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Date: 9/21/2017
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Project Problem Statement

There is a paltry number of well known office suites for the Linux (family) of operating systems. A well known example is LibreOffice, which incidentally is how this statement was written. We have decided that this is a good scapegoat for us to use so we have an excuse to develop a word processor. This word processor will focus on practicality and functionality, and will stress minimalism in its graphical design. Our word processor will focus on displaying text, supporting basic formatting, and allowing for saving/loading of files through the GUI (graphical user interface). In addition it will also focus on user defined dictionaries and convenience features like grammar checking. Lastly, it will support printing.

Our first release will allow for the saving/loading of files through an in-house developed file type. It will display text that the user enters, and make minor corrections like capitalizing proper nouns and words at the beginning of a sentence.

Our second release will start on the largest section of development, the creation of a GUI and other formatting options, such as italics, underline, and colored text. We will develop the capacity to print to a printer hooked up to a USB port on the computer. If we are able, we will also develop the ability for our files to be converted to a pdf file.

Our final release will focus on nice, but unnecessary options. Like embedded image files. We will also focus on corrective maintenance and potentially other options, such as interfacing with an email client to send documents directly.

We will use an iterative development style that focuses on quick releases, and we will have strict coding standards coupled with documentation standards. We may use automated tools to scan our source files and inject documentation directly into the document. We will use test-driven development to ensure that our program at least runs (and hopefully works correctly! Our program is only as good as our test cases.) We will focus on taking the required amount of time on design before rushing into code.

Regular communication is a must, so regular small meetings will be required.