

# WIKIDATA Query Service in Brief

<https://query.wikidata.org/>  
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of Wikidata Query Service  
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Digital version:  
[bit.ly/wikidata-onepage](http://bit.ly/wikidata-onepage)

## Triple statement:

?subject ?property ?object.

## Important prefixes

item	property	variable
wd:	wdt:	?
wd:Q7186	wdt:P101	?item

Property's statement	Statement's object prop.	Statement's qualifier
p:	ps:	pq:
p:P101	ps:P101	pq:P101

The screenshot shows the Wikidata Query Service interface. Callouts point to various elements:
 

- Query helper**: Points to the search bar.
- Write the query**: Points to the query editor area.
- Choose a language**: Points to the language dropdown menu.
- Examples**: Points to the 'Examples' button.
- Share a link**: Points to the share icon.
- Run the query**: Points to the play button.
- Press ctrl + space while typing to get search suggestions, esp. after prefixes**: Points to the query editor.

## Important functions

- SELECT** -- calls variables to be displayed
- DISTINCT** -- after SELECT, removes duplicate rows
- WHERE { .... }** -- contains the query criteria
- #defaultview:** - selects a default view for results
- Inside WHERE {....}**
- OPTIONAL { .... }** -- contains optional statements that can be empty in the results
- MINUS { .... }** -- removes content that meets a criteria
- FILTER (....)** -- uses logic to filter results
- SERVICE wikibase:label { bd:serviceParam wikibase:language "[AUTO\_LANGUAGE], en". }**  
-- calls a label service activated with camelcase variables (i.e **SELECT** ?itemLabel)
- After WHERE {....}**
- LIMIT** -- provides a maximum number of results
- ORDER BY** - selects variable(s) by which to order results

## Important symbols

- .** - terminates a triple  
Example: ?item wdt:P31 wd:Q5 .
- ;** - ties several properties to a subject.  
Example: ?item wdt:P31 wd:Q5 ; wdt:P106 wd:Q42973 .
- /** - joins two properties  
Example:  
?item wdt:P31 wd:Q5 .  
?item wdt:P106/wdt:P279 wd:Q42973.
- \*** - recursively extends last property  
Example:  
?item wdt:P31 wd:Q5 .  
?item wdt:P106/wdt:P279\* wd:Q42973.
- #** - comments out subsequent text  
Example:  
?item wdt:P31 wd:Q5 . #instance of human

## Tools using queries

- PetScan** – powerful toolbox for creating lists based on categories and Wikidata
- WDFIST** -- tool for freely licensed images for Wikidata items
- Histropedia** - Timeline building tool
- ListeriaBot** - generates on-wiki lists based on queries uses local versions of [Template:Wikidata list](#) and [Template:Wikidata list end](#)

## Finding help

- Wikidata:Request a query** - on-wiki request forum
- @Wikidatafacts** – twitter account supported by a volunteer who can help create queries