Why Wikipedia and What is it?



The Basics of Editing Wikipedia and Article Creation

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Good News!

There are over 80 000 contributors globally

The encyclopedia features 23 million articles in 280 languages

You can also edit Wikipedia

Help make Wikipedia reliable and useful

Outline



- Background
- Getting Started
- The Five Pillars of Wikipedia
- Core Content Policies
- Account Creation
- Plagiarism and Neutral Point of View

- Notability
- Referencing and Verification
- Linking
- Categorizing
- What can I write about?
- Demonstration

Wikimedia – The Foundation behind Wikipedia





Imagine a world in which Every human being can freely Share in the sum of all Knowledge

Visit wikimediafoundation.org for more info

Getting Started on Wikipedia



➤ Know Principles and guidelines



➤ Basic Editing skills



> Account Creation

The Five Pillars of Wikipedia



- ➤ Wikipedia is an Encyclopedia
- ➤ Neutral Point of View

- > Free content that everyone can use, edit share
- ➤ Respect and Civility
- ➤ No Firm Rules

Core Content Policies



➤ Neutral Point of View

➤ Verifiability

➤ No original research

Core Content Policies



➤ Neutral Point of View

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Account Creation – Let's Dig In!



> Creation of accounts by all participants

visit en.Wikipedia.org

There are disadvantages to editing Wikipedia without an account

➢ Navigation of Wikipedia

- Add content to User and talk page
- Sandbox
- Activate visual editor by going to preferences
- Add articles to talk page
- Page views, using Accra Girls and Otiko Djaba's article

Notability



 General Notability Guideline: "If a topic has received significant coverage in reliable sources that are independent of the subject, it is presumed to be suitable for a stand-alone article or list."

Eg. A major newspaper article feature on the subject.

 A subject can be notable but if enough reliable references are not provided, other editors will assume the subject is not notable. Eg Donna Strikland's case

Plagiarism and Neutral Point of View



Copy and Pasting other peoples work is not allowed

Avoid stating opinions as facts and vice versa

Wikipedia has no voice

Referencing and Verification



- Citation of reliable sources allows people to verify the information
- Avoid stating opinions as facts

- What must be referenced?
- ✓ Any fact in dispute, or likely to be challenged
- ✓ All quotations must be attributed with citations
- ✓ Description of criminal convictions
- ✓ Numbers and statistics

Linking



Providing links in Wikipedia articles improves Wikipedia's usefulness

Avoid overlinking

 Advisable to create link at the first occurrence of the word or phrase

Demonstrate Linking

Categorizing



• All articles on Wikipedia belong to one or more categories

Makes search easy on Wikipedia

What can I write about?



- Anything of interest to you
- However, it might interest you to know that as of the beginning of October, only 17.82% of biographies on Wikipedia are about women.

source: https://wikimediafoundation.org/2018/10/04/donna-strickland-wikipedia/

 You can help bridge the gap by creating or improving existing articles on women

Demonstration



The following articles will be used to demonstrate

Africa Summit on Women and Girls in Technology

Nanjira Sambuli

Questions?



Click on help from the left pane

 WikipediaTeahouse (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Teahouse/ About)

THAK

