**Extra credit: create your own satirical “burden poem”**

Just as the Black Man’s Burden was a satirical response to the “White Man’s Burden,” I want you to create a satirical poem. Your poem will be critical of something in your life, and must illuminate the problem using various literary strategies.

Y’all have stress and troubles and burdens: Female burden. Male burden. Sports burden. School burden. Teenage burden. Poor Man’s Burden. Rich Man’s Burden. Whatever mold you feel like you are forced into.

Directions:

* Write at least three stanzas – four to six lines each – about your burden.
* Must rhyme, but you can be creative with your rhyming scheme (every other line, etc)
* Must have a title
* DUE at the beginning of class on WEDNESDAY, NOV 13.
* Can be typed OR handwritten

The Asian’s Burden, by ML

Pile on the Asian’s Burden

Seen only among themselves

Within each heart already drowned

Through cries bit down

Your expectations break us;

Models through Ivy League

Quiet without any needs,

Exclusion Acts, internment camps,

Yellow peril, job stealers,

Our past is behind us?

The US has changed?

Our morals remain the same

You hid us through facades.

--, by SW

Take up the student’s burden

Homework late into the night

Then wake up nice and early

Before the sun is bright

Make each class number one priority

And always get an A

Never less than your best required

Each and every day

Take Up The High School Burden, by EB

Send more homework, please pile it on

Stay up til 1am, sorry teacher if I yawn

Four tests today, what shall I do?

Study for all, and still fail two

Social interaction? Sure, why not

But with the little sleep I got, I’ll be sounding like a robot

My stomach growls for hours on edge

But I’ll try not to pass out while saying the pledge

The stress is killing me

But it’s okay, I’ll just let it be

So much of this I may never need

But that’s fine, as long as I get into an Ivy League

The Teenage Girl’s Burden, by KV

Take up the teenage girl’s burden

Being told to act mature

But people only think you know about the latest couture

Have an interest in science

While peers just your appearance

Living in a world of assault

Even though all you want to know is your latest test result

Try every crazy method

To do your best

Even though all they care about

is the size of your chest

Take up the teenage girl’s burden

Talk a walk in our life

You think their problems may be petty

But to them they are quite heavy

The Freshman’s Burden, by SZ

There is a burden all freshmen must bear upon their backs

Then textbooks, five folders, and a binder, all in one sack

We must remember our schedules and master a quick stride

We must shoulder these burdens to uphold our pride

Day and night at our desks we sit

We must swallow our stress and avoid having fits

For, freshmen, we are strong and will face unafraid

Any arduous obstacles that are thrown in our way

--, by ZI

Letters make up words

Or do they create worlds?

ABCDF

Random letters?

Someone’s future

F for fun; F for fail

All too complicated

I wish the only letter was S

S for summer

Letters don’t haunt kids during summer.

This will **drop your lowest homework grade** (that has been turned in – not a missing assignment).