Alexander Suvorov Doc



- Alexander Suvorov was a very weak and fragile child, prone to getting sick easily. However, he possessed a fierce discipline and mental strength that many would envy. Suvorov self-trained to strengthen his mind. Due to his delicate nature and tendency to catch colds, he decided to toughen himself up by taking cold and icy baths, avoiding warm clothing, and riding out in the rain. **(Mental Fortitude, Discipline)**

- His parents considered him eccentric due to his dedication to study. His father sometimes scolded him and tried to distract him from reading military books, which demonstrates his discipline even without paternal support. One day, a general named Hannibal, a friend of Alexander's father, was visiting their home, and as usual, the father was complaining about his son. Hannibal overheard and became interested in the boy. He entered Alexander's room, where the boy was busy recreating one of history's great battles. Hannibal watched with interest and soon realized it was not just play: the boy demonstrated familiarity with tactical details of the operations he was simulating. Hannibal began advising him. Young Alexander eagerly accepted his suggestions, agreeing on some and disagreeing on others. A lively discussion ensued about the rules of war and the feats of great generals, leaving the old general very impressed by the boy's keen perception. This demonstrates Suvorov's incredible fluid intelligence. Hannibal returned to Alexander's father and declared, "If our teacher, Peter

Alexeyevich, were alive," Hannibal added, "he would have kissed him on the forehead and sent him to study the science of war." **(Discipline, Fluid Intelligence)**

- In the General Staff of the Imperial Guard Regiment Semyonovski, Suvorov studied arithmetic, geometry, trigonometry, fortification, engineering, artillery, foreign languages, military instruction, and other prescribed knowledge. **(Knowledge)**

- Suvorov endured a lot of stress in the army. Despite their appearance, the weapons were rusty and malfunctioned. Muskets were difficult to use and inaccurate. Soldiers were tightly fitted in their uniforms, barely able to move or perform basic needs. They had boards on their legs to prevent bending their knees while marching. Soldiers were forced to stand for hours in special frames to improve their posture. Tight uniforms affected soldiers' health, and new recruits were slowly introduced to these uniforms to avoid damaging them too quickly, in addition to being frequently beaten. Despite these difficulties, Suvorov successfully overcame all these adversities. **(Stress Tolerance)**

- Unlike other nobles, Suvorov understood he should not distance himself from common soldiers. From a young age, he had contact with common people and did not share the haughty disdain that many city nobles felt towards peasants. This closeness allowed him to understand his men, inspire them, and earn their loyalty. **(Charisma, Social Intuition)**

- Suvorov was known for his disciplined lifestyle and dedication to study. He was interested in history, engineering, and artillery techniques, and enjoyed reading and quoting the best poets and writers of his time. **(Knowledge)**

- Suvorov also developed an interest in literature and wrote "Dialogues in the Realm of the Dead," which were published in 1756. This shows his interest in military glory and justice. **(Knowledge)**

// Suvorov's Participation in the Seven Years' War //

- During the Battle of Kunersdorf, under the leadership of Pyotr Semionovich Saltykov, after their victory, he remained undisturbed and did not send the Cossacks to pursue the retreating enemy.

It was then that Suvorov intervened and commented to William Fermor: "If I were the commander in chief, I would march towards Berlin right now." Fortunately for Frederick, he did not face Suvorov, because if Pyotr had advanced towards Berlin, it would have been his end. This observation and analysis by Suvorov, who was young at the time, demonstrate his ability to discern when to attack and when to take risks, unlike the acting general. **(Analytical Thinking, Observation)**

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not even pursuing the fleeing enemy, Suvorov, in his surprised bitterness, bluntly
told Fermor:

"Were I Commander-in-Chief, I should immediately make straight for
Berlin."
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At the time when Pyotr Semyonovich Saltykov, upon his Kunersdorf victory, remained unmoved and did not even send Cossacks to pursue the fleeing enemy, Suvorov said to William Fermor: "if I were commander-in-chief, I would go to Berlin right now". Fortunately for Frederick, he faced not Suvorov.[28]

- It is noted that Suvorov possesses remarkable quickness both in thought and action. He has an exceptional ability to identify the enemy's weaknesses and swiftly attack at their most vulnerable point. It's important to remember that these capabilities were evident in his early years on the battlefield. **(Fast Thinking)**

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In these first skirmishes Suvorov already showed many of his characteristic
traits : extraordinary energy and resolution, rapidity of thought and action, and
an ability to feel out the weaknesses of the enemy with a sure touch and attack
him with lightning swiftness in his weakest spot. Another characteristic of
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- Buturlin wrote a letter to Vassili Ivanovich Suvorov, informing him that his son "had won the affection and admiration of all the commanders." **(Influence Building)**

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Thus Suvorov's first battles already marked him out from other officers.
Buturlin recommended him for a decoration on the ground that "Suvorov has
greatly distinguished himself above all others." Buturlin also wrote a special
letter to Vassili Ivanovich Suvorov (at this time appointed to a governorship in
Prussia) telling him that his son "had earned the love and praise of all com-
manders."
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-After the Seven Years' War, Suvorov made a series of inferences based on his direct observations. He criticized the "armchair" strategy of his time, which involved planning battles from a theoretical perspective without considering the practical realities of the battlefield. Suvorov pointed out the tendency of senior officers to devise artificial schemes and dispositions that purported to foresee all possible eventualities in a battle. He concluded that such strategies were ineffective because they did not account for the unpredictability and dynamics of real warfare.

He concluded that audacity, speed, adaptability, and drive are what is truly essential for military success. This approach is a clear example of inductive reasoning, where general conclusions are drawn from specific observed cases. Suvorov valued practical actions and direct experience on the battlefield more, rejecting abstract theories that had not been tested in practice and preferring strategies that he had seen work in real situations. **(Critical Thinking, Inductive Reasoning)**

in the Seven Years' War. The weaknesses of the "armchair strategy" of his time had not escaped his subtle intelligence and he strongly condemned any attempt to draw up artificial schemes and "dispositions" to cover all the variety of possibilities and accidents arising in battle.

"Battles cannot be won from armchairs and theory without practice is a dead letter," was the way he formulated his point of view.

