The White Man’s Burden Questions

1. According to Kipling, and in your own words, what was the “White Man’s Burden?”

2. What reward did Kipling suggest the “White Man” gets for carrying his “burden?”

3. Who did Kipling think would read his poem? What do you think this audience might have said in response to it?

4. For what audience do you think George McNeill wrote his poem? How do you think those audiences might have responded to “The Poor Man’s Burden?”

5. For what audience do you think H.T. Johnson wrote his poem? How do you think those audiences might have responded to “The Black Man’s Burden?”

6. What are the tone and message of “The Real White Man’s Burden?” For what audience was this poem written and how might they have responded?