**“The White Man’s Burden”** (1899) by Rudyard Kipling

**Directions**: Read through the poem below and ***annotate***. ***Circle*** any words you do not know. Use a dictionary to find the definition. Attempt to ***summarize*** each stanza in the space provided below each stanza. ***Answer*** the questions on the back.

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| Take up the White Man's burden--Send forth the best ye breed--Go bind your sons to exileTo serve your captives' need;To wait in heavy harness,On fluttered folk and wild--Your new-caught, sullen peoples,Half-devil and half-child.**Summary**: Take up the White Man's burden--In patience to abide,To veil the threat of terrorAnd check the show of pride;By open speech and simple,An hundred times made plainTo seek another's profit,And work another's gain.**Summary:** Take up the White Man's burden--The savage wars of peace--Fill full the mouth of FamineAnd bid the sickness cease;And when your goal is nearestThe end for others sought,Watch sloth and heathen FollyBring all your hopes to nought.**Summary:**Take up the White Man's burden--No tawdry rule of kings,But toil of serf and sweeper--The tale of common things.The ports ye shall not enter,The roads ye shall not tread,Go mark them with your living,And mark them with your dead.**Summary:**  | Take up the White Man's burden--And reap his old reward:The blame of those ye better,The hate of those ye guard--The cry of hosts ye humour(Ah, slowly!) toward the light:--"Why brought he us from bondage,Our loved Egyptian night?"**Summary:** Take up the White Man's burden--Ye dare not stoop to less--Nor call too loud on FreedomTo cloke your weariness;By all ye cry or whisper,By all ye leave or do,The silent, sullen peoplesShall weigh your gods and you.**Summary:** Take up the White Man's burden--Have done with childish days--The lightly proferred laurel,The easy, ungrudged praise.Comes now, to search your manhoodThrough all the thankless yearsCold, edged with dear-bought wisdom,The judgment of your peers!**Summary:**  |

**Questions:**

1. Who do you think Kipling’s audience is?
2. What are at least 3 things Kipling suggests his audience to do?
3. What is the “White Man’s burden?”
4. What does this message allude (suggest/make a reference) to?
5. Do you agree or disagree with the message? Why?