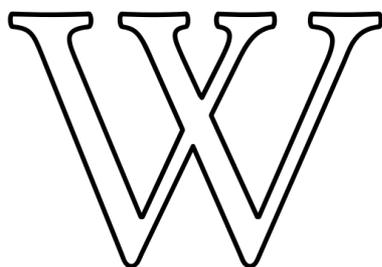


The first fifteen years of Wikipedia

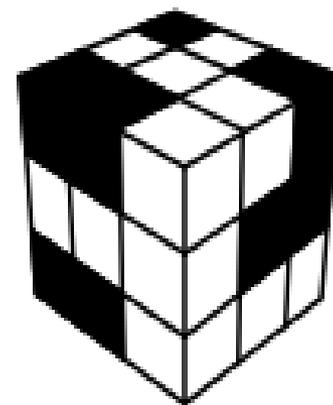
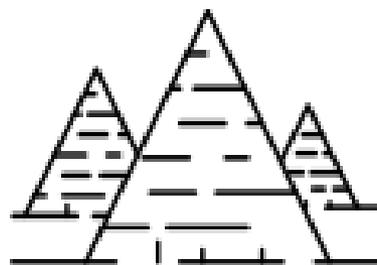
OSCAL 2016

Tirana, Albania

Kiril Simeonovski



WIKIPEDIA**15**



“Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment.”
—vision of the Wikimedia Foundation



Origins of the concept

The Library of Alexandria was in charge of collecting all the world's knowledge on one place.

Libraries:

- collect sources of information
- provide access to knowledge

knowledge as a club good



Library of Alexandria

The more knowledge collected, the greater a library becomes.



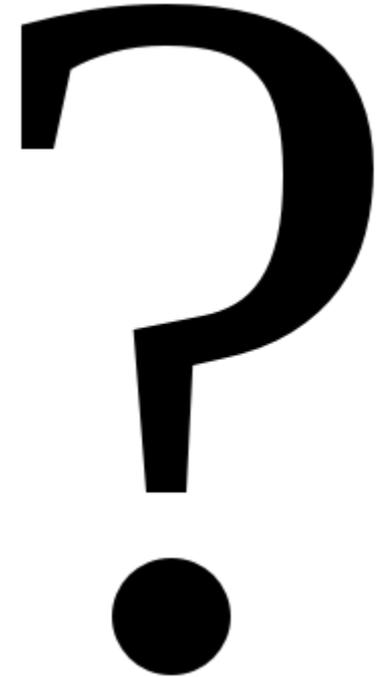
Two problems:

