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IF I COULD INVENT SOMETHING NEW.

In my generation, creativity is rare and authenticity is just as scarce. However, if I was blessed with the resources necessary to bring my ideas to life, it would be so hard to choose.

Before I started writing, I had difficulty deciding which of my ideas to write about. I went back and forth between biodegradable plastic that is, a material similar to plastic that can be naturally decomposed, cars that run on water using a hydro-powered engine much like a dam or a device to aid people who are suffering from hearing impairments.

I finally decided what to write about on the 2nd of July, which was the second day of my junior WAEC so I humbly present to you the ‘H-watch’, short for the hearing watch.

Most of us will never know what it feels like living in a silent world, a world without the flimsy-glories of music, thunder or the sound of laughter. Approximately 328 million adults and 32 million children suffer from a hearing impairment, what most of us could never imagine is their reality.

The H-watch would be a source of relief as well as a technological breakthrough in the world of electronics. The device would operate using voice recognition technology to differentiate between relevant and irrelevant sounds, it would pick up on words being said in close enough proximity and display them on the screen. The user can then read the words that are being said.

The watch will also be sensitive to sounds such as the user’s name, car horns, fire alarms, etc. When the watch hears such sounds it will vibrate to alert the user that another individual was calling their attention or that a car is coming. Not only will the watch be sensitive to alarming sounds but it will also have a special feature like a dictionary which will be operated when the user taps on a word to check the meaning, a translator in case an individual speaks a foreign language and the user doesn’t understand what is being said. The watch will also have a profile for certain voices or sounds that it hears often such as Dog barking or Mom’s voice. There will also be a quick dial option for emergency phone numbers.

We need to think about how to ease the burden of those suffering from one disability or the other and break communication barriers that should have never been there in the first place. So if I could invent something new this is what I would invent.