His dislike for the "speculations" and dilatoriness of the Russian hi^ command at first provoked him into going to the opposite extreme : at this period he was inclined to over-estimate the value of audacity. His actions against the Prussians and later against the Poles (during the first Polish campaign) are characterised by the fact that the last two elements of his famous triad ("cowp d*mU speed, and drive") obviously donainated the first. As some chess-players are inclined to undertake combinations based on quite unexpected and improbable moves, so Suvorov, in this period of his career, was prone to take of set purpose decisions contrary to all accepted theory. Such a method was based on certain assumed psychological reactions of the enemy and demanded great daring on the part of leader and of troops. Such daring could, however,

- Suvorov was one of the few generals who truly understood the importance of morale. Therefore, he initiated the training of the Suzdal Regiment with these ideas in mind. He believed in teaching soldiers to understand the tasks they had to fulfill and always endeavored to explain to them what was expected of them and why. He fostered team spirit, mutual assistance, aggressiveness, and audacity. Suvorov deduced that soldiers would enjoy training if they understood its purpose. **(Emotional Understanding, Leadership)**

The basic idea of the systenv—in contrast to the principles of Frederic of Prussia— was to teach the soldiers to understand the tasks they were required to fulfil. Both during training, and later on the field of battle, Suvorov always did his best to explain to the soldiers what they were expected to do and why. "Each soldier should understand his manoeuvres" was the postulate which Suvorov always impressed on his assistants. At the same time he always strove to develop a team spirit in his troops, a spirit of mutual assistance, aggressive-ness, and dash. Obviously the achiev^ent of such aims demanded much hard

He understood that primitive tactics, such as the use of bayonets, would be more useful than modern tactics. However, he never dismissed the possibility of using firearms. **(Abstract Reasoning)**

// Battles against the Polish Uprising //

- Battle of Orekhovo:

In the Battle of Orekhovo, Suvorov, with only 450 men and two cannons, left part of his detachment in Brest and headed towards the Pulavskis. These Confederates were grouped in a clearing within a forest, making them vulnerable. Suvorov observed this disposition and saw it as a strategic weakness, so he decided to leave his detachment in Brest, despite opposition from others. Suvorov and his troops crossed three gorges in the forest to confuse the enemy about their positions.

procedure was to hustle the enemy and give him no time for reflection. Leaving part of his detachment in Brest, with only 450 men and two guns he went after the Pulavskis and overtook them near the village of Orekhovo.

'T found them careless and in a bad position," Suvorov wrote in his auto-biography," that is, crowded together in a clearing in a wood near the village. We passed through three forest defiles, suffering slight losses, and then attacked. The village behind them was set on fire by a grenade ; to make a long story short

Upon emerging from the gorges, they attacked the Confederates. To further demoralize the enemy, Suvorov ordered the village behind them to be set on fire with a grenade, causing chaos and panic in the enemy ranks. Suvorov repelled the Confederates' attacks with grapeshot. Seeing that the enemy was disheartened, he ordered a bayonet charge against the cavalry.

Why did Suvorov order a bayonet charge against cavalry?

Attacking cavalry with infantry was an unusual and surprising tactic, which Suvorov knew could cause confusion and panic among the enemy ranks, as they would not be prepared for such a bold maneuver. Suvorov had great confidence in the discipline and courage of his troops, knowing they could maintain formation and execute an effective bayonet charge, even against mounted forces. This tactic also aimed to avoid prolonging a confrontation that could wear out his limited forces. Attacking with infantry and using the bayonet charge allowed him to maximize his resources, an incredible "Efficiency Strategy."

Furthermore, Suvorov understood the psychological impact of combat. A bayonet charge, executed with determination and energy, could devastate the morale of the enemy cavalry, which might not be ready to face such aggressive infantry.

Conclusion: *The Confederates fled in disarray, pursued by Suvorov's infantry, which maintained rapid fire to affect the enemy's morale. During the battle, a Russian soldier attacked Casimir Pulavski. His brother Francis came to his aid and saved him, but lost his life in the process, resulting in the death of a Confederate leader. The battle concluded with a decisive victory for Suvorov, solidifying his reputation as a brilliant strategist and military leade*r.

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At first Suvorov, taking into account the great numerical superiority of the
Poles, merely beat off their attacks with grapeshot. Then, thinking that the
enemy had been discouraged by their repulse and having intensified this dis-
couragement by setting the village behind them on fire, ordered a bayonet
charge. This attack was quite unorthodox: Suvorov was attacking cavalry
with infantry, an operation almost unprecedented in military history. The
bayonet charge was carried out with irresistible energy. The Poles fled and
Suvorov's few cavalrymen pursued them to a distance of nearly two miles,
while the infantry kept up a rapid fire in order to make a "moral impression"
on the enemy. The Poles were so demoralised that they were unable to stop,
even thou^ at the end they were pursued by only ten troopers and— -Suvorov
himself.
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(Observation, Misdirection, Strategic Efficiency, Psychological Warfare: Demoralization)

Although defeating the Confederates, Suvorov treated prisoners with humanity, releasing them on their word of honor not to fight again. He understood that treating repentant rebels well would serve his interests better than shedding blood. **(Relationship Management, Social Intuition)**

- **Battle of Lantskoron:**

After the previous battle, Suvorov received orders to move towards Krakow to face the main forces of the Polish Confederates, led by Dumouriez and Valevski. Before the battle, Suvorov, as usual, launched an attack and captured a strategic fort in the village of Tynets. However, he was repelled, realizing that Dumouriez and Valevski were no ordinary generals.

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it after a bitter struggle. Having lost about two hundred men and — ^what was
worse — several hours of precious time, Suvorov called off the attack and moved
to the nei^bouring village of Lantskorona, which had once before been the
scene of an armed clash. The battle which now took place here was an ad-
mirable example of his daring and of his masterly appreciation of the psychology
of the enemy.
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Instead of pressing on, Suvorov withdrew to a nearby village, Lantskorona.

As Suvorov positioned himself, the Confederates also positioned themselves, and much better than he did. The left flank of the Confederates was protected by the stronghold of Lantskorona, while the center and right flank were defended by a steep, vegetated hill, giving them an almost invulnerable advantage.

Emotional Understanding: Suvorov likely understood that the enemy expected him to fight like other Russian generals, calmly, slowly, and with a "armchair" strategy. This assumption was confirmed by Dumouriez himself, who ordered not to fire until the Russian army was close, confident in his position.

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Certain of the inaccessibility of his position, Dumouriez gave orders that the
enemy cavalry “rushing into certain death” should be allowed to come to close
range and was not to be fired on until it reached the crest of the ridge.
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Understanding this, Suvorov decided not to fully deploy his entire army and instead sent the Cossacks to attack swiftly.

