#### How Wikipedia Works



And How You Can Help

#### Five Questions

## Have you <u>ever</u> used Wikipedia?

# Have you used Wikipedia in the past 7 days?

### Did you know every article on Wikipedia has a Discussion page attached to it?

# Did you know <u>you</u> could <u>edit</u> Wikipedia?

#### Did you ever try it?

"When I write, I use Wikipedia 30-40 times a day, because it's so useful. When I write, I don't remember if some person was born in the 6th or the 7<sup>th</sup> century, or how many Ns are in the name Goldmann. Until a few years ago, things like that would cost you so much time!"

 Prof. Umberto Eco, U. of Milan, Italy, author of "The Name of the Rose" Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge.

That's our commitment.

The Wikimedia Vision

#### **Traffic**

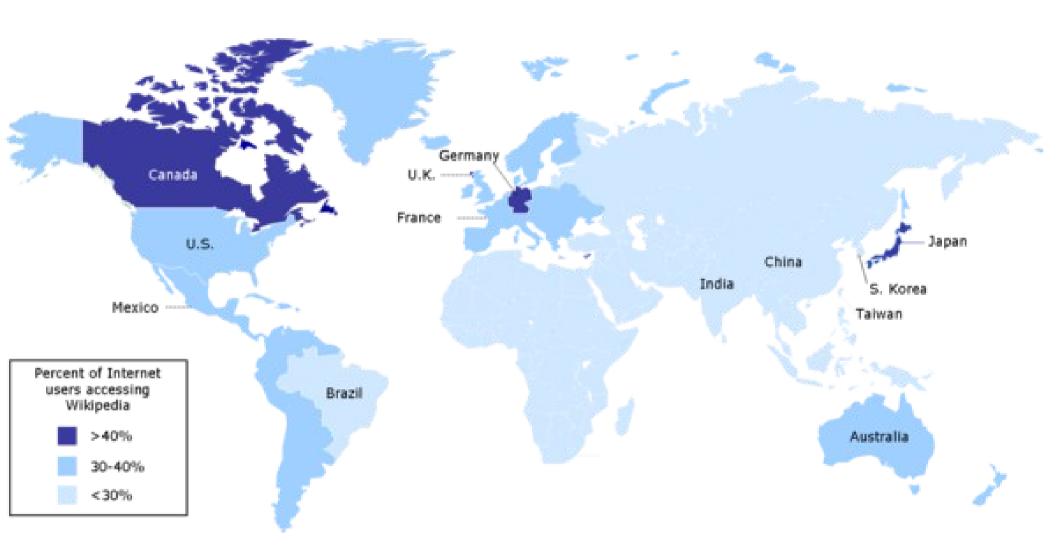
12,933,000,000 / month 431,000,000 / day 18,000,000 / hour 299,000 / minute 5000 / second

Number of languages Wikipedia is written in

#### Top five worldwide sites

| Company                | Users       | Revenue       | Employees | Server count |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| Google                 | 920 million | \$23 billion  | 20,600    | 1,000,000+   |
| Microsoft <sup>®</sup> | 740 million | \$58 billion  | 93,000    | 50,000+      |
| YAHOO!                 | 600 million | \$6 billion   | 13,900    | 50,000+      |
| facebook               | 500 million | \$300 million | 1,200     | 30,000+      |
| WIKIMEDIA              | 400 million | \$20 million  | 50        | 350          |

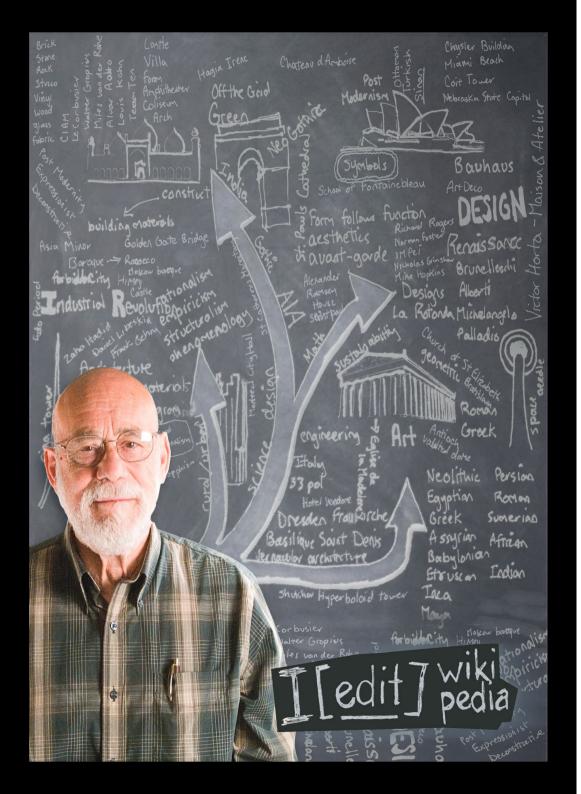
Figure 1: Estimated percentage of the online population using Wikipedia

