

# Wikipedia-Teahouse

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A friendly space for Wikipedia-newcomers  
Why and how we internationalize it

Tim Moritz Hector

Diversity-Conference 2013

Berlin, Nov 2013



Tim Moritz Hector

- 
- Introduction
  - Teahouse (en.wp)
  - Community-aspects
  - Technical aspects – first mock-ups
  - International aspects



# Introduction:

## Community-aspects

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Possible reasons for people not to participate:

### Community- Atmosphere

Rules  
Know-it-alls  
Unfriendly  
Unwelcome

### Technical problems

Wikicode  
Templates  
Internet

### Missing support

Communication  
between  
newbies &  
experienced  
users

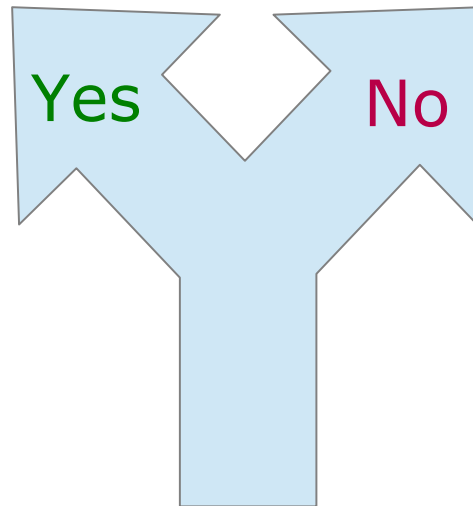


# Introduction:

## Community-aspects: Diversity?

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- Great!



- Has the project nevertheless been successful?

- Get insights in the issue of gender-diversity

Effects in gender diversity



# Introduction:

## Community-aspects: Diversity!

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- ❑ No explicit **gender**-diversity-project
  - Not enough insights in the gender-issue
- ❑ Could turn out as kind of a gender-diversity-project
- ❑ Is at least a **diversity**-project!

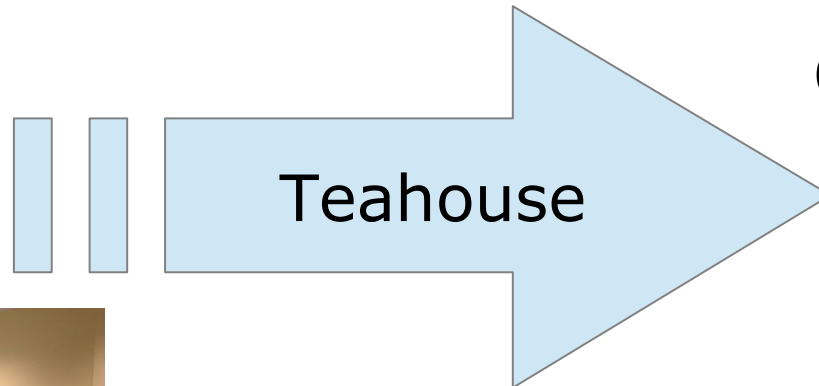


# Introduction: Community-aspects

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Support  
Offline

Support  
Online



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# Teahouse – overview

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- ❑ Friendly, „relaxed“ atmosphere for newbies
- ❑ Answer **every** question
- ❑ Connected to other newcomer-programs

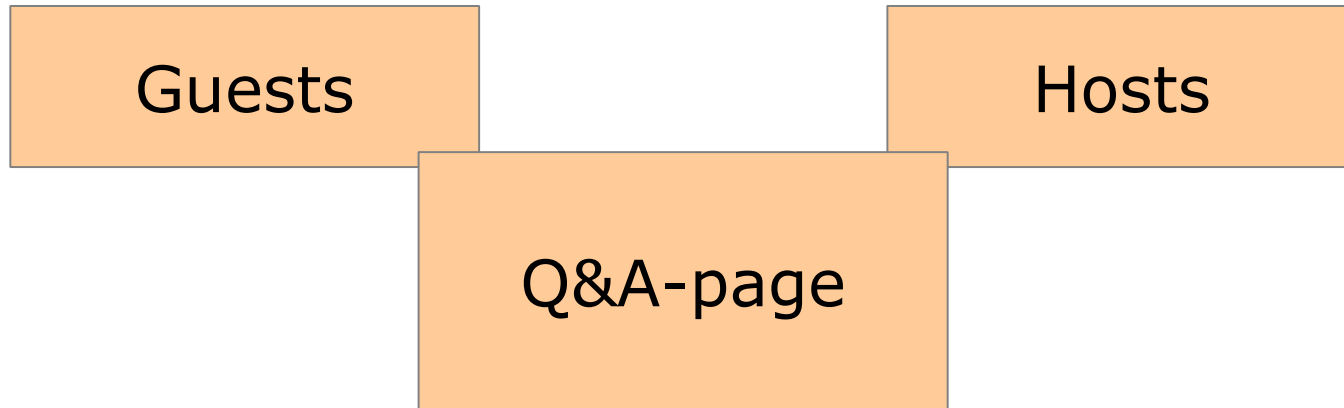
❑ Technically easy to handle (no wiki-text needed)

❑ International use?