Exploiting the enemy's expectation of a slower and more cautious advance, this surprise disoriented the Polish forces. Suvorov understood that a rapid and decisive attack could break the enemy's morale.

Once the Cossacks reached the hill, Suvorov ordered them to form tighter and stronger formations. "Closing ranks" means grouping closely together to form a compact line, giving them more strength and protection. After reorganizing, the Cossacks charged against the Polish infantry with great speed and force, using the element of surprise and their momentum to inflict maximum damage. The Polish infantry did not anticipate the Cossacks reaching the top of the hill and attacking so swiftly. This caused panic among the Polish soldiers, who began to flee.

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But the Cossacks, once they had reached the top, closed their ranks, and
made so vigorous a charge that the Polish infantry broke and ran. Sapieha,
who ^ed to stop them, was killed by his own panic-stricken men. All Du-
mouriez’s efforts to restore order were vain, the battle was over in half an hour
the Poles lost 500 men, the rest scattered all over the countryside ; only the
French corps and Valevski’s detachment withdrew in good order.
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The Polish infantry crumbled and fled in disorder, unable to withstand the surprise attack of the Cossacks, thus losing the battle.

In his memoirs, Dumouriez heavily criticized Suvorov's action of attacking a strong position with cavalry, describing such an operation as contrary to all tactical rules and attributing Suvorov's success to mere good luck. Mediocrity criticizing genius! It never occurred to Dumouriez that Suvorov had demonstrated consummate skill in this battle, had considered all circumstances accurately, and had assessed the moral weakness of his opponents.

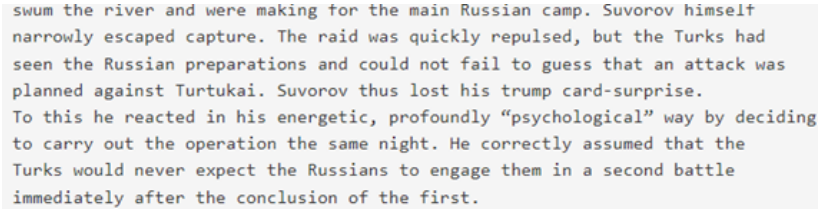
(Divergent Thinking, Psychological Warfare: Demoralization, Emotional Understanding, Strategy, Tactics)

// First Russo-Turkish War //

- First Encounter with Turkish Forces:

Suvorov planned a surprise attack at Turtukai by crossing the Danube River at an unprotected location. However, an error occurred during the planning phase. Suvorov fell asleep, which turned out to be a catastrophic mistake as Turkish forces, observing Suvorov's preparations, deduced his surprise attack. Approximately 1,000 Turkish Janissaries (elite soldiers) swam across the river and attacked the main Russian camp. Suvorov narrowly escaped capture.

Immediate Countermeasure: After the Turkish forces assaulted the Russian camp, Suvorov managed to repel them. Realizing he could no longer rely on a surprise attack as he preferred, Suvorov made a prediction. He anticipated that the Turkish forces would not expect him to proceed immediately with the operation after the attack. Instead, they probably assumed he would wait until morning or another day. Acting on this intuition, he decided to launch the attack immediately.


swum the river and were making for the main Russian camp. Suvorov himself narrowly escaped capture. The raid was quickly repulsed, but the Turks had seen the Russian preparations and could not fail to guess that an attack was planned against Turtukai. Suvorov thus lost his trump card-surprise.
To this he reacted in his energetic, profoundly "psychological" way by deciding to carry out the operation the same night. He correctly assumed that the Turks would never expect the Russians to engage them in a second battle immediately after the conclusion of the first.

And Suvorov's decision proved correct.

Russian forces advanced in two columns, with two companies under Rehbock's command in reserve. The river crossing began at 1 a.m. under the cover of darkness, which concealed their movements and made Turkish fire ineffective.

Once across the river, the Russians marched upstream in two columns as planned. The first column quickly captured two batteries and a fortified camp. The second column faced stronger resistance, resulting in intense fighting. During the final assault, Suvorov ordered Major Rehbock's reserves to advance to support the first column's attack on Turtukai, ensuring the second column remained available if needed. By 4 a.m., the Turks were in disarray and fled the battlefield. **(Adaptability, Strategy, Prediction, Emotional Understanding, Bluffing, Tactics)**

- When taking Turtukai, Suvorov sends a letter to the Empress. There's an interesting part that says: "Slava Bogu, slava vam. Glory to God and glory to you! Turtukai vzyat i ya tarn. Turtukai's taken and I'm there too!" Suvorov plays on words in Russian: "Yatam", which sounds like "I'm there" when divided into two words. This wordplay suggests that, by taking Turtukai, they have also captured a place called Yatam, hinting at Suvorov's presence there. This device was used to present himself as naive or simple, aiming to soften the inevitable envy and malice of other incompetent generals

who were his rivals, pretending to be simpler than he actually was. **(Social Intuition, Verbal Understanding)**

- Alexander Suvorov demonstrated incredible mental strength. He had been ordered to create a distraction against the Turks. However, right at that moment, he fell severely ill with fever. Despite this, Suvorov fulfilled his mission in the cold winter, being delicate, fragile, and weak to the extent that he couldn't walk or shout, and had to whisper orders to one of his soldiers for him to repeat. Nevertheless, Suvorov managed to complete his mission. **(Mental Strength)**

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Perhaps the most remarkable feature of this whole enterprise was the conduct
of Suvorov himself. He had been suffering from fever all day. Although he
was so weak that he could not walk without assistance he crossed the Danube
by ferry, two officers supporting him all the time. One of them had to repeat
the orders given by Suvorov, and the general's voice was hardly audible. In
such a state of complete physical collapse Suvorov, this time trusting no one,
conducted the battle all night in an extremely difficult situation. In the morning
he even forced himself to mount a horse.
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- Battle of Kozludzha:

Suvorov's Mistake: Before the start of the battle, Suvorov makes a mistake due to his deep resentment towards his military colleague, General Kamensky. This leads him to reject teamwork, as he believes Kamensky does not share his philosophy or treat him as an equal. This error causes Suvorov to advance without properly analyzing the situation, entering a narrow gorge surrounded by dense forest. Unaware, he falls victim to a surprise attack orchestrated by Turkish spies who had infiltrated the forest and alerted the enemy army. Upon exiting the forest, the Turks launch a sudden attack that triggers a desperate retreat of the Russians.

