

Winning Essay by Alayna Andersen

The Ever-Changing Stock Market

In a world where to answer the phone, a button on the wrist is all that's needed to answer. Pop in an air pod or two and the phone doesn't even have to leave the pocket. Everything is changing. A person can never be too sure on something staying the same because the economy and the world is always changing. The first portable phone weighed 2.5 pounds and could only call. In just 50 years, phones now weigh about 177 grams and the possibilities are endless on what they can do. But what do electronics and stocks have to do with each other.

It is so hard to go through life and judge and guess which stocks are going to do great and which ones are going to fail. It all depends on what is happening in the world and what creative things people are coming up with. For a while Delta Airlines was doing pretty good and constant until the coronavirus stuck the nation and the price and market for airlines dropped by half. It went from \$57.87 to \$21.35 in just under a month. Everyone would've assumed that the airline market would be great because people now a days love to fly, but for those months the flying economy really dropped. It's hard to guess what really is going to happen. All we can do is closely watch and use the best judgment possible to figure out what needs to be done. I think that with all the aftermath and craziness in the world more and more people are going to end up working from home or not working at all.

One of the companies I invested in was Airbnb because with more places opening again people have a sense of adventure are wanting to get out there without spending too much money. However just recently at the end of November a new variant for the corona virus showed up and it caused a lot of the market to crash. This investment quickly wet down because it scared people back into their homes and away from people.

Right now, in life if I were to make up a portfolio, I would choose a wide variety of things. I would probably invest in Tesla; they are an ever-building car company with rumors of a phone coming out. I would also invest in Netflix, especially with the new strand of the coronavirus appearing, it will give people the opportunity they need and want to sit on the couch and do nothing. I might also consider investing in Apple or Microsoft because technology is ever growing, and people aren't going to stop inventing so it's a good idea to invest in some technology areas like that. I might also invest in Walmart because they have a wide variety of ideas and a broad way to get all those items like curbside and doorstep delivery.

I think in a world where everything is constantly changing no one can be sure in what to invest in or follow. Nothing in the past two years has gone according to anyone's plan. The Stock Market Game really taught me that I must be aware of what's going on in the world. If I don't, I can easily lose more money than I want. Investing is a thing that takes time and patience. It's not a once and done but a constant check to see what you need to do. Investing is a great experience to learn and can really help in different areas of life.