# Teahouse: Community-aspects

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## □ Keep it vital!

- Update frontpage (randomly selected questions and profiles)
- Answer all questions immediately





# Teahouse

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□ Front page



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Welcome to the

# teahouse

A **friendly** place to help new editors become accustomed to Wikipedia culture, ask questions, and develop community relationships.

Do you have a **question** about editing?

[Get answers](#) >>

Recent questions...

I logged on to wikipedia today to find my user page and user talk page deleted. I looked at the requests for deletion page and other deletion related pages, but I couldn't find anything about who deleted my page. As far as I can see, there was nothing wrong with either of my pages. Can you find out who deleted my pages, and see if you could restore them as they were? Thanks!-[Badger2424](#) ([talk](#))[Badger2424](#) ([talk](#)) 8:45 am, Yesterday (UTC-7)

Find the answer [here](#)

[...see another question](#)

[Hosts are here to help](#) >>



Ebe123, Teahouse host

[Guests, create a profile](#) >>



Wika

intellectual property is an issue of extreme importance, its protection is part of my life. As a scientist in natural sciences I intend to combine the issue of science with the issue of intellectual property.



# Teahouse

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□ Host profile page



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## Your hosts, here to help...

Behind the scenes in the Host lounge >>

*Always forgive your enemies - nothing annoys them so much*

—Oscar Wilde



### Jr8825

I've been active on Wikipedia since 2009, and I tend to do a bit of everything on Wikipedia - writing, proof-reading and helping around. I may disappear off the radar for periods as I drown in school work, but I'll be back editing furiously during school breaks!

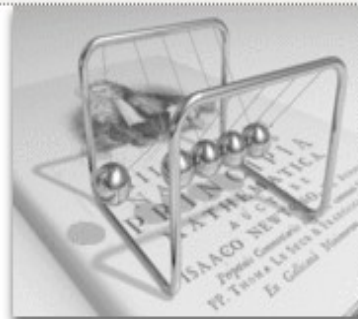
*joined:* 14:50, 11 July 2013 (UTC)

Jr8825 has been awarded these badges:



Imagine a world in which every single person on the planet is given free access to the sum of all human knowledge. That's what we're doing.

—Jimmy Wales



### Rcsprinter123

Rcsprinter has been registered on Wikipedia since June 2010, and became active quite soon after. He does various gnomish edits, and helps a lot of new users though various venues. Even though his main interest is [buses](#), he is also quite active in other areas including [Articles for creation](#), and runs a bot, [RcsprinterBot](#).

Rcsprinter123 has been awarded these badges:



*joined:* 16:22, 28 February 2012

# Teahouse

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□ Guest profile page



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[Question forum](#) » [Host profiles](#) » [Guest profiles](#) »

Welcome to the Teahouse! A friendly place to learn about editing Wikipedia.



# teahouse

[Learn more](#)

[Experienced editor?](#)  
[Become a host...](#)



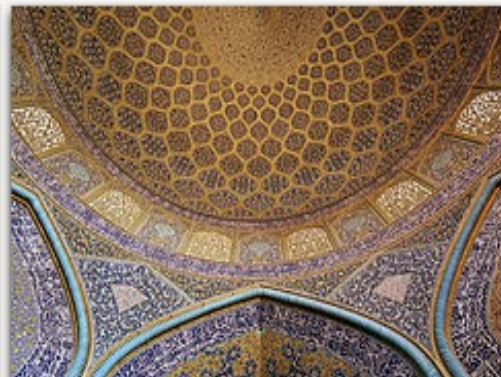
Keristrasza, Teahouse host

[Guest archive](#) »

[Introduce yourself](#)



Looking for articles to edit or people to work with? [Get personal recommendations!](#)



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# Teahouse

## impact en.wikipedia

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- 29 % of Teaouse guests are women
- Teahouse guests edit 3 times more articles
- ~ 41 participants editing per week
- 1098 per week



# Teahouse – community-aspects

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- Easy self-introduction
- Find help quickly
- Show human sides in Wikipedia
  - No difficult rules
  - Make it easy to join the community

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Teahouse>

<http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benutzer:Bücherwürmlein/Teestube>