Adaptability: Despite the initial setback and the retreat of his troops, Suvorov shows skill in quickly reorganizing his cavalry and reinforcing it with infantry.

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Having rallied his disorganised cavalry and reinforced them by infantry,
Suvorov immediately turned back in pursuit of the retreating Albanians.
The operation was carried out in extremely difficult circumstances. The narrow
forest paths were littered with the dead bodies of men and horses. It was
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This allows him to regain the initiative and prepare for a counterattack. Regrouped in an advantageous position on the plain, Suvorov is better protected and can clearly observe where he will confront the enemy.

Once in position, Suvorov analyzes the situation and decides to use his artillery to intensely bombard the enemy camp instead of directly targeting scattered enemies, a strategy that weakens the adversary's morale and causes confusion among the Turks, forcing many to flee.]

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At last the defile, five and a half miles long, was at an end and the troops
emerged from the forest. D^loying in the plain, Suvorov repulsed repeated
attacks of the far more numerous Turks and, bringing his guns into position,
began an intensive bombardment of the enemy camp. After an artillery
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Finally, Suvorov launches a coordinated final attack against the remaining Turkish forces, already weakened by the bombardment, successfully causing many enemies to completely withdraw from the battlefield. **(Adaptability Strategy, Tactics)**

// Cuban & Crimea //

In this fragment, Suvorov doesn't undertake many actions, but I'll mention some of his notable feats:

- He constructs a series of fortifications in Kuban in just three months. (Protection Strategy)

- He observes the reeds along the surrounding rivers and cleverly associates them with potential ambush points. Therefore, he orders them to be burned, creating cover. (Associative Thinking, Cover, Observation)

- He achieves temporary peace with the Nogai tribes by organizing two feasts. Through persuasion, he manages to bring them under Russian crown subordination. (Persuasion)

- Battle of Labá

After Suvorov pacified the Nogai tribes, peace did not last long. Due to the extermination of the Jemboyluks by third parties, the Nogais felt intimidated and decided to become hostile. This is where Suvorov comes in. The Nogai tribes decided to hide in the mountains.

Distraction: Before this, Suvorov spread rumors that he had returned to Russia and would leave the Nogais alone. Nogai spies reported this to their tribe, which reassured them. However, Suvorov created this rumor as a distraction. In reality, he was secretly mobilizing a detachment, mostly moving at night, silently marching to avoid detection by Nogai lookouts.

A rumour was set on foot that Suvorov had gone back to Russia and that it had been decided to leave the Nogais of the Transkuban m peace. Meanwhile a detachment under the command of Suvorov himself took the field on 19th September. The detachment moved in secret, mainly at night. Nogai look-outs were patrolling the far bank of the Kuban river and the Russians had to march in strict silence in order not to be noticed by them. No military

After some time, Suvorov spotted a Nogai camp across the Kuban River. Along with his army, they silently crossed the narrow river.

The Russian soldiers crossed the Kuban River with their muskets and powder bags over their heads, while the cavalry transported their gear to the other side of the river. This maneuver allowed the Russians to move stealthily and prepare to attack the Nogais. ("Method")

holding their muskets and powder-bags over their heads; their clothes were carried across the river by the cavalry.

Fifteen miles beyond the river near Kermenchuk the Russians surprised the first Nogai camps. After a short and desperate engagement a massacre began.

Once across the river, the Russians surprised the first Nogai camps. After a brief and desperate skirmish, a massacre ensued. Around three thousand five hundred Nogais were killed and a thousand were taken prisoner. The rest dispersed and sought refuge in the forest, where many were captured by their enemies, thus concluding the battle. (Distraction, Method)

// Russo-Turkish War II //

- At the outset of the Russo-Turkish War, no significant events occurred, but Suvorov demonstrated remarkable mental strength. During the Battle of Kinburn, he was shot and nearly died. Fortunately, he survived. However, the wound was severe, causing occasional fainting due to blood loss. It's said he was in this state for an entire month, which prevented him from fully participating in the siege of Ochakov, eventually forcing him to withdraw. An incredible display of mental fortitude. **(Mental Fortitude)**

- Battle of Kinburn

Before the battle, it's important to understand Suvorov's reasoning. First, let's consider the context:

Everything happened in Crimea, where the military general Potemkin had already begun clashes with the Turks, who had initiated the first attacks. The Turks attacked a

Russian frigate, angering Potemkin, who sent ships in retaliation. However, due to a storm, these ships were diverted and lost, demoralizing Potemkin as the Turks were about to disembark, posing a major problem. The main issue was that Potemkin didn't know where the Turks might land. Under this stress, he suggested to Empress Catherine that the best option would be to retreat from Crimea, but the Empress rejected this idea.

Despite the situation, Suvorov remained calm. Though he didn't have as many resources as Potemkin, he decided to stay composed and analyze the situation carefully.

Suvorov understood that the Turks wouldn't just land anywhere, but would seek a strategic point that would provide a base for future operations and directly threaten Russian positions in Crimea. At this moment, Suvorov put himself in the Turks' shoes. He analyzed the possible options and concluded that Kherson - Kinburn was a likely target due to its strategic importance. Furthermore, another reason Suvorov deduced Kinburn would be the landing site is that it offered an advantageous position for advancing. Suvorov accelerated the construction of defenses at Kinburn, including artillery batteries and fortifications, which would be crucial in repelling any landing attempt. He strategically positioned his troops on the promontory to cover potential attack routes, ensuring they could respond quickly to any enemy movement.

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fiarst thrust of the Turks was expected and where there were no means available
for the repulse of such an attack.

In August, 1787, Suvorov hurried to Kherson and took command of
his corps of 30,000 men. It was a happy time for him. He hastily
fortified the coastline, brought batteries into position, disposed his troops as
required, improved the military organisation throughout his command, visited
all threatened points, issued instructions, tested the river fords, and obseryed
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This fact was confirmed, and Suvorov's reasoning proved correct when the Russian fleet later approached that strategic point. However, the Turkish fleet remained inactive for a while, sailing near the Kinburn fortress without attacking. Suvorov was not surprised by this, deducing they would eventually return to port due to the approaching storm season.

This second deduction also proved accurate, as on October 1st, the Turkish fleet began to bombard and disembark. The Turkish attack began on that day.