1. hard time searching information
2. difficult to handle multiple sources



extraction of knowledge
summary of information } }

birth of encyclopedias

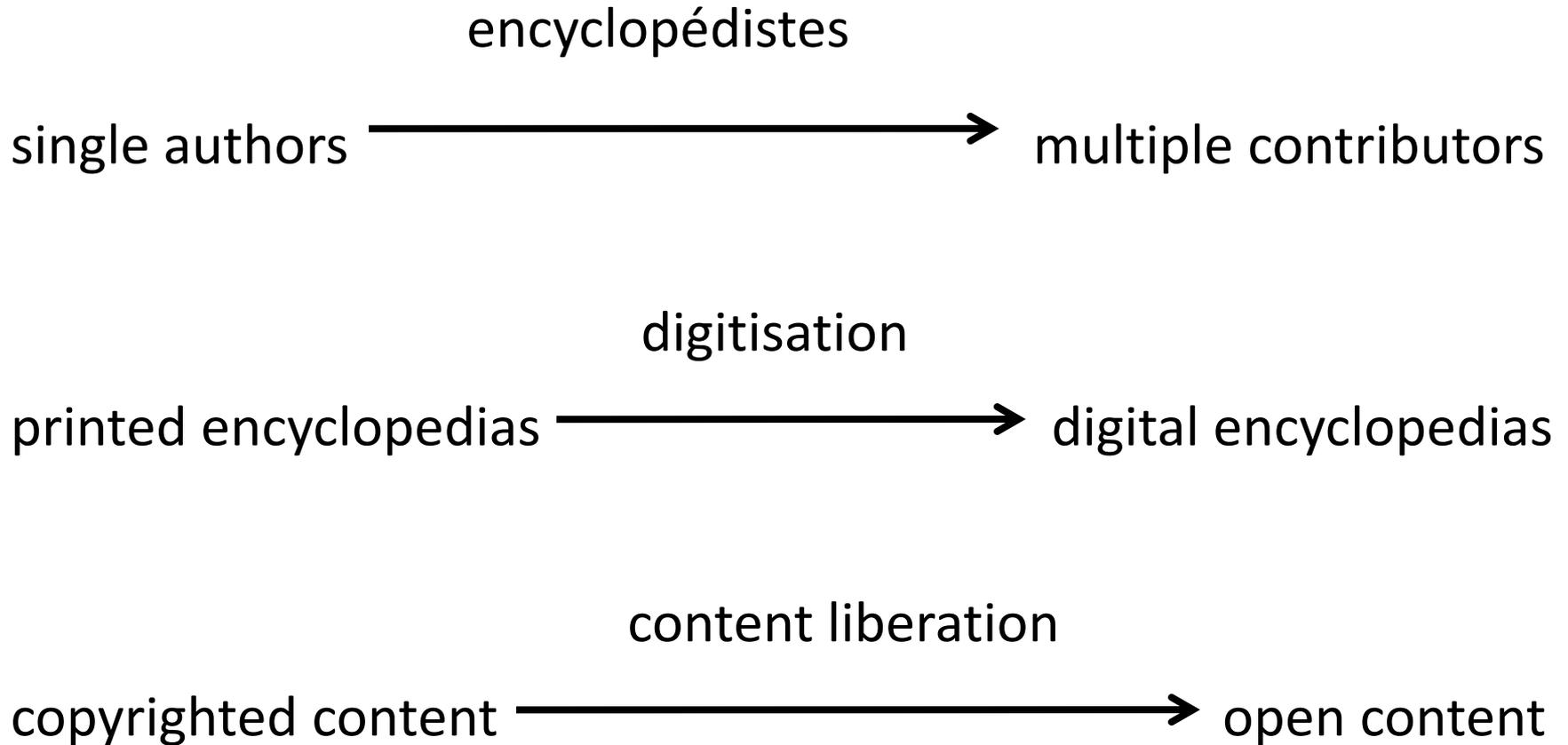




Please help me!

There are millions of them...

Evolution of encyclopedias



Economic effects

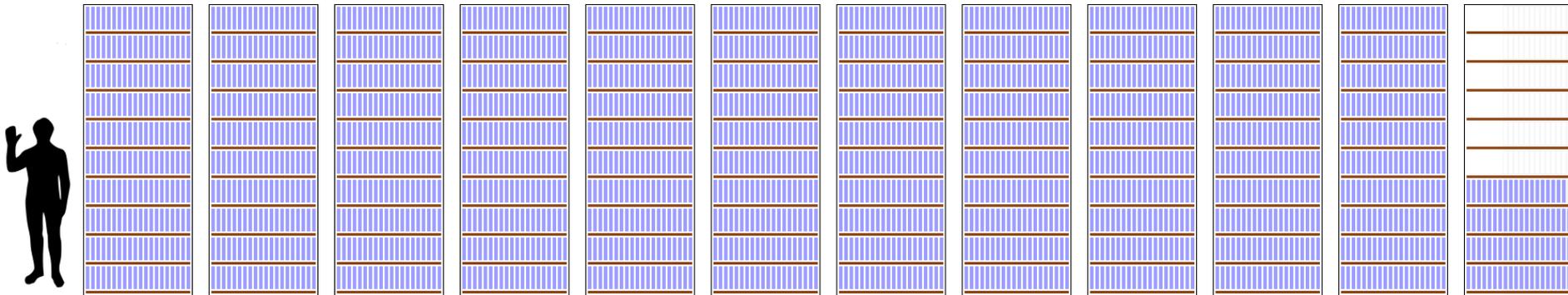
Many contributors increase efficiency and decrease time.

