



## Fill in the gaps

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

...

I am the very model of a (1)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General  
I've (2)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 cheerful facts  
About the square of the hypotenuse

...

I'm (3)\_\_\_\_\_ good at (4)\_\_\_\_\_ and  
differential calculus

I know the scientific names of beings animalculous  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a (5)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General

...

I know our mythic history  
King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's  
I answer hard acrostics, I've a (6)\_\_\_\_\_ taste for  
paradox

I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus  
In (7)\_\_\_\_\_ I can (8)\_\_\_\_\_  
(9)\_\_\_\_\_ parabolous

I can tell undoubted  
Raphaels from (10)\_\_\_\_\_ Dows and Zoffanies  
I know the (11)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 whistle all the airs  
From that infernal nonsense Pinafore

...

Then I can (12)\_\_\_\_\_ a washing bill in Babylonian  
cuneiform  
And tell you (13)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (15)\_\_\_\_\_ by "mamelon" and  
"ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a (16)\_\_\_\_\_ rifle from a



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When such affairs as sorties

And (17)\_\_\_\_\_ I'm more wary at  
And when I (18)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (19)\_\_\_\_\_ in a  
nunnery  
In short, (20)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 military knowledge  
Though I'm plucky and adventury  
Has (21)\_\_\_\_\_ been brought down  
To the (22)\_\_\_\_\_ of the century  
But still, in (23)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (24)\_\_\_\_\_ from a  
javelin  
When such affairs as sorties  
And (25)\_\_\_\_\_ I'm (26)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (27)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (28)\_\_\_\_\_ been (29)\_\_\_\_\_ 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. information
3. very
4. integral
5. modern
6. pretty
7. conics
8. floor
9. peculiarities
10. Gerard
11. croaking
12. write
13. every
14. model
15. meant
16. Mauser
17. surprises
18. know
19. novice
20. when
21. only
22. beginning
23. matters
24. rifle
25. surprises
26. more
27. smattering
28. only
29. brought