**NEA Summer Work**

Once you've had your proposal approved, you will need to carefully plan and carry out your data collection. This involves:

* Selecting appropriate techniques (you should already have thought of these for your proposal). Look at the Student resources on the website for help with this. There's useful guidance on effective questionnaire design as well as other suitable techniques. Remember, you will have to justify what you've done, so this cannot be done in a rush - and keep a note of decisions you've made and websites you've used. There's no point taking time to collect data unless you have first given serious and careful thought on how, what, where and when!
* You must also think carefully about how you are going to process the data - including what analytical techniques you will use. Remember the techniques we used for the Gower tasks - and do not be put off by their apparent complexity. Again there is guidance on the website (but also look at the FSC one that I've spoken of before).
* Once you've done all of this thoroughly, collect your data. Remember, the specification says you should collect enough data to investigate your title in depth - so go for lots of data about a few things, rather than small amounts of data for a wide range of things. As a broad rule, for e.g., 25 sets of questionnaire data are unlikely to be enough at A Level - think at least 50, if not 100.
* Whilst collecting the data, takes photos and notes that help you to critically review how it goes. Do the questions elicit the responses you were expecting? What issues were there whilst collecting the data? Did you feel that important patterns were being missed? All of these will be of use when you come to evaluate (which won't be until late November, by which time you'll likely have forgotten important stuff). The Evaluation is worth 1/4 of the marks for the NEA, so cannot be left to chance.
* You may then find it useful to tabulate your data in Excel or a similar spreadsheet app (NEVER Word or similar). This will makes things easier for you in September when your first job will be to process the data. Being in Excel will enable you to do this readily - you cannot do this if the data's simply in a Word table.