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The Turks were still inactive. The gale season was approaching and Suvorov
was already b^inning to think that the Turkish fleet, aimlessly cruising just out
of gun-shot range of Kinbum, would shortly have to return to port, when on
1st October the bombardment of the fortress began. All the Turkish ships
opened fire and stood dosei inshore. Boats were launched, manned by landing
parties, and quickly rowed towards the sandy extremity of the promontory.
The Turki sh attack had begun.
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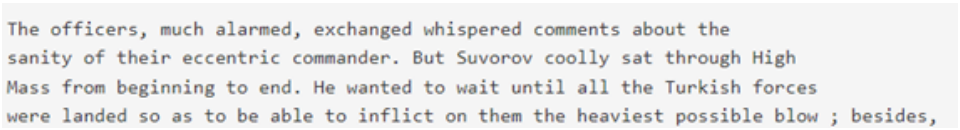
(Deductive Reasoning, Inductive Reasoning, Associative Thinking)

*The battle begins when the Turks initiate their landing, simultaneously bombarding the Russian fortifications with their naval artiller*y.

Upon realizing this, Suvorov doesn't panic or become alarmed. Instead, he remains calm and takes no immediate action. It seems as though he doesn't care. In fact, with a smile, he informs his army that it's a holiday and suggests everyone attend mass. This attitude leads many to believe that Suvorov has lost his mind, accusing him of being crazy, possibly due to the accumulated stress from Russia's recent failures. However, what no one knows is that this apparent indifference is actually a brilliant strategy. This act is the first step in Suvorov's master plan.

Why did Suvorov take no action?

1. The first reason Suvorov took no action was because he wanted all enemy troops to fully disembark so he could attack them with greater force and better concentrate his forces. Remember that concentration of forces is one of the greatest strategies a general can employ.



2. The second reason can be found in this part of the text: "Additionally, the tip of the promontory was within easy range of the Turkish naval cannons, but as the Turks approached the fortress, they would have to relinquish this advantage." The explanation is that the tip of the promontory is within easy reach of Turkish naval cannons, but as they approach the fortress, the Turks will lose this advantage.

Why do they lose their advantage?

As the Turks approach the fortress, natural obstacles such as hills, promontories, or vegetation may block direct line of sight from the ships to the advanced troop positions. The fortress structures and other built defenses can also obstruct direct fire from the ships. To effectively use their cannons, the ships need to maintain a certain distance. If the Turks get too close to the fortress, the ships will have to change positions or cease firing to avoid harming their own troops. Additionally, the firing angles become less effective as targets move beyond certain points, especially if the terrain elevates the fortress above the line of direct fire. As Turkish troops advance, there is an increased risk that naval cannon fire may accidentally hit their own forces instead of Russian defenses. This risk increases if Turkish troops are too close to the fortress, which could

lead commanders to cease fire to avoid friendly casualties. Moving the ships closer to shore to maintain range can also expose the fleet to counterattacks.

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The officers, much alarmed, exchanged whispered comments about the
sanity of their eccentric commander. But Suvorov coolly sat through High
Mass from beginning to end. He wanted to wait until all the Turkish forces
were landed so as to be able to inflict on them the heaviest possible blow ; besides,
the point of the promontory was within easy range of the Turkish naval guns,
but as the Turks approached the fortress they would have to forgo this ad-
vantage.
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How can Suvorov be so convinced that the Turks won't realize they're being manipulated by him and won't stay on the coast waiting for him to come down, as a tactical response to avoid losing advantages in battle?

Suvorov infers this due to his understanding of the Pasha's psychology. He knows that the Pasha will order the ships to move away from the coast to prevent his soldiers from considering retreat and thus fight with greater determination. Suvorov is aware of this strategy of the Pasha and uses it to his advantage, which is why he is so sure.

3. Another reason Suvorov takes no action is because he is deceiving the enemy. In reality, he is preparing an ambush. He wants the Turks to feel confident and believe they have a total advantage over him. However, the Turks don't realize they're falling into his trap. This is also reflected in Suvorov's deception cover, who, besides taking no action, attends mass during holidays as a way to conceal his true intentions. But this is just a facade. He wants the Turks to think he's not acting because mass and the holiday are more important.

(Efficiency, Strategy, Deductive Reasoning, Prediction, Analytical Thinking, Emotional Induction, Emotional Understanding, Field of Vision, Risk Calculation, Coverage Planning, Bluffing)

In addition to the "clear strategic advantage," Suvorov's knowledge of the Pasha's psychology, and the last coverage deception; Suvorov knows all this will make the Turks fall into his trap, which I will now explain:

Suvorov's Trap:

Once they disembarked, the Turkish soldiers approached and began digging trenches. However, seeing that the Russians still weren't attacking, they decided to advance even further, which was exactly what Suvorov wanted: for them to come closer. With the previously mentioned deception, the Turks had no hesitation in approaching a bit more. At that moment, Suvorov ordered an intense attack: he rained down grapeshot from the

walls, opened the gates, and charged with bayonets against the Turks, while the Cossacks attacked the flanks.

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trenchments were unnecessary, the Turks advanced to storm the fortress from
which they were separated by a distance of only three quarters of a mile.

This was what Suvorov had been waiting for. Although he had not more
than three thousand men at his disposal, he never harboured any doubts about
victory. A hail of grapeshot met the attackers from the walls of the fortress,
the gates opened and the infantry fell upon the Turks in a vigorous bayonet
charge while their flanks were enveloped by waves of Cossack cavalry. The
foremost Turkish lines were almost completely destroyed and the main body
of the attacking force fled in disorder. General Reek's men occupied ten lines
of Turkish trenches in the first rush.
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This tactic destroyed and annihilated the first Turkish lines, causing the main body to flee in disorder.

It's worth noting that Suvorov had only 3000 men, while the Turks were many more.

The Russians advanced towards the Turks and continued fighting. The battle lasted almost two days, and Suvorov was seriously wounded, nearly being killed by a group of Turks if not for a Russian soldier who saved him.

At dawn, everything Suvorov had achieved seemed in vain due to the great losses suffered.

However, this was all actually a trap. What no one knew, not even Suvorov's own troops, was that he had received fresh reinforcements.

Counterattack: Suvorov didn't plan to use them until the Turks believed they had won. He was willing to leave his army in pieces, but he wouldn't send those reinforcements until the Turks believed in the illusion of victory. The battle continued until finally, Suvorov, despite immense losses, managed to create the illusion of having lost. He realized the Turks believed they had won because they were shouting victory and dragging captured Russian weapons. Additionally, he observed that Dervishes, one of the Turkish generals, was promising heaven to those who died in battle at that moment. Suvorov perceived this as a tactic to motivate the Turks to give everything in what they thought would be their final attack.

