Reflective Commentary

For the exercises in part A, I approached the exercises by trying out what I thought was correct. If I had any errors, I would fix the functions so that they worked. I tested each function by printing out the results to the python shell to check if they gave the expected outcome. I used the same approach for the first few exercises in part B, but from exercises 8 to 10, I first thought through how I wanted the program to work before I started programming. I noticed how my approach to programming changed the more “advanced” the exercise was.

I used functions I developed in part A to analyse the results generated by code in part B. In the python shell, I created a variable named seats and set it equal to the function getTotalSeats from exercise 10. I used the textfile “ukeu2019.txt” as the parameter in the function getTotalSeats. I used the function getTotal from part A to find the total number of seats from getTotalSeats combined, and the output was 70, so that means that the total number of seats to be allocated is 70. This corresponds to the number given in the example.

Furthermore, I used the function normalise with the variable seats as the parameter. This gave me the values divided by their sum so that they add up to 1. Then I used the function printNonZero(seats), which gave me the percentage of seats each party got instead of the actual number of seats. For an example, it says Brexit Party got 0.41 seats, which means it got 41 % of the total number of seats.

I tried to use “break” to end a while loop at first in exercise 8 and 10 in part B, but I figured out another way to end the while loop so that I didn’t have to use break. Instead of writing “while: 1” I wrote “while: newLine”, which in my code would mean while it is possible to read the line in the textfile, it should execute the while loop.