Autocorrect:

As we are typing, autocorrect provides suggestions from its database and user’s wording, to the user. It is NOT hard to learn, so long as the user knows how to activate or deactivate the feature it does all the spelling and grammar corrections for the user. Errors may occur, for instance the autocorrect might suggest “color” instead of “colour”, or a word that is spelled similarly with a completely different meaning. The feature may be improved by making the keyboard font larger to improve user usability. It may also have “Add to Dictionary” feature, which would be especially useful for languages other than English that are not detected automatically.

Driving:

Model is similar to A, with the added shaking distraction of movement. It is not efficient at all, since most people are NOT good at multi-tasking in a moving vehicle. As a result, error rate is extremely high. Usability of a phone in this state is at the bare minimum, and would also require the higher memorization from the user. An example might be to get to a song more quickly. Error rates would be even higher than A with the added distraction. Usability could be improved “Smart” keyboard to detect left vs right-handed people. Moreover, using Siri (voice recognition) instead of traditional typing could help the user work WITH the system instead of against it. Suggestions are extremely easy to learn.

Equations:

The model can be picture as a user clicking buttons on the navigation bar (insert, then equations) to access the Equations feature, then clicking on one of the default formulas and substituting REAL values to produce a solution that the user wants. As the equation changes, user must remember where everything is, and WHICH specific equations to use. Auto-insert equation feature assists the user, because they just have to enter the information. This is especially useful for long equations with complex calculations and formulas, but requires little memorization once used a few times. Must be at least somewhat familiar with interface to access (i.e. navigation bar) Error rates almost non-existent since calculation errors are extremely rare. If solutions are wrong, it is a result of user entering wrong info, or using wrong formula to begin with. Usability may be improved by making the “Formulas” logo more visible, and easy to find.

MW Flowcharts:

This model is similar to the equations model (insert, shapes) except that you are selecting shapes instead of equations. Background processes run to scale the size of the shape. Lots of customization options are available, for instance the user can make a chart bigger, adjust its color, and so on. On-screen buttons help learnability as the customization is happening, anyone can learn how to make a good flowchart very quickly. Shapes and designs are already predefined in Microsoft Word, thereby giving the user more freedom and ability to access something that they do not have to create from scratch. It is highly efficient way of representing information, and easy to learn once used over a period of time. User does NOT have to memorize the designs themselves, only the steps needed to access them. The feature could be further improved by including optional on-screen hints to assist user as they are drawing the charts. Error rates extremely minimal, as correctness of flowcharts are dependant on the user and not the chart itself.

Quick note: Microsoft Visio is more specialized or geared towards flowcharts

Photoshop:

This model can be imagined as opening the application, importing a file for HEAVY customization, and clicking on its tools to make a new and improved file. Learnability is very bad, especially for users that have never used Photoshop previously. Tools and features are highly specialized (i.e. Instead of “resize”, Photoshop uses “transform”). To improve, users should have a tutorial option to understand how to better use it effectively. Also, perhaps having different versions of Photoshop could assist (i.e. Photoshop Lite) with its usability. Lastly, due to its complexity, system errors can occur.