**Personal audit – choosing a topic**

Think about what you do in your spare time. What hobbies and interests do you have? Now answer the following questions:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 What subjects are you  studying? | **Electronics**  **Chemistry**  **Physics**  **Maths** |
| 2 Which subjects do you like most? | **All enjoyable** |
| 3 Why do you like them? |  |
| Which parts are your favourites? |  |
| 4 What do you do in your spare time? | **Computer programming** |
| 5 What are your favourite books/TV programmes/sports? |  |
| 6 What sort of music do you like? |  |
| 7 What issues/current affairs interest or concern you? |  |
| 8. Do you have any career or Higher Education intentions and if so, do you know what? |  |
| 9. What other opportunities might be available to you?  (ie. archaeological digs, Ndamase expedition, Scott Polar research institute, organising Hills Skills Day) |  |

Look at the list that you have created above and rank them in order of your interest in producing an Extended Project that is related to one of them.

1. **Computer graphics**

2. **Computer physics simulation**

3.

4.

Now think about the different formats that your project could take. Could one of your topics above fit a format that you might be interested in? Jot down any potential ideas here.

**Short/simple 3D graphics demo? E.g. a waterfall?**

Remember, at this stage it is enough to have an area to research – you do not need to have a specific title.

Now look at the criteria that you are going to be marked against – could your chosen area lend itself to

* having plenty of areas of research that you can access (not just sitting on a laptop and typing words into Google!)

**yes, lots of areas I can research, in terms of the computer graphics, mathematics and in the physics.**

* showing/allowing you to develop new skills/progression beyond A level, for example – if you are a History student and you write a History based dissertation – how will you show that you have done more than produce a piece of coursework?

**This builds on things taught at A-level but also goes far beyond**

* demonstrating that a range of different skills were used - these could include communication, IT, writing, managing people, other technical skills, analysing, problem solving, construction, design and so on.

**Lots of problem solving and research. Has an artistic side as well.**