



# What is Wikipedia?

Reliable

An encyclopedia

Free

Large

Non-profit

Unreliable

Multilingual

*“Imagine a world in which every single person is given free access to the sum of human knowledge. That’s what we’re doing.” Jimmy Wales*





**WIKIPEDIA**  
*The Free Encyclopedia*

2001

a multilingual free  
encyclopedia

**Wiktionary**

**[ˈwɪkʃənəri]** *n.*,  
a wiki-based Open  
Content dictionary

Wileon [ˈwɪlɪ kənɪ]

2002



2003



**WIKIMEDIA**

2003



**WIKIMEDIA  
COMMONS**

2004

2003



**WIKISOURCE**

2004



**WIKISPECIES**  
*free species directory*

2004

2006



**WIKIVERSITY**



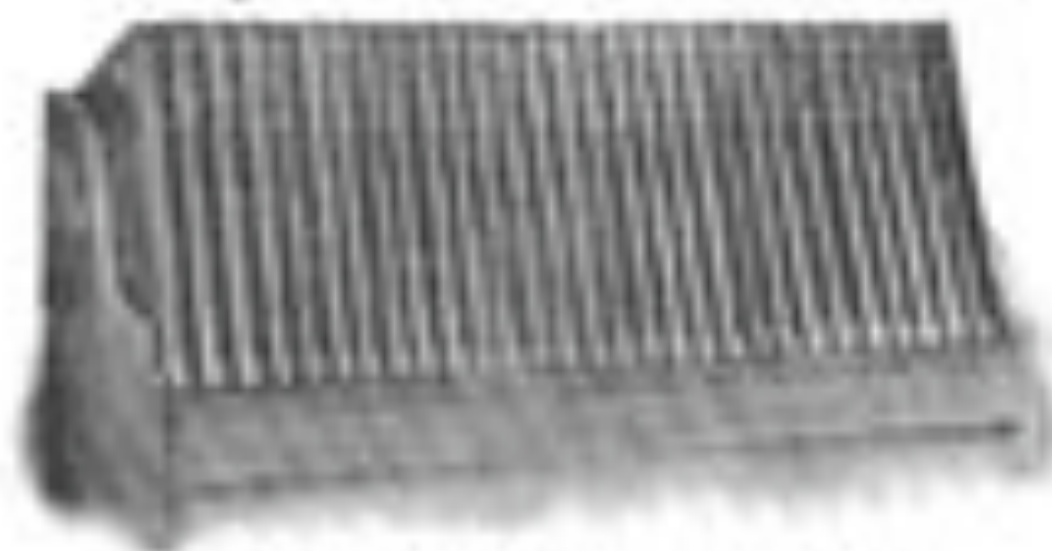
**WIKINEWS**





WHEN IN DOUBT—"LOOK IT UP" IN

The  
*Encyclopaedia Britannica*



(New 11th Edition, bound 1910) by the  
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS (England)

The Sum of Human  
Knowledge

*29 volumes, 28,150 pages,  
44,000,000 words of text.  
Printed on thin, but strong  
opaque India paper, each  
volume but one inch in  
thickness.*

THE BOOK TO ASK QUESTIONS OF

FOR READING OR FOR STUDY

## Size of Significant English Encyclopedias

<b>Encyclopedié</b>	<b>1751-1780</b>	<b>72,000 articles 20 million words</b>
<b>Encyclopedia Britanica</b>	<b>1771-present</b>	<b>120,000 articles 55 million words</b>
<b>Wikipedia</b>	<b>2001-present</b>	<b>2,278,609 articles &gt; 1 billion words</b>



# Scope

## Scale-invariant feature transform

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Scale-invariant feature transform** (or **SIFT**) is an algorithm in *computer vision* to detect and describe local features in images. The algorithm was published by **David Lowe** [1] in 1999.

The detection and description of local image features can help in object recognition. The SIFT features are local and based on the appearance of the object at particular interest points, and are invariant to image scale and rotation. They are also robust to changes in illumination, noise, occlusion and minor changes in viewpoint. In addition to these properties, they are highly distinctive, relatively easy to extract, allow for correct object identification with low probability of mismatch and are easy to match against a (large) database of local features. They are also robust to occlusion; as few as 3 SIFT features from an object are enough to compute its location and pose. In addition to object recognition, the SIFT features can be used for matching, which is useful for tracking and 3D scene reconstruction. Recognition can be performed in close-to-real time, at least for small databases and on modern computer hardware.





# Scope

## Freston Tower

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates:  52°02′18″N 1°16′37″E﻿ / ﻿52.03833°N 1.27694°E﻿ / 52.03833; 1.27694

**Freston Tower** is a six-story red brick folly south of Ipswich, Suffolk in the village of Freston. It stands on the banks of the River Orwell.

### Contents [hide]

- 1 History
  - 1.1 Construction date
  - 1.2 Uses
- 2 Modern Use
- 3 References
- 4 External links

## History

[edit]

## Construction date

[edit]

Arguably the oldest folly in England, the tower has various claims for construction dates, ranging from the 15th to 17th centuries.<sup>[1]</sup>



Image of Freston Tower from the east side, August 2007.