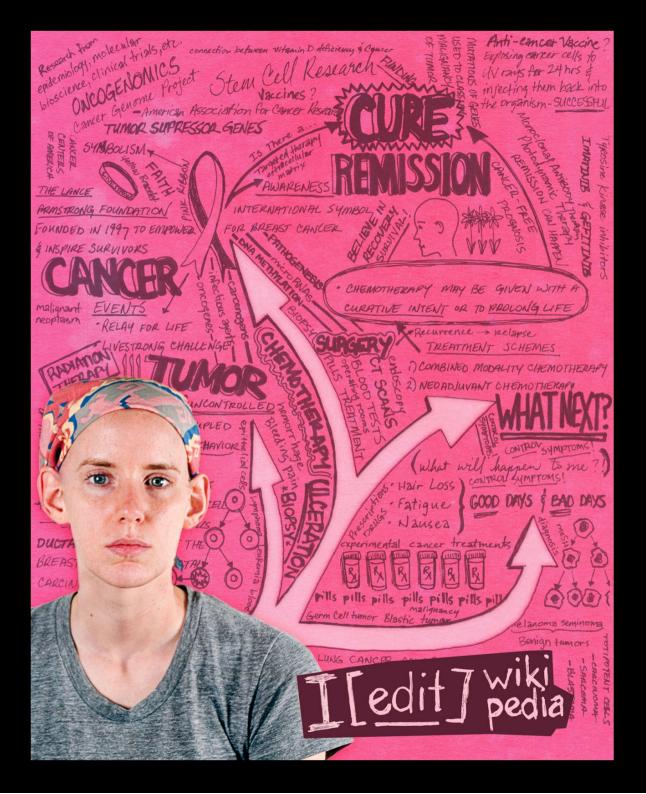


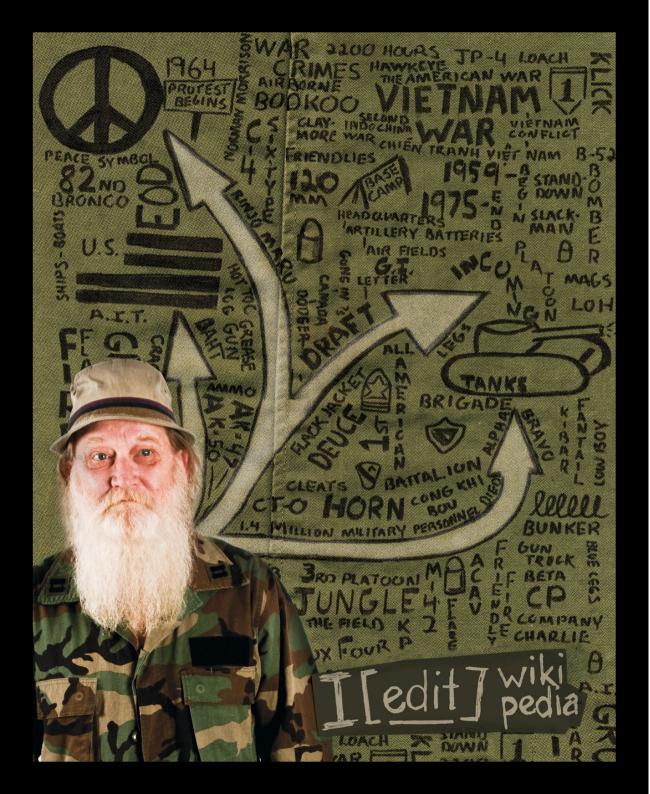
#### So... who writes Wikipedia?

You, me, him, her, thousands of volunteers

(many anonymous!)