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time. When he came to he saw the unwelcome spectacle of Russian regiments
again retreating in disorder. The Turks were shouting victory and dragging
away captured Russian guns. Dervishes in their ranks were egging them on,
promising the pleasures of paradise to those who died in battle. The French
oiffiicers directed the operations of the Turkish troops with skill.
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At that moment, Suvorov realized the Turks were ready to give everything to win, as they were very confident. This was the moment Suvorov had been waiting for, and then he activated his trap, in which three things happened simultaneously:

1. Suvorov unleashed all the reserves he had kept intact against the Turks in a single attack.
2. At the same time, Suvorov sent the only vessel at his disposal, the galley Desna, commanded by the fearless midshipman from Malta, Lombard, to attack the Turkish fleet. This forced seventeen Turkish ships to move away from the coast, leaving the Turks trapped in Kinburn without naval support.
3. Seizing the opportunity, he had a unit of Cossacks flank the Turks through shallow water to attack their rear.

The result was a massacre. The Turks, caught between two fires and exhausted from the long and fierce hand-to-hand combat, retreated, were pushed into the sea, and mowed down by grapeshot until darkness fell. Turkish ships attempted to rescue some, but only 800 managed to be saved. Thus, the battle concluded.

Of the 5000 Turks who entered the battle, only 800 survived, making this action a masterpiece of Suvorov.

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All reserves which Suvorov had preserved untouched were now thrown in
against the Turks in a single thrust. At the same time the only vessel at Suvorov's
disposal, the galley Desna, commanded by a daredevil Maltese midshipman of
the name of Lombard, attacked the Turkish Fleet and forced seventeen Turkish
vessels to sheer off from the shore. The bombardment from the sea was now
much abated and making good use of the opportunity, a Cossack unit turned
the flank of the Turks through the shallow water and fell on their rear. Finding
themselves between two fires and exhausted by the long and fierce hand-to-hand
fighting, the Turks gave ground, were driven into the sea and riddled with
grapeshot until the darkness was complete. Only 700 men of the whole force
were picked up by the Turkish ships.
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(Trap Setting, Strategy, Planning, Coverage, Tactics, Emotional Perception, Bragging, Psychological Warfare: Reinforcements, Emotional Induction)

- Battle of Rymnik:

After a battle called the Battle of Focșani, where Suvorov had a minor role assisting the Austrians against the Turks, the Turks were defeated and the victors celebrated. However, in August, the Turks recovered from their defeat at Focșani and planned a major offensive. They waited for the Russians and Austrians to separate, intending to first defeat the Austrians and then attack the Russian forces.

Turkish Offensive:

Using a diversionary maneuver, the Turks managed to deceive Potemkin, who commanded the Russian army, into concentrating his main forces in Ismail. Meanwhile, a large Turkish army under the Grand Vizier gathered near the village of Rymnik, ready to attack. Austrian spies observed this and immediately informed the Austrian commander, Prince Coburg, who then requested assistance from Suvorov.

Upon hearing this information, Suvorov analyzed the situation and found it peculiar, questioning why the Turks did not attack immediately. Nevertheless, he decided to move towards the Austrians to offer his help.

Upon arrival, Prince Coburg was relieved and explained the situation to Suvorov. However, Suvorov arrived and asserted without hesitation that they must attack immediately. Though this seemed unbelievable, Suvorov understood something the prince did not.

Suvorov's Reasoning - Before reaching the Austrians, Suvorov noticed something unusual: the Turks were not attacking. According to Suvorov, this inaction indicated that the Turks had not yet fully concentrated their forces. To confirm his theory, Suvorov rode to the Rymna River, climbed a tall tree, and observed the Turkish positions. He saw they were well protected by ravines, forests, and the river, indicating they were still positioning and concentrating their forces, thus validating his reasoning.

For this reason, Suvorov insisted on an immediate attack, before the Turks could fully gather their strength. He argued that only a swift and surprising attack could offer any chance of success.

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In Suvorov’s view the fact that the Turks were not yet attacking meant that they
had not completed the concentration of their forces. That being so, the best
move was to attack them without delay. Coburg hesitated: the combined
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Immediately after the meeting with Coburg, Suvorov galloped down to the
river Rymna, climbed a high tree – despite his sixty years – and studied the
Turkish positions for a long time. A plan of battle was slowly taking shape in
his mind. The Turkish positions were well suited to defensive tactics. Both
front and flanks were well protected by ravines, forests and the river. For
Suvorov this merely meant that his plan had to be worked out with particular
care. Doubting the steadiness of the Austrians, he decided to entrust the most
difiBcult task to his Russian regiments. His plan was to attack first one of the
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(Inductive Reasoning, Critical Thinking)

Suvorov's Attack:

Suvorov meticulously plans his offensive. His strategy involves initially attacking a flank of the Turkish forces while the Austrians advance slowly towards the Turkish center to

distract them. Suvorov aims to surprise this flank, planning to execute everything during the night to ensure the Turks do not realize the attack until it's too late.

difiBcult task to his Russian regiments. His plan was to attack first one of the enemy flanks, where 12,000 men were concentrated, and at the same time tie down the enemy centre by a simultaneous deliberate advance of the Austrians. Then, having rolled up the Turkish flank, he would change front and join the Austrians for a united assault on the main enemy position. Such a change of front in full view of the enemy was an extremely risky manoeuvre, but Suvorov had faith in himself and in his soldiers. It was characteristic of him that not wishing to alarm Coburg he did not fully disclose his intentions but communi- cated only the first part of the plan to the Austrian general.

Suvorov executes his plan successfully, distracting the Turks with the Austrians' advance and completely destroying the Turkish flank, forcing them to retreat.

Planning and Versatility:

Original Plan: Suvorov's initial plan was, once the flank was eliminated, to proceed to the center to assist in the attack.

However, Suvorov notices an issue.

Versatility: He observes that the main Turkish positions are defended by strong enemy batteries located in the village of Bogcha, making a direct frontal attack difficult. Suvorov identifies Bogcha as key to weakening the Turkish defenses, believing that taking this village would facilitate a more effective attack on the main Turkish positions. Instead of attacking the center directly, he decides to capture Bogcha first to eliminate the threat of the enemy batteries positioned there. Suvorov heads to this location and employs a "Concentric Attack" tactic, essentially attacking a target from multiple angles. After securing Bogcha, Suvorov and Coburg were able to launch a coordinated attack towards the center of the Turkish positions.