Digitisation lowers cost ($MC = 0$) and searching time.

Content liberation provides open access.

club good transforms into public good

non-excludability



Up-to-date size of the English Wikipedia (2279 volumes in 12 stacks)

What has changed with Wikipedia?

The screenshot shows the Wikipedia main page in a Mozilla Firefox browser window. The address bar displays the URL http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page. The page features the Wikipedia logo, a navigation menu, and a search box. The main content area includes a welcome message, a list of featured articles, and a news section.

Navigation: Main page, Contents, Featured content, Current events, Random article

Search: Go, Search

Interaction: About Wikipedia, Community portal, Recent changes, Contact Wikipedia, Donate to Wikipedia, Help

Toolbox: What links here, Related changes, Upload file, Special pages, Printable version, Permanent link

Welcome to Wikipedia
the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit
2,554,993 articles in English

Today's featured article

 The **Viet Nam Quoc Dan Dang** is a revolutionary socialist political party that sought independence from French colonial rule in Vietnam during the early 20th century. Its origins lie in the mid-1920s, when a group of young Hanoi-based intellectuals began publishing revolutionary material. From 1928, the VNQDD attracted attention through its assassinations of French officials and Vietnamese collaborators. Under increasing French pressure, the VNQDD leadership switched tack, replacing a strategy of isolated clandestine attacks against individuals with a plan to expel the French in a single blow with a large-scale popular uprising. After stockpiling home-made weapons, the VNQDD launched an uprising on February 10, 1930 at Yen Bai with the aim of sparking a widespread revolt. The mutiny was quickly put down, with heavy French retribution. Nguyen Thai Hoc and other leading figures were captured and executed and the VNQDD never regained its political strength in the country. During the 1930s, the party was eclipsed by Ho Chi Minh's Indochinese Communist Party (ICP). Vietnam was occupied by Japan during World War II and, in the chaos that followed the Japanese surrender in 1945, the VNQDD and the ICP briefly joined forces in the fight for Vietnamese independence. However, after a falling out, Ho purged the VNQDD, leaving his communist-dominated Vietminh unchallenged as the foremost anti-colonial militant organisation. ([more...](#))

In the news

- In the first parliamentary elections in Angola since 1992, the ruling MPLA party wins in a landslide.
- Lehman Brothers (headquarters pictured) files for bankruptcy protection and Merrill Lynch is to be sold to Bank of America as part of the ongoing subprime mortgage crisis.
- Sebastian Vettel of Toro Rosso wins the 2008 Italian Grand Prix at Monza, becoming the youngest driver in history to win a Formula One Grand Prix.
- Aeroflot Flight 821 crashes near the city of Perm, Russia, killing all 88 on board.
- A series of five bomb blasts kills 30 people and injures 130 others at various locations in Delhi, India.
- A mudslide caused by an illegal mine in Linfen, Shanxi province, China kills at least 254 people.
- The All Blacks of New Zealand defeat the Australian rugby union team to win the 2008 Tri Nations Series at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane, Australia.

Wikinews - Recent deaths - More current events...

“This is not a dispute about whether planning is to be done or not. It is a dispute as to whether planning is to be done centrally, by one authority for the whole economic system, or is to be divided among many individuals.”
—Friedrich von Hayek



Friedrich von Hayek (1899-1992)

Governance

Hayek's "The Use of Knowledge in Society" is central to the thinking about governing Wikipedia.

Centrally planned economy could never match the efficiency of the open market because what is known by a single agent is only a small fraction of the sum total of knowledge held by all members of society.

Information is decentralised – that knowledge is unevenly dispersed among different members of society – and that as a result, decisions are best made by those with local knowledge rather than by a central authority.