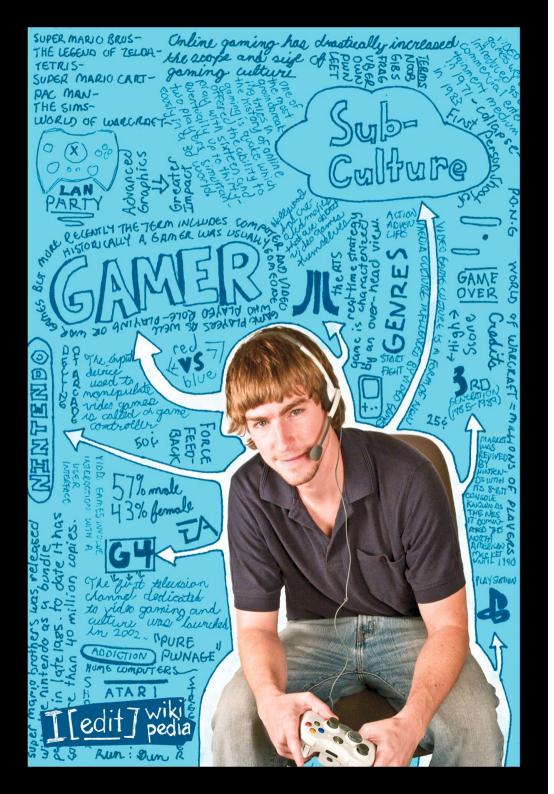


Image credit: CC-by-sa by Mike E. Perez, Mark Decker, Jacob Brubaker

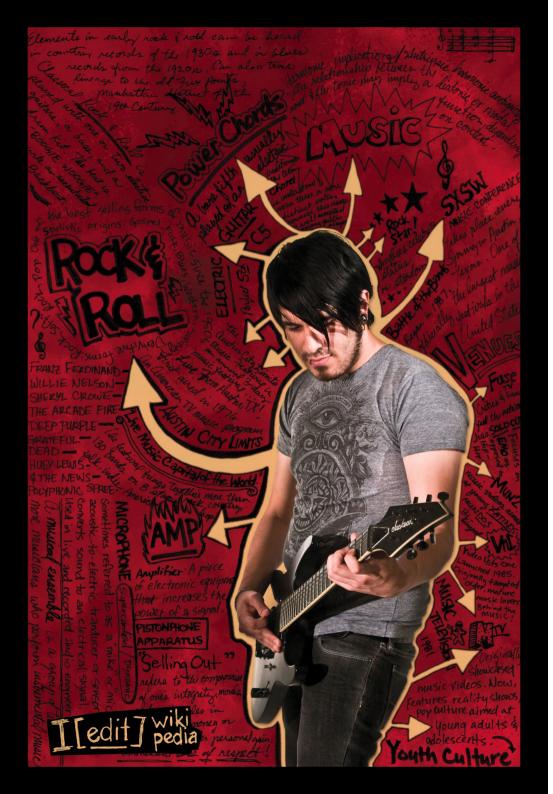
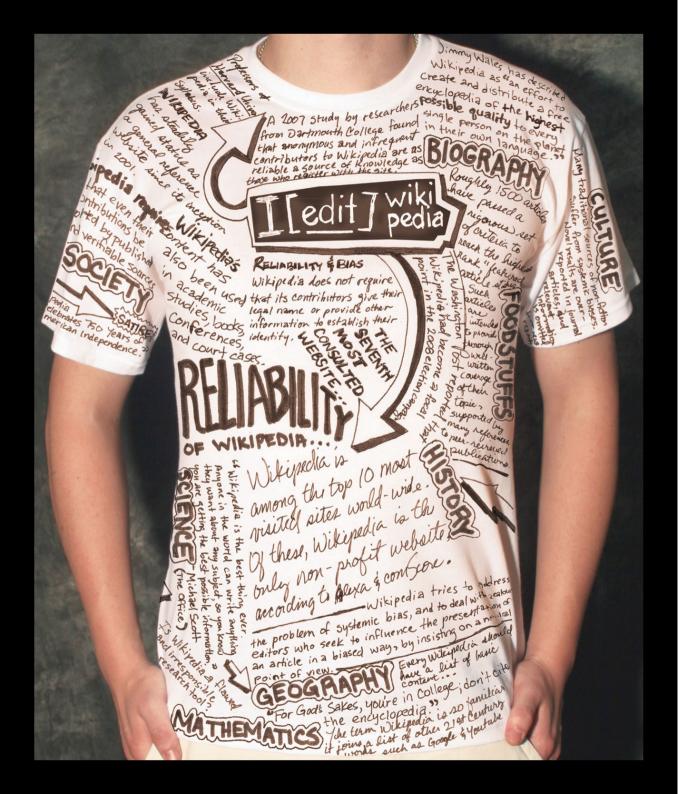


