**If I Could Invent Something New**

In our world, they say that, “A man will die but not his ideas”, and as human beings, we are capable of bringing up ideas which can either help society or harm it. I am someone who would very much like to help society, and for this reason, I think that it would be best to share my idea with the rest of the world. If I could invent something new, I would invent a Lightning harvester. This is a machine which would harness the electricity discharged by lightning.

I think we are knowledgeable of the Malawian inventor named William Kamkwamba, who built a wind turbine which converts wind energy into electrical energy at the age of fourteen. He witnessed how his people suffered due to severe famine and hunger. He was also forced to drop out from high school due to the fact that his family was unable to pay for his annual school fees, but this did not stop him from fulfilling his dream. With spare parts, old textbooks, scrap metal and a lot of resolve, he realized his goal. Likewise, I am very determined to help my country. My invention would help to change our country as a whole and I have a number of reasons to support my invention.

To start with, my innovation would help to ensure that every home in the country gets daily power supply. According to the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission, the average energy consumption per residential customer was reported to be around 50-60kWh per month. Also, there are twenty-five grid connected generating plants in operation with a total installed capacity of 12,522MW, but still most homes in the country do not get daily power supply. This is not because they are not efficient enough but partly because Nigeria supplies power to three African countries which are the Republic of Benin, Togo and Niger. Although, lightning does not strike every day, a single bolt of lightning can produce 1.21 gigawatts of power which would be enough to power a whole city for an entire day. By harvesting more electricity from lightning, anytime it strikes, it would be able to power the country at large.

Furthermore, my invention would also be able to act as a substitute in place of fossil fuels especially petroleum. Unfortunately, petroleum is the primary source of electricity generation in Nigeria and this same petroleum is also exported to provide revenue for the country. Fossil fuels like petroleum should be used conservatively so as to prevent them from running out. My Lightning harvester would successfully be used in place of these resources and there will no longer be need to worry about shortage of electricity.

In conclusion, my invention, the Lightning harvester, would be a game-changer in the world of electricity generation and an innovative solution which would be beneficial for people to avoid stress and enjoy smooth and steady power supply. I dare say that it would change not only the country but also the whole world!

Name of Student: Anthony Chukwuebuka Njemanze

Class: JSS3

School: St. Gregory’s College, Ikoyi, Lagos.