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### **IF I COULD INVENT SOMETHING NEW**

Invention is creating something completely new; it embodies using imagination and sometimes it is based on the need to solve existing problems in the society. One of the major problems in our society is environmental pollution. This happens when harmful substances get into the environment. The environment must be healthy to support the life of man, animals and plants. Environmental pollutants cause the destruction of the environment, causing harm to all living things.

While there are different types of environmental pollution, I will be emphasizing on air pollution. Air pollution is the release of harmful substances into the air that destroys the composition of the atmosphere. According to the University of Chicago's Air Quality Life Index, air pollution is now more deadly than war and TB. Polluted air cuts life short by almost 2 years, on the average depending on the country. Generally, air pollutants have been found to trigger harmful effects like damaged lungs, eyes and nose irritation, bad cough, global warming, reduction or depletion of the ozone layer, reduced visibility, irritation of respiratory tract, allergy in asthmatic patients, poisonous or acidic rain water to plants and animals, damage buildings, dizziness, headache, tiredness, suffocation etc. it could also trigger severe health problems such as cancer and possibly dementia.

If I could invent something new, I would create a device that would help to reduce the impact of air pollution. Given that burning of fossil fuels especially through automobiles and heavy-duty vehicles contribute largely to the release of dangerous tiny air borne particles. This machine would serve two purposes

namely dust and carbon monoxide retainer. This device would inbuilt into the exhaust channel of automobiles, trucks, generators, and other machines that release effluents into the atmosphere. Once this machine is inbuilt into the machines used on daily basis, it would help retain the dust particles and carbon monoxide contents which is being released when these machines are being operated. The device will have an inbuilt mechanism to filter and treat the fumes before being discharged into the atmosphere.

Towards reducing air pollution and making our society habitable for living, there is the need to consciously eliminate air pollution through government support and increased public enlightenment. The productive manhour being lost to air pollution related sickness and death could be reduced and the foster economy development. I hope that with all that has been said, we leaders of tomorrow could become advocates for a cleaner environment. We need to stand up to do the needful starting from our immediate homes to our schools and community, thereby making the world a better place than we met it.

Thank you.