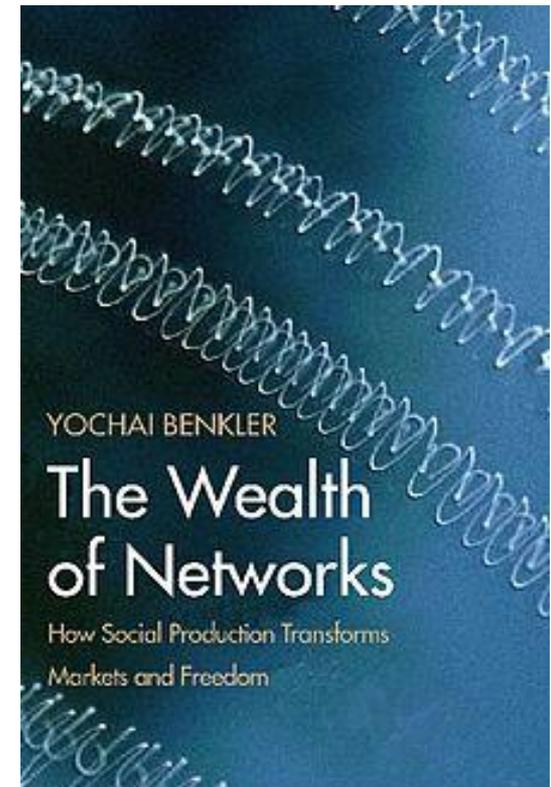
Production

Development of a new method of production:

- commons-based peer production (Benkler, 2002)

... any coordinated, (chiefly) internet-based effort whereby volunteers contribute project components, and there exists some process to combine them to produce a unified intellectual work... (Krowne, 2005)

user-generated content



Application

Encyclopedias are insufficient in collecting the sum of all knowledge.

Knowledge:

- appears in different forms (multimedia)
- can take different formats (reference works)

Wikimedia projects



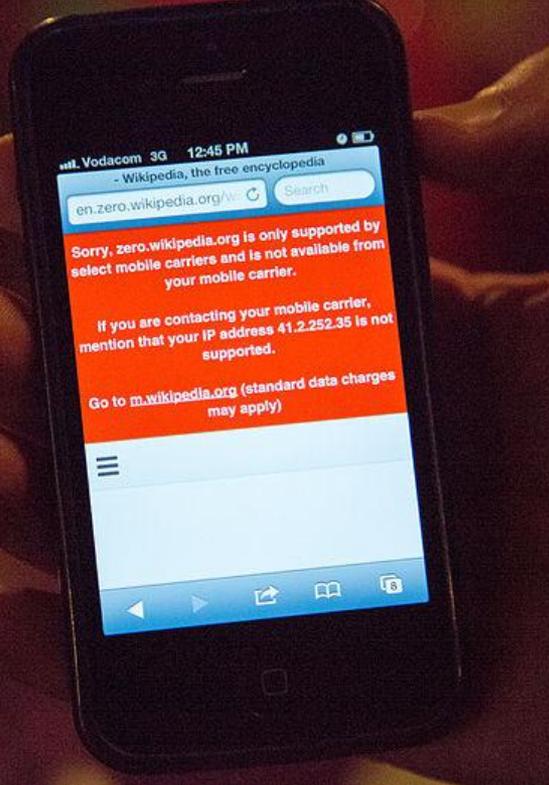
Technology

Critical issues:

- global digital divide (Lu, 2001) becomes an issue in the global economy
- technological barriers of accessing free knowledge still exist
- some people cannot enjoy the benefits of open knowledge

Development of technologies to mitigate effects:

- Wikipedia Zero
 - QRpedia
 - Spoken Wikipedia
- } mobile-based projects



W Type your search here...

William Shakespeare

This article is about the poet and playwright. Shakespeare (disambiguation). For other uses (disambiguation).

