**Microsoft HoloLens**

* What is the HoloLens?
  + The Microsoft HoloLens is a piece of hardware that enables augmented reality. The device is worn like a pair of goggles and displays virtual objects layered on top of the real world. This differs from virtual reality where the user is immersed into a completely virtual world and is cut off from reality.
* How does it work?
  + The HoloLens utilizes multiple depth sensing cameras, a projector and a pair of prism lenses that captures the projected image. First HoloLens will use the depth sensing cameras to obtain the configuration of the room and the objects inside of it. Next it will combine the software being used and layer it on top of the desired location in the room all locally on the headset. Finally, it will project the augmented images onto the prism lenses so that the user can view their software in the real world.
* Possible applications
  + The HoloLens has been marked to do a variety of tasks. What would be assumed to be the most widely used feature is augmenting everyday life. By wearing the headset, you can have your phone notifications and scheduled events appear in a heads-up display like fashion without having to lift a finger. You can also video chat as you walk or even have your tv show fallow you into the bathroom for uninterrupted coverage of your favorite shows. Having augmented reality in our daily life would be something out of a science fiction novel. The HoloLens also has more specified applications such as gaming and 3D modeling. No longer do artist have to view their creations on a screen or in the pages of a book, now they can watch them come to life right on their desk. The same applies for gaming, your whole room becomes the battlefield when using augmented reality.
* Why chooses HoloLens
  + One of the many stand out factors of HoloLens is that it its completely wireless. Unlike virtual reality headsets the HoloLens frees users from being confined near their desk with cables draping from their head. By having all the computing being done in the headset it frees the user to travel around their house or even go outside. Another noteworthy factor of the HoloLens is that since you are still viewing the natural world the effects of motion sickness will be minimal if any at all (0-2 out of 10)
* Shortcomings
  + Although the HoloLens is revolutionary it is not perfect. As with any new technology there is a limited amount of software available for the HoloLens at the moment. This results in a narrowed scope of experiences the user can have. Since the HoloLens is a wireless headset that means that it runs off batteries which means that it has to be charged frequently and limits the users experience. Lastly the headset is rather large and bulky which can result in neck fatigue and headaches due to the weight of the device.
* Competition
  + Augmented reality is a new concept that hasn’t quite hit the mainstream yet. There are other companies that are developing augmented reality headsets but you are able to count their numbers on one hand. The most widely known headsets other the HoloLens are the Magic Leap One, the Meta 2, Google Glass and the DAQRI Smart Helmet. Each of these devices have minor differences in their hardware but are not fully developed to accurately compare to one another yet.
* Conclusion
  + The Microsoft HoloLens is an augmented reality device that breaks down the wall between the real world and the virtual world. Now you are able to experience your virtual media in the real world. The HoloLens has something for everyone weather it be gaming, interactive tutorials, video chatting, or helping with your day to day activates. Although it is still being fully developed and there are several other competitors I believe that with Microsoft resources the HoloLens will the augmented reality standard.