



## Fill in the gaps

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

...

I am the very (1)\_\_\_\_\_ of a modern Major-General  
I've information vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I know the kings of England  
And I quote the fights historical  
From Marathon to Waterloo, in order categorical  
I'm very well acquainted, too, with matters mathematical  
I understand equations, both the simple and quadratical  
About binomial theorem I'm teeming with a lot o' news  
(Hmm, lot of news.... Got it!)  
With many (2)\_\_\_\_\_ facts  
About the square of the hypotenuse  
...

I'm very good at (3)\_\_\_\_\_ and differential calculus  
I know the scientific (4)\_\_\_\_\_ of beings animalculous  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General  
...

I know our mythic history  
King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's  
I answer (5)\_\_\_\_\_ acrostics, I've a pretty taste for paradox  
I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus  
In conics I can (6)\_\_\_\_\_ peculiarities parabolous  
I can (7)\_\_\_\_\_ undoubted  
Raphael's from Gerard Dow's and Zoffanies  
I know the (8)\_\_\_\_\_ chorus  
From The Frogs of Aristophanes  
Then I can hum a fugue  
Of which I've (9)\_\_\_\_\_ the music's din afore  
(Ooh, din afore, din afore... Got it!)  
And whistle all the airs  
From that infernal nonsense Pinafore  
...

Then I can write a (10)\_\_\_\_\_ bill in Babylonian cuneiform  
And tell you (11)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 what is (12)\_\_\_\_\_ by "mamelon" and "ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser rifle from a javelin  
When such affairs as sorties

And surprises I'm more (13)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (14)\_\_\_\_\_ in a nunnery  
In short, (15)\_\_\_\_\_ I've a smattering of elemental strategy  
(Oh, that's a hard one, strategy... Got it!)  
You'll say a better Major-General has never sat a-gee  
...

For my (16)\_\_\_\_\_ knowledge  
Though I'm plucky and adventury  
Has only been brought down  
To the (17)\_\_\_\_\_ of the century  
But still, in (18)\_\_\_\_\_ vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General  
...

(One more time?!)  
...

In fact  
When I know what is meant by "mamelon" and "ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser rifle from a javelin  
When such affairs as sorties  
And (19)\_\_\_\_\_ I'm (20)\_\_\_\_\_  
(21)\_\_\_\_\_ at  
And (22)\_\_\_\_\_ I know precisely  
What is meant by "commissariat"  
When I have learnt  
What progress has (23)\_\_\_\_\_ made in modern gunnery  
When I (24)\_\_\_\_\_ more of tactics than a (25)\_\_\_\_\_ in a nunnery  
In short, (26)\_\_\_\_\_ I've a smattering 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 brought down  
To the beginning of the century  
But still, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a (27)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General!  
...



Answer

**Fill in the gaps**

1. model
2. cheerful
3. integral
4. names
5. hard
6. floor
7. tell
8. croaking
9. heard
10. washing
11. every
12. meant
13. wary
14. novice
15. when
16. military
17. beginning
18. matters
19. surprises
20. more
21. wary
22. when
23. been
24. know
25. novice
26. when
27. modern