William Shak	
Click to view ima	
The Chandos portrait, artist and authenticity unco	
Born	Baptised 26 April 1564 (birth Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwi
Died	23 April 1616 (aged 52) Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwi
Occupation	Playwright, poet, actor
Period	English Renaissance
Spouse(s)	Anne Hathaway (m. 1582–1616)
Children	Susanna Hamnet Sha Judith Quin
Relative(s)	John Shake Mary Shake
Signature	Click to view imag



William Shakespeare (baptised 26 April 1564) was an English playwright, widely regarded as the greatest pre-eminent dramatist.^[1] He is often called the "Bard of Avon" because of the surviving works, including some collaborative narrative poems, and several other poems in his native language and are performed more often than any other playwright. Shakespeare was born and brought up in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, with whom he had three children. In 1592, he began a successful career in London as a member of a company called the Lord Chamberlain's Men. He retired to Stratford around 1613 at age 49. Shakespeare's private life survive, and t

Wikipedia Zero is a project by the Wikimedia Foundation to provide Wikipedia free of charge on mobile phones, particularly in developing markets.^{[1][2]} The program



MK **Обичен елен**
 SQ **Dreri i kuq**
 EN **Red deer**
Cervus elaphus

Повеќе за ова животно на **Википедија**:
 Më shumë rreth kësaj kafshe në **Wikipedia**:
 More about this animal on **Wikipedia**:



македонски



shqip



your language



Овозможено од уредниците на Википедија на македонски, албански и англиски јазик и организацијата „Споделено знаење“





Wikipedia
belongs in
education.

education.wikimedia.org



Development of open educational resources:

- Wikipedia as a teaching tool

Wikipedia Education Program:

- educators and students contribute to Wikipedia and the other Wikimedia projects in an academic setting

Wikipedia
Education
Program

copying from ... creating value added → contributing to ...



The immensity of knowledge remains untouched within the cultural institutions.

GLAM = **G**alleries + **L**ibraries + **A**rchives + **M**useums

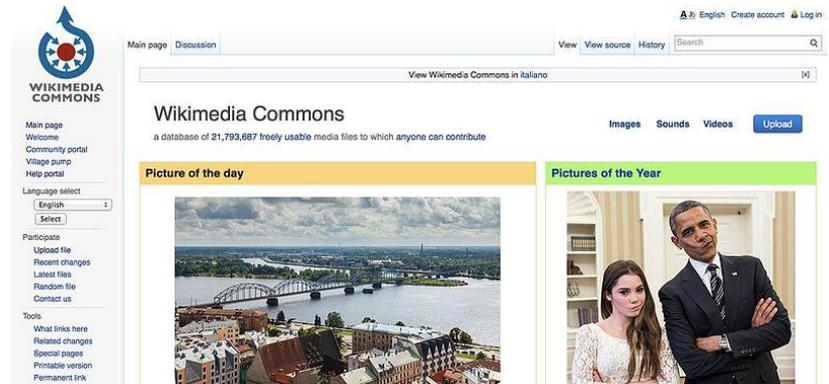
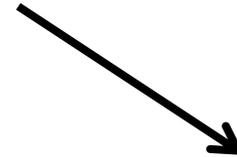
Transferring knowledge through cultural partnerships:

- conservation through digitisation
- open access through content liberation

Logical reasoning

Before 2004: If you had wished to illustrate something, you would have risked searching for images with uncertain licence.

After 2004: If you wish to illustrate something, you search for free images on Wikimedia Commons.

