



## 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 (1)\_\_\_\_\_ the (2)\_\_\_\_\_ historical  
From (3)\_\_\_\_\_ to Waterloo, in order  
categorical  
I'm (4)\_\_\_\_\_ well acquainted, too, with  
(5)\_\_\_\_\_ mathematical  
I understand equations, (6)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 beings 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 hard acrostics, I've a pretty taste for paradox  
I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus  
In (7)\_\_\_\_\_ I can (8)\_\_\_\_\_ peculiarities  
parabolous  
I can (9)\_\_\_\_\_ undoubted  
Raphaels (10)\_\_\_\_\_ Gerard Dows and Zoffanies  
I know the croaking 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!)

...

Then I can write a washing bill in Babylonian cuneiform  
And tell 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 (11)\_\_\_\_\_ by "mamelon" and  
"ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser rifle from a javelin  
When (12)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (13)\_\_\_\_\_ made in modern gunnery  
When I know more of tactics than a novice in a nunnery  
In short, when I've a (14)\_\_\_\_\_ of  
elemental strategy  
(Oh, that's a hard one, strategy... Got it!)

...

You'll say a better Major-General has (15)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (16)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General  
...  
(One more time?!)

...

In fact  
When I (17)\_\_\_\_\_ what is meant by "mamelon" and  
"ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser rifle (18)\_\_\_\_\_ a javelin  
When such affairs as sorties  
And surprises I'm more wary at  
And when I (19)\_\_\_\_\_ precisely  
What is (20)\_\_\_\_\_ by "commissariat"  
When I have learnt  
What (21)\_\_\_\_\_ has been made in modern  
gunnery  
When I know more of tactics than a (22)\_\_\_\_\_ in a  
nunnery  
In short, when I've a smattering of elemental strategy  
You'll say a (23)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General has never  
rode a horse!

...

For my military knowledge  
Though I'm (24)\_\_\_\_\_ 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!  
...



**Fill in the gaps**

**Answer**

1. quote
2. fights
3. Marathon
4. very
5. matters
6. both
7. conics
8. floor
9. tell
10. from
11. meant
12. such
13. been
14. smattering
15. never
16. modern
17. know
18. from
19. know
20. meant
21. progress
22. novice
23. better
24. plucky