Song Parody Assignment

We begin our study of satire, we have examined several parodies. Remember that a parody is a literary or artistic work that imitates the style or ideas of another work in an exaggerated or a ridiculous way for comic effect. Now that we have seen and discussed several, you will work with ONE partner to create your own!

The Assignment
1) Choose a well-known song to revise to create a parody. This parody must be SATIRICAL in nature—not just humorous, so remember that there should be some social issue that you are addressing in the lyrics.

Below are some possible suggestions for songs to parody:

“Roar” by Katie Perry
“It’s a Hard-Knock Life” from the movie Annie
“Somewhere Over the Rainbow” from the Wizard of Oz
“Shake it Off” by Taylor Swift
Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

2) To begin, obtain a copy of the song’s original lyrics. Copy them down on a piece of paper, or designate a partner to bring a printed copy to class tomorrow.

3) To write your parody, you will change elements of the original to add humor to the song. You must change a minimum of 5 elements.

Some elements to consider changing:
- title
- character names (if any)
- setting (place, time period)
- ideas in the song (i.e. “Gangsta’s Paradise” to “Amish Paradise”)
- basic situation in the song
- conflict in the song
- outcome of the situation in the song
- theme or moral of the song
- style
- tone

Your completed parody is due at the end of class on Thursday, January 8th.