**IF I COULD INVENT SOMETHING NEW**

Name: Rabiah Jafaru Mahmud

School: Stargate Excellence Academy

Class: Jss3

If I Could Invent Something New

 If I could invent something, it would be an automatic personal hair plaiting device. As an African girl, my hair is kinky and difficult to tame and manage. This is because the way straight African hair follicles need to be managed is different from the way Caucasian hair that is silky needs to be managed.

 Before now, African girls and women have managed their kinky hair by making it softer and silky by applying chemicals to relax the hair, however, research findings have shown that the chemicals used all these past years for relaxing hair are harmful to humans and can even cause cancer.

 Those who have relied on plaiting their African hair have also faced many problems. One visible problem is the fact that one person cannot plait their hair themselves. For this reason, they have to go to salons where hair is plaited and this leads to a waste of time and money in these salons which is made even more serious with the fact that the people who are skilled to plait hair are scarce.

 There is also the issue of unsanitary conditions in the places where the plaiting of hair happens which can lead to the transmission of diseases. This is also made worse by the use of one common cutting comb or mitsilla as it is called for all clients by the hairdresser. Diseases like cough, catarrh, conjunctivitis, eczema, dandruff, etc. are easily contacted at hair salons.

 If I could invent something new therefore, I would create a device that instantly plaits African hair. The advantage here will be that I do not need to loosen my plaited hair by myself, I do not need to go to a salon, I can do it by myself whenever I want and wherever I am. It can help in managing African hair without damaging it.