# Teahouse – technical-aspects

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For the newbie

Ask-  
question-  
field

Self-  
introduction

Searchable  
FAQ &  
archive

Tasklist with  
ideas for  
next  
contributions

Short over-  
view about  
fundamental  
principles



# Teahouse – technical-aspects

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For the host

List of  
questions

Self-  
introduction

List of pot.  
interested  
newcomers

Host  
identification

Answered-  
questions-  
counter



# Teahouse – technical-aspects

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For the host

Bot to keep  
the page  
vital

Self-  
introduction

List of pot.  
interested  
newcomers

Host  
identification

Answered-  
questions-  
counter



# Teahouse – technical-aspects

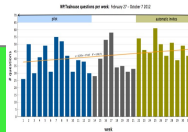
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For the host

Bot to keep  
the page  
vital

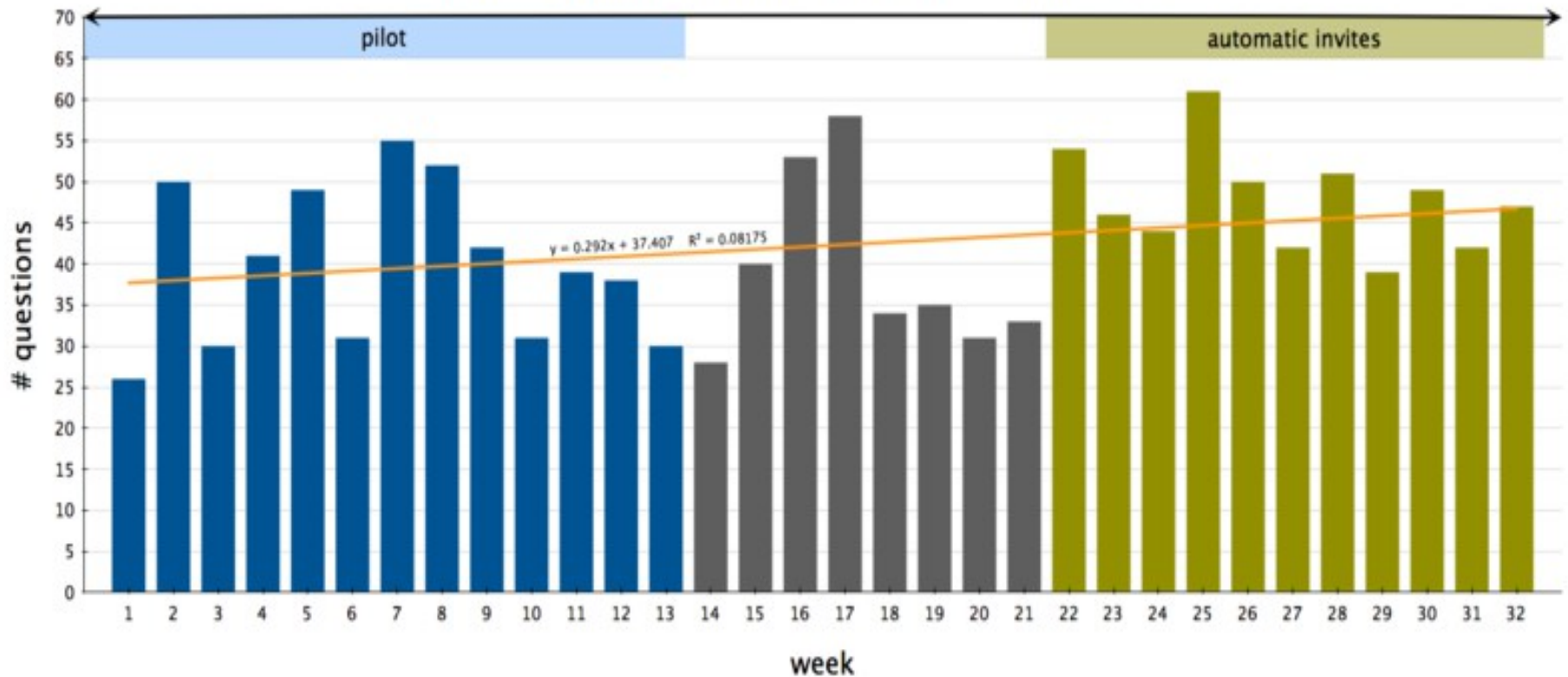
Bot: list  
users for  
automatic  
invite

Bot:  
Automatic  
invite



# Teahouse – technical-aspects

WP:Teahouse questions per week: February 27 – October 7 2012



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# Teahouse – international aspects

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Personal support

Best practices  
Lessons learned  
Metrics



**WIKIMEDIA**  
META-WIKI

Provide downloads

Templates



# Schedule

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