



## 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 (1)\_\_\_\_\_ well acquainted, too, (2)\_\_\_\_\_

(3)\_\_\_\_\_ mathematical

I understand equations, both the simple and quadratical

About binomial theorem I'm teeming (4)\_\_\_\_\_ a lot o'  
news

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

With many cheerful facts

About the (5)\_\_\_\_\_ of the hypotenuse

...

I'm (6)\_\_\_\_\_ good at integral and differential calculus

I know the scientific names of (7)\_\_\_\_\_  
animalculous

In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral

I am the very model of a modern Major-General

...

I (8)\_\_\_\_\_ our (9)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 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 which I've (10)\_\_\_\_\_ the music's din afore

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

And whistle all the airs

From that (11)\_\_\_\_\_ nonsense Pinafore

...

Then I can write a washing bill in (12)\_\_\_\_\_  
cuneiform

And (13)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 rifle from a javelin

When (14)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (15)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 military knowledge

Though I'm (16)\_\_\_\_\_ and adventure

Has only (17)\_\_\_\_\_ (18)\_\_\_\_\_ down

To the beginning of the century

But still, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral

I am the (19)\_\_\_\_\_ model of a modern Major-General

...

(One more time?!)

...

In fact

When I know what is meant by "mamelon" and "ravelin"

When I can (20)\_\_\_\_\_ at sight a Mauser rifle from a  
javelin

When such (21)\_\_\_\_\_ as sorties

And surprises I'm (22)\_\_\_\_\_ wary at

And when I know precisely

What is meant by "commissariat"

When I have learnt

What (23)\_\_\_\_\_ has been made in modern  
gunnery

When I know (24)\_\_\_\_\_ of tactics than a  
(25)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 adventure

Has only been (26)\_\_\_\_\_ 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. very
2. with
3. matters
4. with
5. square
6. very
7. beings
8. know
9. mythic
10. heard
11. infernal
12. Babylonian
13. tell
14. such
15. know
16. plucky
17. been
18. brought
19. very
20. tell
21. affairs
22. more
23. progress
24. more
25. novice
26. brought