Beyond VisualEditor

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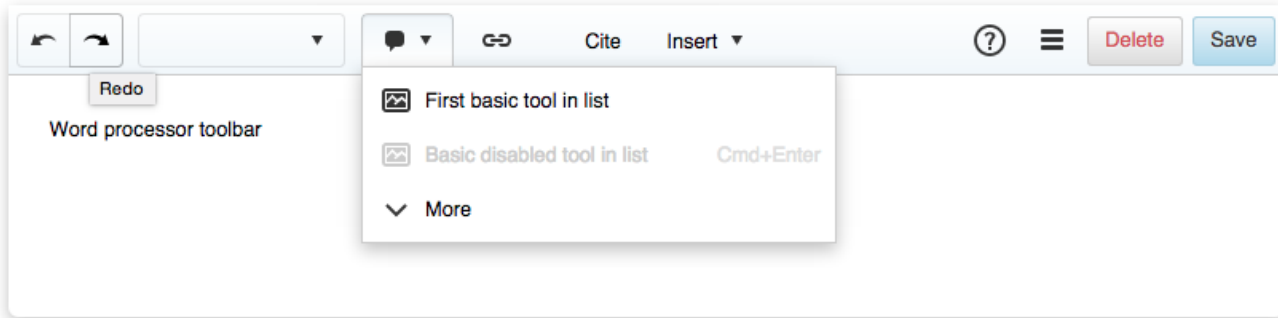# What's next for editing?

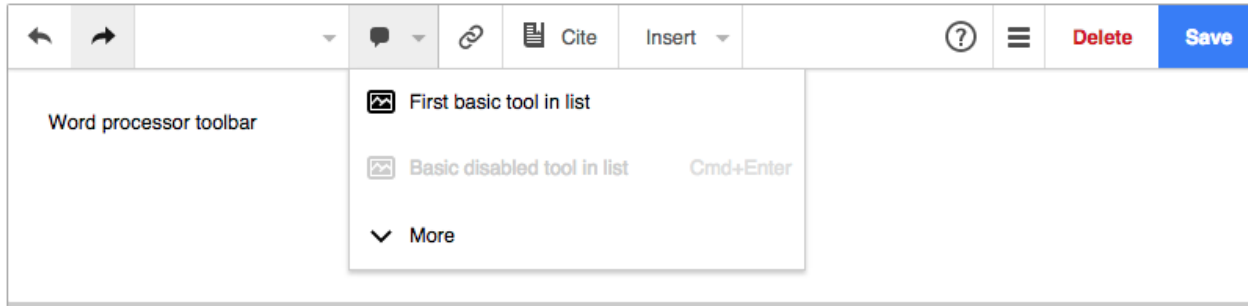# Cool things we've built

New, consistent design

- A new theme for our UI library, aligned with MediaWiki
- Simpler, design cues from 'flat design'
- Converges on design used by the rest of WMF

New, consistent design

https://doc.wikimedia.org/oojs-ui/master/demos/#toolbars-apex-vector-ltr

https://doc.wikimedia.org/oojs-ui/master/demos/#toolbars-mediawiki-vector-ltr

Clearer context

- **Used to be grey buttons to edit things**
- **Now gives details to see what the settings are**
  - **Where does the link go?**
  - **What is the reference?**
  - **What is the name of this image?**
- **Edit control is more visible**

Clearer context

usage in computer programming examples and pseud...

Link   Edit

Computer programming

960.[9] However, the precise relationship of these te...

and **qux** (alternatively, **quux**) and sometimes **norf**[1

Link   Edit

Metasyntactic variable

Aあ Language   Edit

German (RTL)

extensively, but many prefer descriptive names, ongside kludge and cruft.[8]

Book   Edit

Eric S. Raymond (1996). *The New Hacker's Dictionary*. MIT Press. ISBN 0-262-68092-0.

The terms **foobar** (/ˈfuːbɑːr/), **fubar**, or **foo**, **bar**, ba

Template   Edit

Generated from: IPAc-en

The *Foo Fighters* have nothing to do with the concept of 'foo' and 'bar'.

Media   Edit

Foo Fighters.jpg

Notes

1. ↑ "Abridged Dictionary of the TMRC Language". MIT.

