to be placed on, it gives good counter play throughout the game.