



Late for School

by Yasmine Semaj Simmons, grade 6

This sharp, vivacious poem was written according to the prompt, “Write from the point of view of a mother trying to get her children to school.” Prompts that allow students to mimic voices they hear all the time can be a lot fun, especially for students who are wary of writing.

Late for School

Girl, my chern is
late for school. Let
me get off this phone.
Get up. Lord, if y'all
don't hurry up. Y'all
already late. Girl
do yo hair, you look a hot
mess. Boy go brush yo
teeth—they are a little tart.
Y'all better hurry up.
Come on get in the car
before I slap the
breaks off you.
Lord y'all look a
hot mess but you
better hurry up.