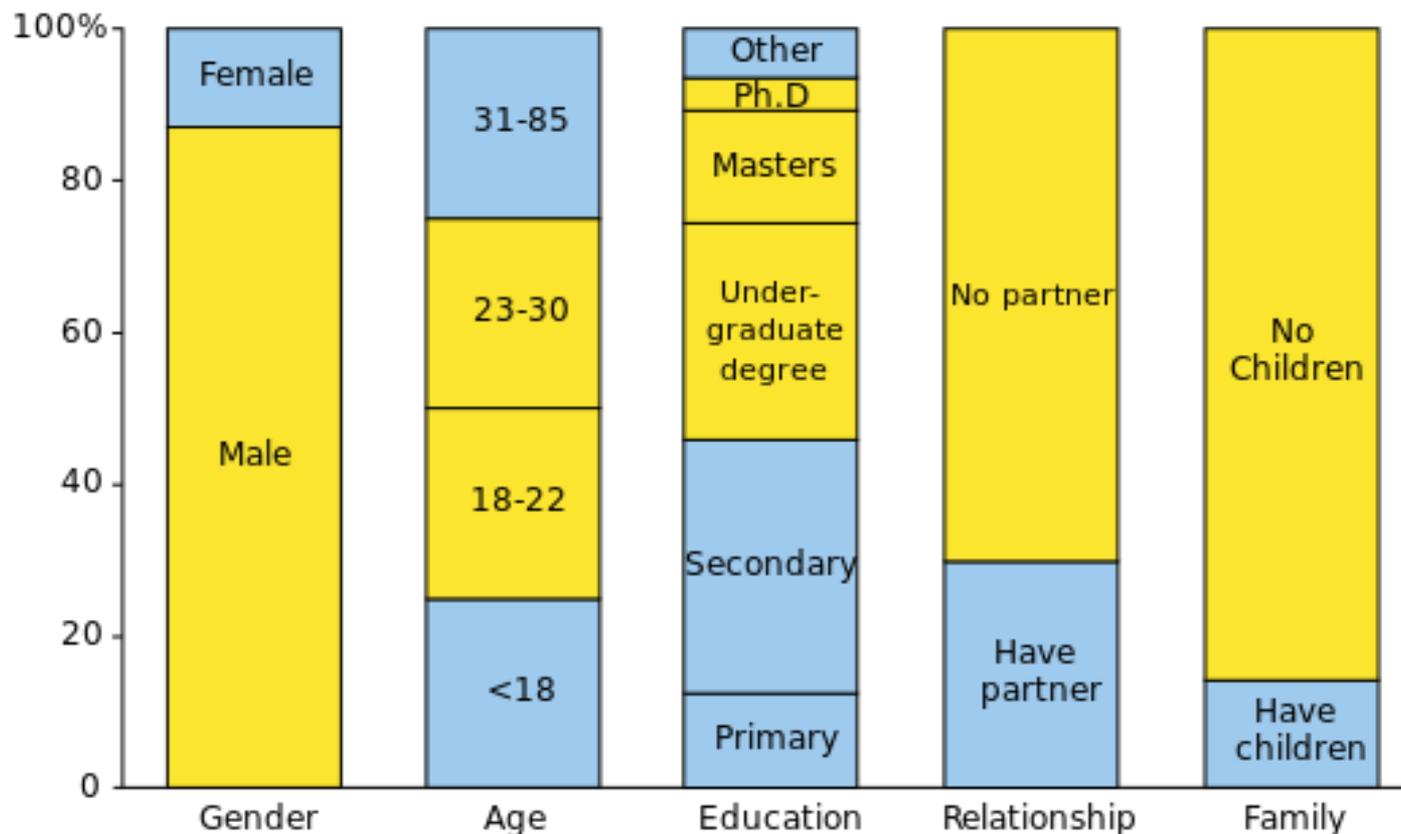


Major challenges

Several issues are challenging:

- diversity of contributors
- openness for editing
- content quality

Self-reported "occasional" or "regular" contributors to Wikipedia (n=43,793)



Note: Data for age category also includes respondents who were not contributors but who did read Wikipedia. Average age for contributors is 26.8 (vs 23.3 for readers). "Regular" contributors include authors, editors and administrators. "Occasional" contributors include readers who occasionally contribute as authors or editors.

Source: "Wikipedia Survey - First Results", UNU-MERIT, April 2009

Gender gap on Wikipedia



Openness for editing

early history

recent history

absolute openness  restricted openness

Absolute openness, on the negative side, invites vandalism and edit warring.

Quality control measures

Problem(s)

Solution(s)

vandalism 

edit warring 

pending pages protection,
stable version system,
protecting pages

Content quality

Content quality depends on the quality of sources.

Projects to improve content quality

The Wikipedia Library

- helps editors access reliable sources to improve Wikipedia

WikiProject Medicine

- aims to improve health information on Wikipedia

