



## 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 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 (1)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (2)\_\_\_\_\_ in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus  
In (3)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 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 (4)\_\_\_\_\_ a washing bill in Babylonian  
cuneiform  
And tell you every detail of Caractacus's uniform  
In short, in (5)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (6)\_\_\_\_\_ rifle from a  
javelin  
When (7)\_\_\_\_\_ affairs as sorties

And (8)\_\_\_\_\_ 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 (9)\_\_\_\_\_ of tactics than a novice in a  
nunnery  
In short, when I've a (10)\_\_\_\_\_ of  
elemental strategy  
(Oh, that's a (11)\_\_\_\_\_ one, strategy... Got it!)

You'll say a better Major-General has never sat a-gee

...

For my military knowledge  
Though I'm (12)\_\_\_\_\_ and adventure  
Has (13)\_\_\_\_\_ (14)\_\_\_\_\_ brought down  
To the beginning of the century  
But still, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the (15)\_\_\_\_\_ model of a (16)\_\_\_\_\_  
Major-General

...

(One more time?!)

...

In fact  
When I know what is meant by "mamelon" and "ravelin"  
When I can tell at (17)\_\_\_\_\_ a Mauser  
(18)\_\_\_\_\_ from a javelin  
When such affairs as sorties  
And surprises I'm more wary at  
And (19)\_\_\_\_\_ I (20)\_\_\_\_\_ precisely  
What is meant by "commissariat"  
When I (21)\_\_\_\_\_ learnt  
What progress has been made in modern gunnery  
When I know (22)\_\_\_\_\_ of (23)\_\_\_\_\_ than a  
(24)\_\_\_\_\_ in a nunnery  
In short, when I've a (25)\_\_\_\_\_ of  
elemental strategy  
You'll say a better Major-General has never (26)\_\_\_\_\_ a  
horse!

...

For my military knowledge  
Though I'm plucky and adventure  
Has only (27)\_\_\_\_\_ 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. square
2. quote
3. conics
4. write
5. matters
6. Mauser
7. such
8. surprises
9. more
10. smattering
11. hard
12. plucky
13. only
14. been
15. very
16. modern
17. sight
18. rifle
19. when
20. know
21. have
22. more
23. tactics
24. novice
25. smattering
26. rode
27. been