



## 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

Raphael's from Gerard Dow's 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"



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!



Answer

**Fill in the gaps**

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