Image credit: CC-by-sa by Mike E. Perez, Mark Decker, Jacob Brubaker

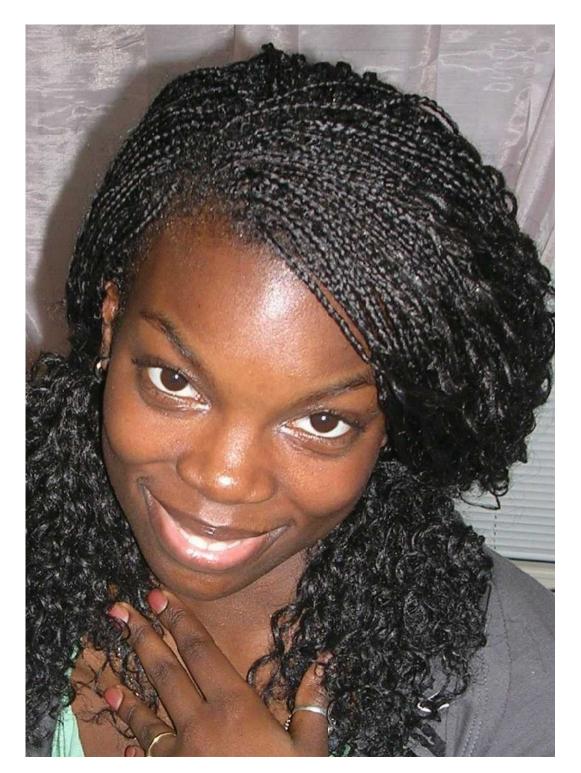


#### And... no women?

### Sure, there are women Wikipedians!

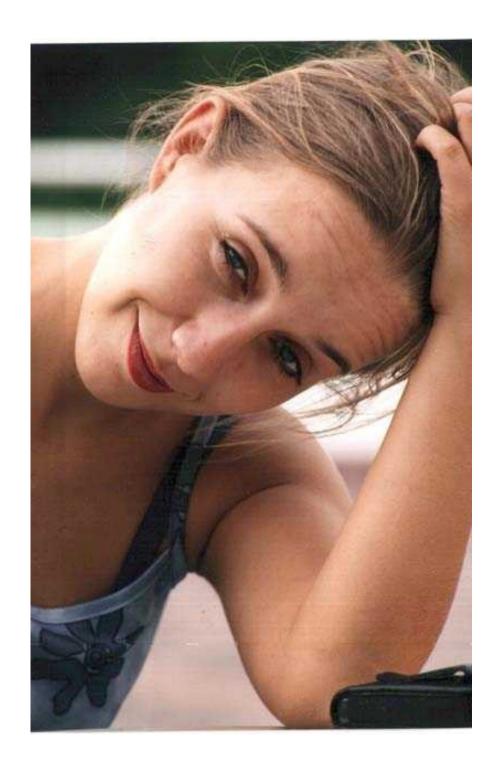








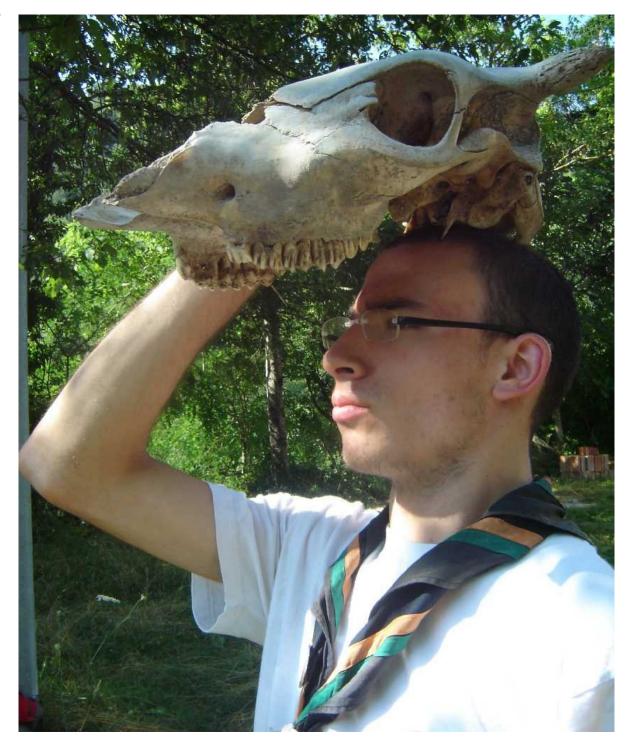




#### But too few!

#### 87%

of Wikipedians are male



#### How Wikipedia Works

- A Free License (CC-by-sa)
- Neutral Point Of View (NPOV)
- Assume Good Faith
- Decide by concensus
- No ownership
- Notability
- Verifiability

#### Reliability

- "How can you trust an encyclopedia anyone can edit?"
- The technology
- The people
- Verifiability and traditional encyclopedias
- Extensive coverage:
   http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reliability\_of\_Wikipedia

#### How you can help!

- Contribute content (not just text!)
- Review and suggest content
- Join a WikiProject
- Become a WikiGnome
- Ask your fellow Wikipedians!
- Spread the word

#### How your organization can help!

- Share your content (not just text!)
- Provide a venue for your local Wikipedians
- Sponsor a Wikipedia event or writing competition
- Help us spread offline Wikipedia
- Ask your local Wikimedia chapter (or the Foundation)!

#### Wikipedia in Higher Education

- Review our coverage of your field and suggest improvements
- Campus Ambassadors
- Read analyze and critique Wikipedia articles in the classroom
- Writing/improving Wikipedia articles as an academic assignment

#### To learn more...

- wikipedia.org
- wikimediafoundation.org
- asaf@wikimedia.org
- Local contact:

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