



## Article Assessment for Student Assignments – For Teacher

**Dear teacher,**

The following assessment guide is meant to help you assess a text written by middle or high school students as an encyclopedic article to be included in Wikipedia. This is merely a suggestion. Please feel free to change it and make it more compatible with your educational goals.

**Please note** - We recommend setting the minimum criterion for any assessment at 500 words per article and three external sources as the basis for an article.

**We wish you a meaningful and fruitful learning process,  
Wikimedia Israel**



Topic and weight	Requirement details	Good – the article can be published on Wikipedia as is or with minor changes	Fair – the article will be ready for Wikipedia after major changes	Poor – the article will be ready for Wikipedia only after significant improvement
<b>Content (30%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Comprehensiveness (good coverage of the topic)</li> <li>* Factual accuracy</li> <li>* Originality (independent writing)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article covers the information essential for understanding the topic.</li> <li>* The article does not include redundant information.</li> <li>* The information is accurate.</li> <li>* The article was written entirely by the student.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article covers a great deal of the information essential for understanding the topic.</li> <li>* The article includes some redundant information.</li> <li>* There are minor factual inaccuracies</li> <li>* Some of the content is copied from the external sources with slight changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Most of the information essential for basic understanding of the topic is missing.</li> <li>* A great deal of the information is redundant.</li> <li>* The article is replete with factual inaccuracies</li> <li>* The content is copied from the external sources completely or with only slight changes.</li> </ul>
<b>Structure (20%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Structure is coherent and logical</li> <li>* Structure is compatible with Wikipedia's norms (see Appendix I)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article has a logical and coherent structure.</li> <li>* The article's structure is reflected in the way it is divided into sections and paragraphs.</li> <li>* Section titles appropriately describe their content.</li> <li>* The structure is very compatible with Wikipedia's norms (see Appendix I).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Most of the article is structured in a logical and coherent way.</li> <li>* The article's structure is usually reflected in the way it is divided into sections and paragraphs.</li> <li>* Section titles reasonably describe their content</li> <li>* The structure is mostly compatible with Wikipedia's norms (see Appendix I).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article's structure is incoherent and illogical.</li> <li>* The division into sections and paragraphs is not consistent with the article's structure.</li> <li>* Section titles do not describe their content appropriately.</li> <li>* The structure is not compatible with Wikipedia's norms (see Appendix I),</li> </ul>



Topic and weight	Requirements	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>Encyclopedic writing style (15%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Clear concise language</li> <li>* Informational scientific writing style</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article uses clear and concise language that avoids jargon as much as possible.</li> <li>* The article is written in a factual manner without introducing the writer's personal views.</li> <li>* If there are several significant approaches to the topic, impartiality is maintained in line with the rules detailed in Appendix II.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article uses a reasonably clear and concise language.</li> <li>* For the most part, the article is written in a factual manner and free of personal views.</li> <li>* The rules of impartiality detailed in Appendix II are slightly violated when describing significant different approaches to the topic (if exist).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* A significant portion of the article is unclear or written in an unnecessarily lengthy manner.</li> <li>* The writer includes his/her personal views in many parts of the article.</li> <li>* The rules of impartiality detailed in Appendix II are substantially violated when describing significant different approaches to the topic (if exist).</li> </ul>
<b>Level of language (15%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Appropriate register of language</li> <li>* Following the standard rules of grammar and orthography (syntax, spelling, punctuation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article uses medium to high register.</li> <li>* There are no substantial grammatical or orthographic errors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article uses medium to high register, with rare occurrences of lower register.</li> <li>* Grammar is reasonable, save a few substantial errors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The register of language is relatively low.</li> <li>* There are many substantial grammatical errors.</li> </ul>

Topic and weight	Requirements	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>Usage of sources (20%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The information is well sourced</li> <li>* Sources are diverse, relevant and reliable<sup>1</sup></li> <li>* Source details are mentioned in footnotes<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The entire information in the article is based on publicly published sources that are relevant and reliable</li> <li>* The text includes inline citations, namely the pieces of information include references to footnotes that include the relevant source details.</li> <li>* Source details are usually presented in a style consistent with Wikipedia's norms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Most of the information in the article is based on publicly published sources that are relevant and reliable</li> <li>* Most items of information include inline citations.</li> <li>* Citation style is reasonably consistent with Wikipedia's norms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Most of the information in the article is NOT based on publicly published sources that are relevant and reliable</li> <li>* Most items of information do not include inline citations.</li> <li>* When inline citations exist, their style significantly deviates from Wikipedia's norms.</li> </ul>
<b>Extra-textual work (bonus – 5% extra)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Links to other articles on Wikipedia<sup>3</sup></li> <li>* Addition of pictures, graphs and other visual aids</li> <li>* Placing the right Wikipedia categories on the article</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article includes links to other Wikipedia articles in a way that is helpful to readers</li> <li>* The article includes visual aids that illustrate the topic, and their usage does not violate copyright rules.</li> <li>* The relevant Wikipedia categories appear at the bottom of the text.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article includes a few links to other Wikipedia articles in a way that is helpful to readers</li> <li>* The article includes visual aids, but their usage violates copyright rules.</li> <li>* The article is not categorized.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The article does not include links to other Wikipedia articles, or includes links that are not helpful to readers</li> <li>* The article does not include any visual aids</li> <li>* The article is not categorized</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> The information is based on a book (or part of it) that has been published by a well-known publisher, on a scientific journal, on a well-known website with relevant content, or, if the topic requires, on daily newspapers.

<sup>2</sup> Adding footnotes with details of information sources is always required, and it is absolutely essential when including the following pieces of information: an opinion, a quotation, statistical data, a controversial statement.

<sup>3</sup> You can create "empty" links ("red links") to articles that do not exist on Wikipedia, but should be included in the future.

## Appendix I: Article structure

A Wikipedia article is normally structured to include the following parts:

- 1) Lead – a section in the beginning of the article that summarizes its content. The lead usually includes only information that is found elsewhere in the article.
- 2) Body – the main content of the article, usually divided into sub-sections.
- 3) Final sections – these sections are meant to provide additional relevant information, particularly information about external sources of information. The reference section should always appear at the end of a Wikipedia article, and it is recommended to add at least one of the other final sections, in this order:
  - a) See also / further reading: a list of links to related Wikipedia articles, lists or portals.
  - b) References: this section should **always be included**. This is a list of the sources on which the article is based, particularly those mentioned in the inline citations. This section allows the reader to verify the information in the article, hence its importance.
  - c) External links: a list of relevant links to pages on websites other than Wikipedia.

## Appendix II: Maintaining impartiality when presenting a controversial issue

**Note:** On Wikipedia, this subject is often referred to by the acronym **NPOV**, namely **neutral point of view**.

When there are several significant approaches to the topic you are writing about, or several major points of view from which it can be described, you should follow these rules:

1. All significant points of view will be presented in the article. However, views that are very marginal ("fringe theories") should not be included.
2. The mainstream approach will be given precedence, namely, it will be described first and in more details.
3. The choice of sources will not be influenced by the writer's preference for one of the approaches.

