



## 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 (1)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 very good at integral and differential calculus

I know the scientific names of (2)\_\_\_\_\_  
animalculous

In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral

I am the very (3)\_\_\_\_\_ of a (4)\_\_\_\_\_  
Major-General

...

I know our (5)\_\_\_\_\_ history

King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's

I (6)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 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 (8)\_\_\_\_\_ I've heard the music's din afore

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

And whistle all the airs

From (9)\_\_\_\_\_ infernal nonsense Pinafore

...

Then I can write a washing bill in (10)\_\_\_\_\_  
cuneiform

And tell you every detail of Caractacus's uniform

In short, in (11)\_\_\_\_\_ 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"



## Fill in the gaps

When I can (12)\_\_\_\_\_ at sight a Mauser rifle from a javelin

When such affairs as sorties

And surprises I'm more wary at

And when I know precisely

What is (13)\_\_\_\_\_ by "commissariat"

When I have learnt

What progress has (14)\_\_\_\_\_ made in

(15)\_\_\_\_\_ gunnery

When I know more of tactics (16)\_\_\_\_\_ a

(17)\_\_\_\_\_ in a nunnery

In short, when I've a (18)\_\_\_\_\_ of

(19)\_\_\_\_\_ strategy

(Oh, that's a (20)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 only been brought down

To the beginning of the century

But still, in (21)\_\_\_\_\_ vegetable, animal, and mineral

I am the very model of a (22)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General

...

(One (23)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (24)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (25)\_\_\_\_\_ of tactics than a novice in a nunnery

In short, when I've a smattering of elemental strategy

You'll say a (26)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (27)\_\_\_\_\_ of a modern Major-General!

...



## Fill in the gaps

### Answer

1. Marathon
2. beings
3. model
4. modern
5. mythic
6. answer
7. peculiarities
8. which
9. that
10. Babylonic
11. matters
12. tell
13. meant
14. been
15. modern
16. than
17. novice
18. smattering
19. elemental
20. hard
21. matters
22. modern
23. more
24. surprises
25. more
26. better
27. model