



## 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 well acquainted, too, with matters mathematical

I (1)\_\_\_\_\_ equations, both the

(2)\_\_\_\_\_ and quadratical

About binomial theorem I'm teeming (3)\_\_\_\_\_ a lot o'  
news

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

With many (4)\_\_\_\_\_ facts

About the square of the hypotenuse

...

I'm very good at integral and

(5)\_\_\_\_\_ calculus

I know the scientific names of beings animalculous

In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral

I am the very (6)\_\_\_\_\_ of a modern Major-General

...

I know our mythic history

King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's

I answer hard acrostics, I've a pretty taste for paradox

I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus

In conics I can floor (7)\_\_\_\_\_  
parabolous

I can (8)\_\_\_\_\_ undoubted

Raphaels from Gerard Dows and Zoffanies

I know the (9)\_\_\_\_\_ chorus

From The (10)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (11)\_\_\_\_\_ (12)\_\_\_\_\_

(13)\_\_\_\_\_ Pinafore

...

Then I can write a washing (14)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 what is meant by "mamelon" and "ravelin"

When I can tell at sight a Mauser (16)\_\_\_\_\_ from a



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When such affairs as sorties

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 (17)\_\_\_\_\_  
gunnery  
When I know more of tactics than a (18)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (19)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General has never sat  
a-gee  
...  
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 modern Major-General  
...  
(One more time?!)  
...  
In fact  
When I (20)\_\_\_\_\_ what is meant by "mamelon" and  
"ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser (21)\_\_\_\_\_  
(22)\_\_\_\_\_ a javelin  
When such affairs as sorties  
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 know (23)\_\_\_\_\_ of tactics than a novice in a  
nunnery  
In short, when I've a (24)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (25)\_\_\_\_\_ (26)\_\_\_\_\_ 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. understand
2. simple
3. with
4. cheerful
5. differential
6. model
7. peculiarities
8. tell
9. croaking
10. Frogs
11. that
12. infernal
13. nonsense
14. bill
15. tell
16. rifle
17. modern
18. novice
19. better
20. know
21. rifle
22. from
23. more
24. smattering
25. only
26. been