

Basics of conducting an **Edit-a-thon**

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Part 1 - Methodology

Types

- Offline
- Online
- Combination



Tipu's Tiger

(Credit :Victoria & Albert Museum,
London)

Why run an edit-a-thon?

- It helps build the encyclopedia
- It provides access to topic experts, and to offline source materials
- It builds relationships in the community
- It encourages editors to learn from each other, and by doing
- It entices people to become new Wikipedians
- It helps new Wikipedians to contribute
- It's fun!

Before you decide to organise, required reading...

- What Wikipedia is NOT!
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:What_Wikipedia_is_not#Wikipedia_is_not_a_soapbox_or_means_of_promotion)
- Conflict of Interest
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Conflict_of_interest)
- Advocacy (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Advocacy>)
- Neutral Point of View
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Neutral_point_of_view)
- Reliable Sources (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Reliable_sources)
- Dispute resolution policies

Must have skills for Trainers

- Domain knowledge of Wikipedia editing
- Use of Visual Editor, Code editor & Indic language keyboards/script facilities
- Commons : licenses, how to upload & categorise images, how to use them in articles

Planning Issues

- Clear goals & well-defined scope
- Logistics (size, location, room, date, computers, internet access, overhead screen, refreshments, nametags, toilets, access/entry, directions, signposting)
- Recruit subject matter experts, experienced editors, newbies.
- Gather intellectual resources.
- Determine how to create user accounts (only 6 user accounts can be created from one IP in 24 hours)
- Provide a way for people to find details & sign up to attend
- Have appropriate forms or methods for data collection afterwards
- Reports to the Community & social media plan

Conduct

- Welcome
- Teach
- Demonstrate
- Participate
- Conclude
- Accounts
- Data & Reports

Conduct

Welcome

- Greeting people
- Nametag
- Intros, interests, linking

Teach

- Create account & login
- Basics of editing & simple skills
- Five Pillars

Conduct

Demonstrate

- Draft space & user sandbox
- Visual Editor / Code editor
- Comments & replies
- Simple editing

Participate

- Using the resources
- Finding facts to add
- Adding facts, citations, images

Conduct

Conclude

- Get a list/total of all the articles edited or created, images uploaded, citations added and anything else produced at the event.
- Ensure you have contact details of participants (email, mobile numbers, usernames & which projects they are on).
- How to progress further.
- How to get help online & offline.
- Future events.
- Thank everyone.
- Send a survey to get their feedback on various issues.
- Assess what works, what is needed to improve.

Accounts

- Prepare & close the accounts
- Submit reports
- Return excess funds
- Meet statutory regulations
- Keep records safely

Data & Reports

- Prepare the list of all the articles edited or created, number of participants, edit & image statistics and anything else produced at the event.
- Upload event photos to Wikimedia Commons in "Category:Wikimedia editathons" (or a subcategory of that).
- Write a blog post, post it on Village pump & email groups.
- Statutory report to WMF/Other grant agency.

**What will be the difference for an..
Online Event?**

What will be the difference for an Online Event?

- Form of announcement
- Detailed rules
- Use of Bots & Scripts
- Help & guidance
- Keeping track of individual tallies & collective progress
- Reward System

Tag & Assess 2012
On WikiProject India (en:WP)

Additional Resources

- English Wikipedia : [“How to run an editathon”](#)
- Outreach Wiki : [“How to conduct a GLAM editathon”](#)
- Information Today : [“How to conduct a Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon”](#)
- Eahil Micro- Editathon [“Preparing your own editathon”](#)

Part 2 - Your Experiences

Any Questions?

Thank you!