

White Man's Burden



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Take up the White Man's burden –
Send forth the best ye breed –
Go bind your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;
To wait in heavy harness
On fluttered folk and wild –
Your new-caught, sullen peoples,
Half-devil and half-child.”

Line	What it says...	What it means...
1		
2		
3		
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8		

1. What was the “burden” of the white man?
2. What does this poem reveal about the author’s attitude toward Africans and Asians?
3. What perspective is this poem from?
4. Who did Kipling think would read his poem? What do you think that this audience might have said in response to it?
5. What is your response to Kipling and his poem?