



## Fill in the gaps

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

...

I am the very model 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 (1)\_\_\_\_\_ acquainted, too, with matters  
mathematical  
I (2)\_\_\_\_\_ equations, (3)\_\_\_\_\_ the  
simple and quadratical  
About binomial theorem I'm (4)\_\_\_\_\_ with a lot o'  
news  
(Hmm, lot of news.... Got it!)  
With many (5)\_\_\_\_\_ facts  
About the square of the hypotenuse

...

I'm very good at integral and differential calculus  
I know the (6)\_\_\_\_\_ names of beings  
animalculous  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General

...

I (7)\_\_\_\_\_ our (8)\_\_\_\_\_ history  
King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's  
I answer (9)\_\_\_\_\_ acrostics, I've a pretty taste for  
paradox  
I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus  
In (10)\_\_\_\_\_ I can floor peculiarities parabolous  
I can tell undoubted  
Raphaels from Gerard Dows and Zoffanies  
I know the croaking chorus  
From The (11)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 whistle all the airs  
From that infernal nonsense Pinafore

...

Then I can write a washing (12)\_\_\_\_\_ in Babylonian  
cuneiform  
And (13)\_\_\_\_\_ you every detail of Caractacus's uniform  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very (14)\_\_\_\_\_ of a modern Major-General

...

In fact  
When I know what is meant by "mamelon" and "ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser (15)\_\_\_\_\_ from a



javelin

When such affairs as sorties

## Fill in the gaps

And surprises I'm more wary at  
And when I (16)\_\_\_\_\_ precisely  
What is (17)\_\_\_\_\_ by "commissariat"  
When I (18)\_\_\_\_\_ learnt  
What progress has been made in modern gunnery  
When I know more of tactics than a (19)\_\_\_\_\_ in a  
nunnery  
In short, when I've a smattering of (20)\_\_\_\_\_  
strategy  
(Oh, that's a hard one, strategy... Got it!)  
You'll say a better Major-General has (21)\_\_\_\_\_ sat  
a-gee  
...  
For my military knowledge  
Though I'm (22)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 modern Major-General  
...  
(One more time?!)  
...  
In fact  
When I know (23)\_\_\_\_\_ is meant 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 (24)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 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 (25)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General!  
...



**Fill in the gaps**

**Answer**

1. well
2. understand
3. both
4. teeming
5. cheerful
6. scientific
7. know
8. mythic
9. hard
10. conics
11. Frogs
12. bill
13. tell
14. model
15. rifle
16. know
17. meant
18. have
19. novice
20. elemental
21. never
22. plucky
23. what
24. wary
25. modern