But as he was examining the terrain lying in front of him, Suvorov noticed that the approaches to the Kryngu Milor wood covering the main Turkish positions were swept by the strong enemy batteries placed hr the village of Bogcha. He decided to take Bogcha first of all, regarding this point as the key to the position, and immediately moved his force against it.

Attack Towards the Center:

With this "Executed Protection Strategy," the only remaining task was to attack the center. However, Suvorov noticed another problem.

He observed that the final layer of Turkish defense consisted of a shallow trench and earth embankments that were not fully finished and were of little height.

Suvorov made an unexpected and bold decision: to attack the Turkish trenches with cavalry. This type of attack was uncommon, as trenches were typically defended by infantry. It was something not foreseen in any military theory of the time.

succession one after the other, was to be crowned by the final assault of the main positions defended by a shallow moat and earthworks. The latter were not yet completed and their height was inconsiderable. Suvorov noted this and took a lightning decision of the kind not foreseen in any theory, one such as only the mind of a genius could conceive– he decided to attack the Turkish trenches with cavalry.

Following his instructions, reinforced Austrian troops and Russian forces formed a concave front. The first lines of infantry opened at intervals, allowing cavalry units to position themselves between them, while the rest of the cavalry deployed on the flanks. Under intense Turkish fire, the attackers approached within 600-800 yards of the enemy fortifications. At that moment, the cavalry burst from the intervals along the entire line and charged at full gallop against the enemy. In a matter of seconds, the riders crossed the space under fire, leaped over the trench and parapet, and penetrated the ranks of the Janissaries. Surprised by such an unexpected attack, the Turkish defenders were disoriented, allowing the attacking infantry to intervene almost unhindered. A fierce close combat ensued. However, the Russians and Austrians easily dominated the battle. It was a total massacre; the Turks attempted to flee. The Turkish military commander, the Grand Vizier, tried to stop them with the Quran in hand, but the panic was so great that it was futile. Suvorov achieved victory that day.

(Versatile, Strategy, Field Vision, Critical Thinking, Tactics, Lateral Thinking)

- Assault on Ismail:

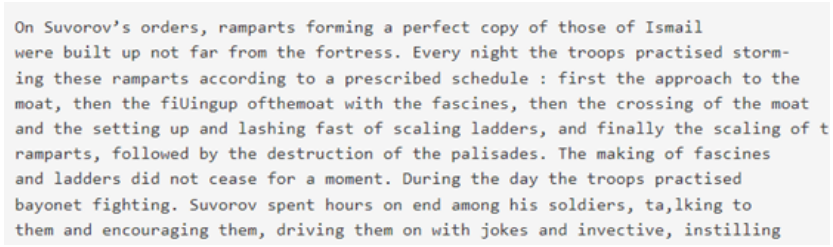
Suvorov arrived at the siege of the fortress of Ismail with an army of only 30,000 men, most of whom were untrained Cossacks in infantry tactics, and their resources were very limited. Despite the daunting situation, Suvorov immediately began preparations for the assault, demonstrating his determination and ingenuity.

Siege Training:

Suvorov meticulously trained his men for the assault by ordering the construction of replica ramps similar to those at Ismail. Troops practiced assaulting these every night, following a strict regimen that included:

- Approaching and filling the moat with fascines (bundles of sticks used in fortifications).
- Crossing the moat.
- Installing and securing assault ladders.

- Scaling the ramps and destroying the palisades (defensive fences).


On Suvorov's orders, ramparts forming a perfect copy of those of Ismail were built up not far from the fortress. Every night the troops practised storming these ramparts according to a prescribed schedule : first the approach to the moat, then the fiUingup ofthemoat with the fascines, then the crossing of the moat and the setting up and lashing fast of scaling ladders, and finally the scaling of t ramparts, followed by the destruction of the palisades. The making of fascines and ladders did not cease for a moment. During the day the troops practised bayonet fighting. Suvorov spent hours on end among his soldiers, ta,lking to them and encouraging them, driving them on with jokes and invective, instilling

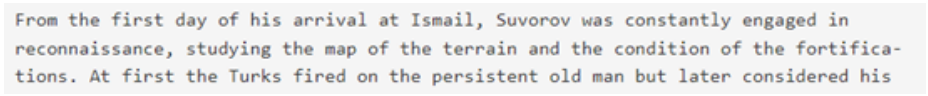
The Strategy:

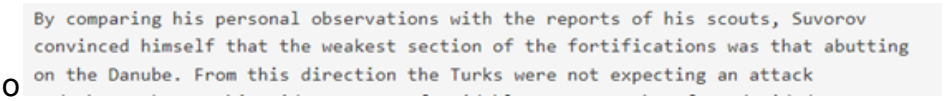
Suvorov's strategy was to conduct violent assaults, but it was not just a typical attack plan. His approach was designed to penetrate the weakest sections of Ismail's defenses while demonstrating strategic resilience.

Here's why this strategy was brilliant:

Suvorov's Reasoning and Observations:

