

Better excuses than “The dog ate my homework”

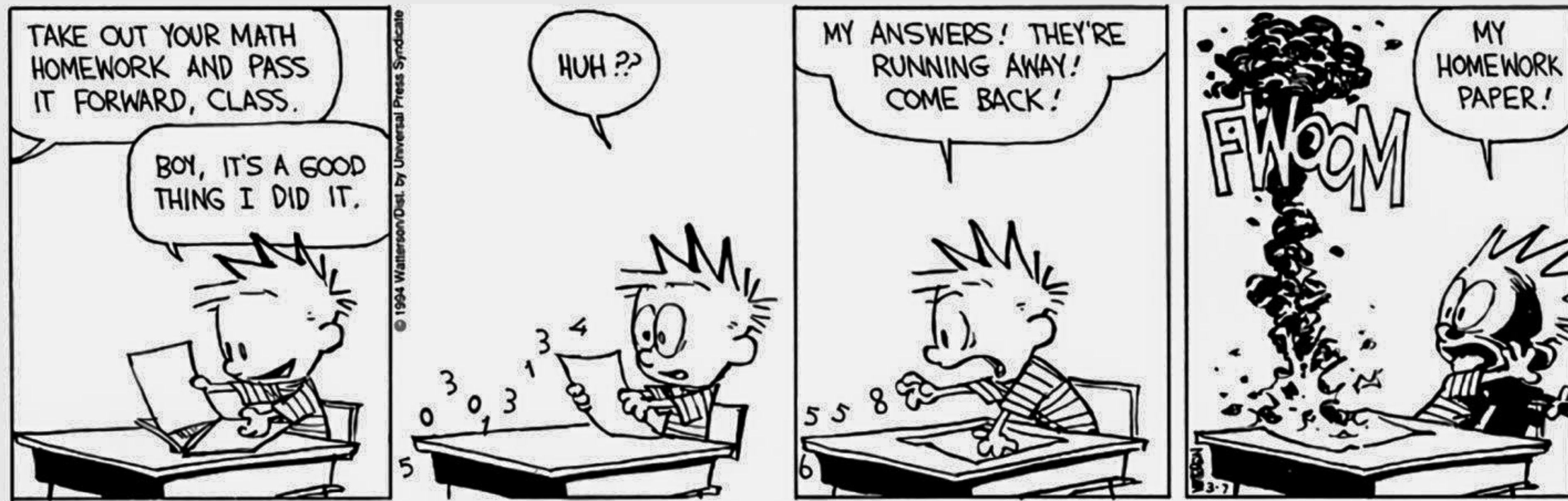
MATILDA

Homework can be beneficial. It can teach you to take responsibility for your part in the education process, give you a chance to revise class material and can even help you learn time management.

However, whether we actually do our homework by ourselves or copy from those who did it themselves, there are times when we don't have homework ready. This is when we need to make up excuses. Since not submitting homework on time is an occurrence that has been far too common for far too long, new excuses are now a necessity. Here are some examples of excuses better than the dog ate my homework.

My home tutor wasn't there: This is a dirty secret that is not really much of a secret. A huge number of children have tutors at home to assist them with their school work. With home tutors, you get more attention and more time. In fact, you sometimes get enough time to have them do the homework you're supposed to be doing.

This will never be useful so I didn't bother to spend time on it: We all have our list of things we studied in school and never needed again. But we weren't all sure as to exactly what we wanted to do and be when we grew up. Some people did however. They know that paying attention during Mathematics is not really



necessary for them to be able to fulfil their dreams as a singer. So if these rare creatures hate a subject, they can't be bothered to care about it in the classroom or at home.

I broke up with my girlfriend: Every person has fallen in love in their lives, even your grouchy uncles, aunties, and teachers. This is why they explicitly forbid you from dating people you like. It's not only because they think it won't work out and you will get your heart broken, it's because they – sometimes from personal experience – know how much of an impact a relationship can have on a young person. While they can express their anger and disappointment at you for being giddy because you're in a new relation-

ship, they can't really get mad at you when you're heartbroken. Of course they might remind you that they told you getting into a relationship was a bad idea, but at least they won't exactly yell at you and might even sympathise with you.

It was my cousin's wedding last week: Every Bengali person knows how long their weddings can get. They know there will probably be 20000 guests, choreographed dance numbers (which they will still perform badly after 6 months of practice), and several rituals, some of which they might have created just to keep the wedding going longer and eat more. Moreover, marriage continues to be a very important institution in our society so the celebration of one is not only seen as

logical but almost essential by some people. Some teachers even allow extended deadlines for homework submission upon hearing this excuse. However, you may need to show proof for this one to be believed. How? Don't ask me.

Hate it or hate it from the very bottom of your heart, homework isn't disappearing soon. Spare yourself the tension and get done with it as quickly as possible, because it's hard to come up with good excuses as to why you couldn't spare 30 minutes of your time in one whole week to complete an assignment.

Matilda likes to pretend she is invisible and inconspicuous. Tell her that you can read right through her at matilda.tilda1234@gmail.com

Types of people on a bus ride

MD. ZAMILUR RAHMAN SHUVO

Till the age of 15, bus rides for me meant tragic road accidents. Since then, frequent bus rides from here to there have somewhat reshaped my views on it. The most unexpected U-turn was possibly how I began to notice the people around me. A bus ride is like a mixed bag, you get a taste of everything thanks to the dynamic of the passengers. Here's a list of the kind of people you can expect to come across if you're planning your first bus ride.

THE SCREAMER

All this person needs is an issue, and their passionate screams will be in full display. Their out-and-loud voice will make it seem like they are actually rallying the troops for a rather imaginary war. Almost always it's the drivers or the helpers who are at the wrong end of this battle cry. Expect somebody to take this role if the bus brakes hard or makes an unscheduled stoppage to pick up a passenger.

THE RESISTANCE

The irresistible force (helper) meets the immovable object (passenger). You will see the former try out and fail to secure the bus fare numerous times before the latter gradually decides to give in. The helper will keep asking for the fare and the passenger will find one excuse or another to tell the guy to come back later because they are “busy”. And even in the face of inevitable defeat, the passenger knows that they won the war although the helper who won the battle.

THE BUTTERFLY

The wings are metaphorical. You will come across, mostly during morning bus rides, someone with a piece of newspaper. Once they are comfortably seated, it's time to flap open the metaphorical wings a.k.a. the newspaper in all their glory. Unconcerned by the already congested seating arrangement, they will do anything in their power to



make sure the wings remain out at all cost.

THE NEEDY ONE

At least on one unlucky instance, you will be seated beside a passenger who will be absolutely disgusted with the space availed to them and make it known throughout the entirety of the journey. They will keep nagging you to make a little room to get comfortable. But no matter how many times you politely respond to it by quietly moving aside, you simply can't satisfy them.

THE TALKATIVE ONE

We all know that one type of person who is always interested to talk and share their views on any topic that comes up. You can bet anything that they are always on the

lookout to start a conversation. And once the opportunity presents itself, they will seize it and more. They won't even be bothered by the fact that you are not interested to carry on the conversation or the fact that you may even not be listening – they will keep running their mouth. You might as well plug in your earphones and start listening to (or pretend) music and what not but they simply will not stop.

MD. Zamilur Rahman is a self-proclaimed foodie and comic geek. So if you have enough money to treat him with kacchi he will be interested to hang out with you. Connect with him at your own risk at shuvosanctum@gmail.com