



## Fill in the gaps

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

...

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

I've information vegetable, animal, and mineral

I (2)\_\_\_\_\_ the kings of England

And I (3)\_\_\_\_\_ the fights historical

From Marathon to Waterloo, in order categorical

I'm very (4)\_\_\_\_\_ acquainted, too, with matters  
mathematical

I (5)\_\_\_\_\_ equations, (6)\_\_\_\_\_ the  
simple and quadratical

About binomial theorem I'm teeming with a lot o' news

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

With (7)\_\_\_\_\_ (8)\_\_\_\_\_ facts

About the (9)\_\_\_\_\_ of the hypotenuse

...

I'm very good at integral and differential calculus

I know the scientific names of (10)\_\_\_\_\_  
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 (11)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (12)\_\_\_\_\_ I've heard the music's din afore

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

And (13)\_\_\_\_\_ all the airs

From (14)\_\_\_\_\_ infernal nonsense Pinafore

...

Then I can write a washing bill in Babylonian cuneiform

And (15)\_\_\_\_\_ you every (16)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 meant by "mamelon" and "ravelin"

When I can (17)\_\_\_\_\_ at sight a Mauser

(18)\_\_\_\_\_ from a javelin



## Fill in the gaps

And surprises I'm more 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 (19)\_\_\_\_\_ more of tactics than 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 better Major-General has never sat a-gee  
...  
For my (20)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (21)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General  
...  
(One (22)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 surprises I'm more wary at  
And (23)\_\_\_\_\_ I know precisely  
What is meant by "commissariat"  
When I have learnt  
What progress has been (24)\_\_\_\_\_ in modern gunnery  
When I (25)\_\_\_\_\_ more of tactics than a novice 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 (27)\_\_\_\_\_ 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!  
...



## Fill in the gaps

### Answer

1. modern
2. know
3. quote
4. well
5. understand
6. both
7. many
8. cheerful
9. square
10. beings
11. hard
12. which
13. whistle
14. that
15. tell
16. detail
17. tell
18. rifle
19. know
20. military
21. modern
22. more
23. when
24. made
25. know
26. when
27. been