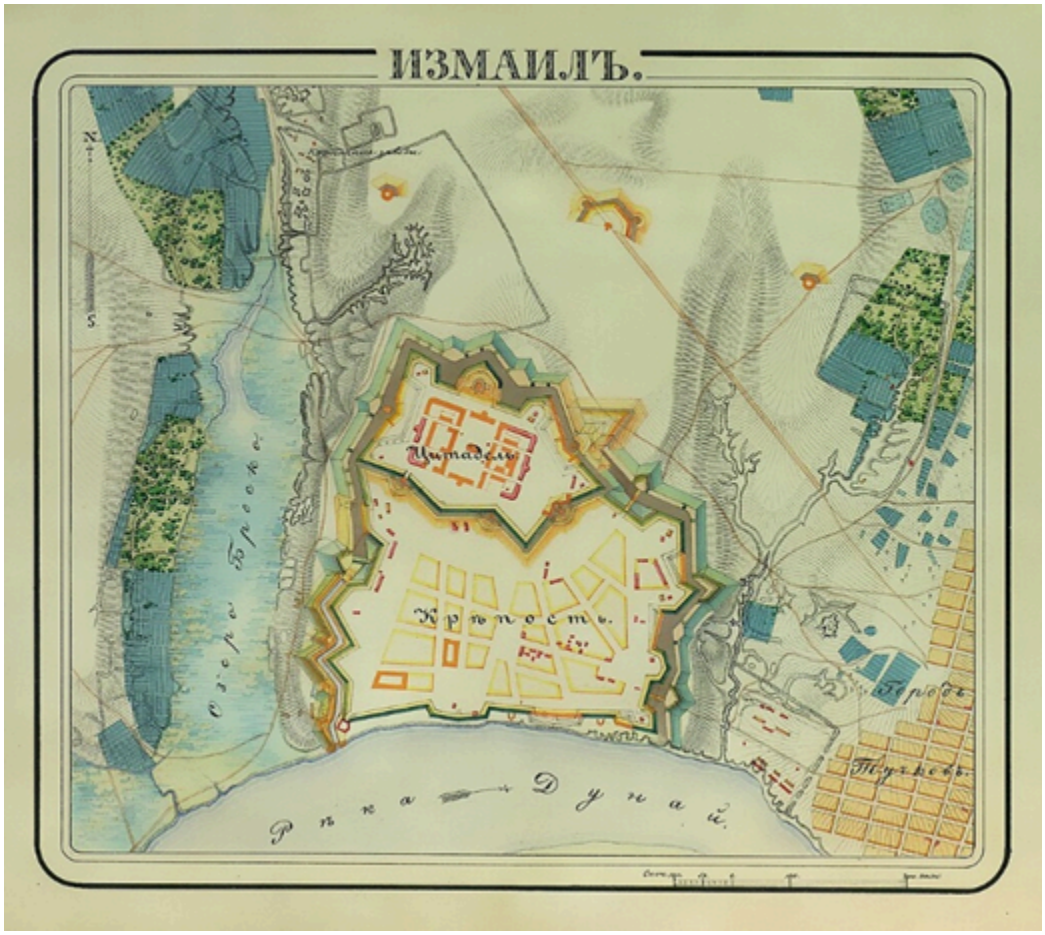
Since his arrival at Ismail, Suvorov tirelessly devoted himself to reconnoitering the terrain and studying the fortifications. Initially, the Turks shot at him, but eventually, they deemed him harmless and ceased wasting ammunition on his patrols. Comparing his observations with reports from his scouts, Suvorov identified that the weakest section of the fortifications was the one facing the Danube. This was due to three reasons: 1) the Turks did not expect an attack from that direction, 2) the defenses on that side were not formidable, and 3) it was only protected by the navy, which Suvorov remembered was weakened after the Battle of Tendra led by Admiral Fyodor Ushakov.


From the first day of his arrival at Ismail, Suvorov was constantly engaged in reconnaissance, studying the map of the terrain and the condition of the fortifications. At first the Turks fired on the persistent old man but later considered his


By comparing his personal observations with the reports of his scouts, Suvorov convinced himself that the weakest section of the fortifications was that abutting on the Danube. From this direction the Turks were not expecting an attack

Therefore, Suvorov decided that his main attack would be from that point.

Strategic Resilience:



This attack also showed remarkable strategic resilience. To understand this, it is crucial to grasp that the nature of the assault and the plan itself involved surrounding Ismail and attacking from all directions. However, this was not Suvorov's true objective. As explained in "Reasoning and Observations," the main attack would take place on the Danube. Yet, Suvorov did not disclose this to anyone, not even his own generals. There are two reasons why Suvorov kept this secret:

He did not want the Turks to defend the Danube with more troops.

He did not want his soldiers to feel useless and merely a distraction, which would divert the Turks' attention towards them instead of the true objective.

This move is ingenious because by keeping his strategy hidden, it becomes a strategy of resilience. **Why?**

Adversity against the strategy: Although Suvorov had previously prepared for the Turks to think it was a normal siege and not an assault, ordering the construction of two batteries, this tactic failed. Deserters and prisoners of war informed the Turks about the assault preparations, including details of the attack columns.

Despite this, Suvorov was undeterred. This is where strategic resilience comes into play:

Strategic Resilience: Because Suvorov did not tell anyone that he planned to attack the Danube, the information deserters provided to the Turks was incomplete. The Turks failed to deduce that Suvorov would attack the Danube. In fact, they misinterpreted it; believing the attack would come from all sides, they dispersed their defenses along the perimeter, leaving the Danube more vulnerable than before.

Suvorov's strategic resilience was so effective that even when making a mistake, it benefited him rather than harmed him.

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into their minds the idea of the necessity of storming the fortress and inspiring
them with confidence in their success.

In order to lull the vigilance of the Turks and to convince them that he in-
tended to continue the siege Suvorov ordered the construction of two batteries.
In this he failed, for deserters and prisoners of war told the Turks about the
preparations for an assault and even about the task and position of each column
as explained by Suvorov to his officers and men. But the general did not mind ;
his basic idea, the very essence of his scheme, remained a secret even to his own
troops ; an artfully elaborate disposition concealed it even from the column
commanders.
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All categories so far:

(Deductive Reasoning, Observation, Associative Thinking, Strategy, Concealment, Information Control, Methods, Versatile Planning, Emotion Management)

Let's continue...

Ultimatum to Ismail

Two days before the council of war meeting, Suvorov sent Ismail an official demand for surrender, adding a personal note:

"To the Seraskier, Elders, and all the community. I have arrived here with my troops. Twenty-four hours to consider at your leisure; after my first shot, no more leisure; my assault — your death. Please reflect on this."

Aidos Mehmet Pasha responded with an evasive request for a ten-day armistice; one of his subordinates arrogantly declared to the envoy that the Danube would cease to flow before Ismail surrendered. Suvorov expected nothing less and did not respond to the armistice request, setting December 11th as the assault date. **(Psychological Warfare: Abusing Insecurities)**

The Assault:

The night before the attack, Suvorov toured the front, encouraging his troops and reminding them of their past glories. At 3 a.m. on December 11th, the first rocket signal was launched and troops took their positions. At 5:30 a.m., with the third signal, the assault began. Ismail was surrounded and attacked from all fronts, with the Danube being the most crucial. The outer walls fell by 8 a.m., shifting the combat into the city. The streets of Ismail turned into battlefields, with every house defended like a fortress. Russian artillery opened fire along the streets to facilitate infantry advancement. The Turkish commander's mistakes, including inadequate use of cavalry and ineffective defense planning, facilitated Russian progress. By 11 a.m., the battle's outcome was decided. Russian troops, having breached defenses at multiple points, converged towards the city center, encircling the Turks. Turks, including men and women, fought with fierce determination, defending each position with scimitars and daggers. As the day progressed, Turkish resistance began to crumble. By nightfall, all resistance was finally broken. **(Unpredictability, Tactics)**