References

References list   Edit

List of references for group "notes"

1. ↑ http://www.vi...guage&page=1
2. ↑ http://rstudio-pubs-static.s3.amazonaws.com/43080_1d7db6d9f7044c8bae0e6a7f90c563cc.html

Links

- **See information about link targets**
- **Find the right page**
- **Avoid disambiguations or redirects**

Links

The **African crake** (*Crex egregia*) is a bird in the rail family that bree[...] sub-Saharan Africa away from the arid south and southwest. It is se[...] most of its range other than the rainforests and areas that have low a[...] crake is a partial migrant, moving away from the equator as soon as [...] sufficient grass cover to allow it to breed elsewhere. There have bee[...] vagrant birds reaching Atlantic islands. This species nests in a wide [...] types, and agricultural land with tall crops may also be used.

A smallish crake, the African crake has brown-streaked blackish upp[...] underparts and black-and-white barring on the flanks and belly. It has [...] eyes, and a white line from the bill to above the eye. It is smaller thar[...] the corn crake; that species is also lighter-plumaged, and has an eye[...] crake has a range of calls, the most characteristic being a series of r[...] It is active during the day, and is territorial on both the breeding and [...] the male has a threat display, and may fight at territory boundaries. T[...] cup of grass leaves built in a depression under a grass tussock or sn[...] eggs start hatching after about 14 days, and the black, downy precoc[...] four to five weeks. The African crake feeds on a wide range of invert[...] some small frogs and fish, and plant material, especially grass seeds[...] by large birds of prey; snakes; or mammals, including humans, and c[...] Although it may be displaced temporarily by the burning of grassland[...] agriculture, wetland drainage or urbanisation, its large range and pop[...] not considered to be threatened.
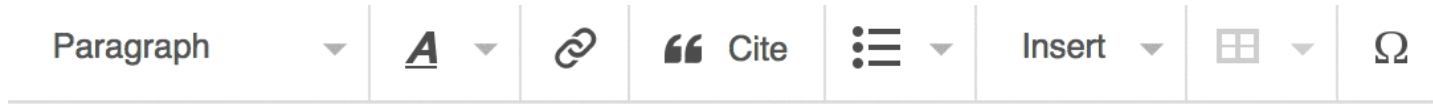
Auto-citations

- 'Citing what you write' is now the core editing workflow
- Not good enough to just depend on community gadgets
- Building this work into a good, production-scale service
- Sharing some wikis' pioneering work for all our projects

Auto-citations

Paragraph ▾ | ***A*** ▾ | 🔗 | 66 Cite | ☰ ▾ | Insert ▾ | ⊞ ▾ | Ω

vas reelected president in November 2012 defeating Republican nominee Mitt Romney,

anuary 20, 2013. During his second term, Obama has promoted domestic policies relate

y Hook Elementary School shooting, and has called for full equality for LGBT Americans

s which urged the Supreme Court to strike down the Defense of Marriage Act of 1996 ar

utional. In foreign policy, Obama ordered U.S. military involvement in Iraq in response to

er the 2011 withdrawal from Iraq, continued the process of ending U.S. combat operatio

normalize U.S. relations with Cuba.

Table editing

- **HTML tables are difficult to create**
- **Wikitext tables are even worse**
- **Wikimedians' wikitext tables are… way worse**

Table editing

Editing_a_table_using_VisualEditor.gif

Neil P. Quinn (WMF), CC-BY-SA 4.0

Media search

- "*Writing about music is like dancing about architecture*[*]"
- See the range of media on Commons
- Find what's best for the article
- Add it quickly, guided through display options

Media search

Cool things we're building

Mobile

- **Mobile editing is not second-class editing**
- **Billions of Internet users are, or will be, mobile-only**
- **On desktop/tablet/phone, volunteers should be equal**
- **Will have tools like auto-cite across platforms**

Upload

- **We want to give readers more media**
- **Uploading whilst you edit is an often-requested feature**
- **No need for the complexity of save/upload/re-edit/save**
- **Our work will also help build custom campaign tools**

Meta-data editing

- **Some kinds of meta-data are 'in' a page, some aren't**
  - Out: Title, protection, Wikidata language links, translation state
  - In: Title override, redirect, categories, category default sort key
- **As a user you shouldn't need to care where it's stored**
- **Editing tools should let you do these edits standalone**
- **We will move some of these tools outside the editor**

Auto-store in-progress edits

- Losing your edit is hugely annoying and demotivating
- More a problem for bigger edits, which VE encourages
- If network/browser dies, will prompt to resume editing

Single edit tab

- **Having two edit tabs is a poor, confusing hack**
- **Integrating the editors will make it simpler**
- **It will let us share tools like auto-cite between them**
- **Needs to be easier to switch as you edit**

Takeaways

Then: Making it easier to make articles better

'Better' for readers — with more content, more references, more tables of data, more media, …

Now: Making it easier to make articles everywhere

Everywhere for all editors — editing fluidly, simply and clearly on desktop and mobile alike

Discussion