



## Fill in the gaps

### Major-General's Song by Gilbert And Sullivan

...

I am the (1)\_\_\_\_\_ model of a (2)\_\_\_\_\_  
Major-General

I've (3)\_\_\_\_\_ vegetable, animal, and  
mineral

I know the kings of England

And I (4)\_\_\_\_\_ the fights historical

From Marathon to Waterloo, in order categorical

I'm very well acquainted, too, with (5)\_\_\_\_\_  
mathematical

I understand equations, both the (6)\_\_\_\_\_ and  
quadratical

About (7)\_\_\_\_\_ theorem I'm teeming

(8)\_\_\_\_\_ a lot o' news

(Hmm, lot of news.... Got it!)

With many (9)\_\_\_\_\_ facts

About the square of the hypotenuse

...

I'm very good at integral and differential calculus

I know the scientific names of beings animalculous

In short, in (10)\_\_\_\_\_ vegetable, animal, and  
mineral

I am the very model of a modern Major-General

...

I (11)\_\_\_\_\_ our (12)\_\_\_\_\_ history

King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's

I (13)\_\_\_\_\_ hard acrostics, I've a pretty taste for  
paradox

I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus

In conics I can floor peculiarities parabolous

I can tell undoubted

Raphaels from Gerard Dows and Zoffanies

I know the croaking chorus

From The Frogs of Aristophanes

Then I can hum a fugue

Of which I've heard the music's din afore

(Ooh, din afore, din afore... Got it!)

And (14)\_\_\_\_\_ all the airs

From that infernal nonsense Pinafore

...

Then I can write a washing bill in Babylonian cuneiform

And (15)\_\_\_\_\_ you every detail of Caractacus's uniform

In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral

I am the very model of a modern Major-General

...

In fact

When I know (16)\_\_\_\_\_ is meant by "mamelon" and



## Fill in the gaps

When I can tell at sight a Mauser (17)\_\_\_\_\_ from a  
javelin  
When such affairs as sorties

And surprises I'm more wary at  
And when I know precisely  
What is (18)\_\_\_\_\_ by "commissariat"  
When I have learnt  
What progress has been made in modern gunnery  
When I know more of (19)\_\_\_\_\_ (20)\_\_\_\_\_  
a novice in a nunnery  
In short, when I've a smattering of elemental strategy  
(Oh, that's a hard one, strategy... Got it!)  
You'll say a (21)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General has never sat  
a-gee

...  
For my (22)\_\_\_\_\_ knowledge  
Though I'm plucky and adventury  
Has only been (23)\_\_\_\_\_ down  
To the beginning of the century  
But still, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General

...  
(One more time?!)

...  
In fact  
When I (24)\_\_\_\_\_ (25)\_\_\_\_\_ is meant by  
"mamelon" and "ravelin"

When I can tell at (26)\_\_\_\_\_ a Mauser rifle from a  
javelin

When such affairs as sorties  
And (27)\_\_\_\_\_ I'm (28)\_\_\_\_\_ wary at  
And when I know precisely  
What is meant by "commissariat"

When I have learnt  
What progress has been made in modern gunnery  
When I know more of tactics than a novice in a nunnery  
In short, when I've a (29)\_\_\_\_\_ of  
elemental strategy  
You'll say a better Major-General has never rode a horse!

...  
For my military knowledge  
Though I'm plucky and adventury  
Has only been (30)\_\_\_\_\_ down  
To the beginning of the century  
But still, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General!

...



## Fill in the gaps

### Answer

1. very
2. modern
3. information
4. quote
5. matters
6. simple
7. binomial
8. with
9. cheerful
10. matters
11. know
12. mythic
13. answer
14. whistle
15. tell
16. what
17. rifle
18. meant
19. tactics
20. than
21. better
22. military
23. brought
24. know
25. what
26. sight
27. surprises
28. more
29. smattering
30. brought