# Scope

## Mullet (haircut)

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A mullet is a [hairstyle](#) that is short in the front, top, and sides, but long in the back (also referred to by a number of other names, some regional, including hockey hair, ten ninety, millennium mullet, helmet hair, coupe Longueuil, etc.). It is also described as "business in the front, party in the back." The hairstyle was popular during the late [20th Century](#), from the early 1970s to the early 1990s. Mullets have been worn by males and females of all ages. The mullet is distinct from the [rat tail](#), which consists of a long, narrow "tail" of hair growing from the back of the head.

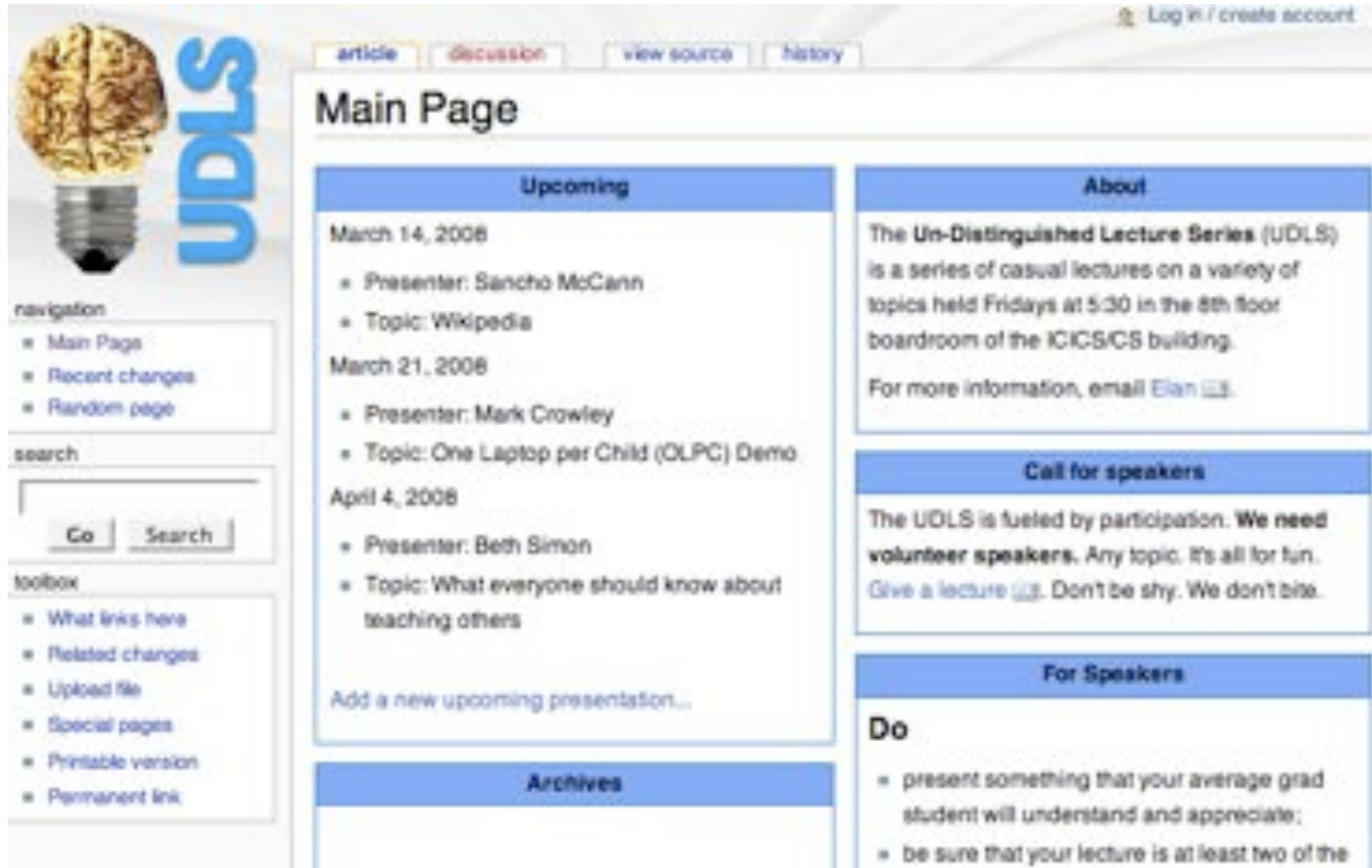


An example of a wavy-hair-mullet.

# What's different

1. The software
2. The editors
3. The license

# The Software



The screenshot shows the 'Main Page' of the Un-Distinguished Lecture Series (UDLS) website. The page is built using Mediawiki software. At the top right, there is a 'Log in / create account' link. Below the header, there are tabs for 'article', 'discussion', 'view source', and 'history'. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Upcoming' (listing dates and topics like 'Wikipedia' and 'One Laptop per Child (OLPC) Demo'), 'About' (describing the series as casual Friday lectures), 'Call for speakers' (encouraging volunteer participation), and 'For Speakers' (providing guidelines for presentations). A 'toolbox' on the left side offers navigation options like 'Main Page', 'Recent changes', and 'Random page'. The page also features a search box and a 'Go' button.

**Mediawiki:** A free wiki software originally written for Wikipedia, now used by many other websites



# The Software

- Anonymous editing
- User management
- Special markup for editing
- Tailored for collaborative editing
- History maintenance for requirements of the license

# The Editors



Image licensed under the GNU Free Documentation License 1.2 by English Wikipedia user "WHEELER"

24.58.121.9

**Microsoft**<sup>®</sup>



Image licensed under the GNU Free Documentation License 1.2 by English Wikipedia user "Gmaxwell"

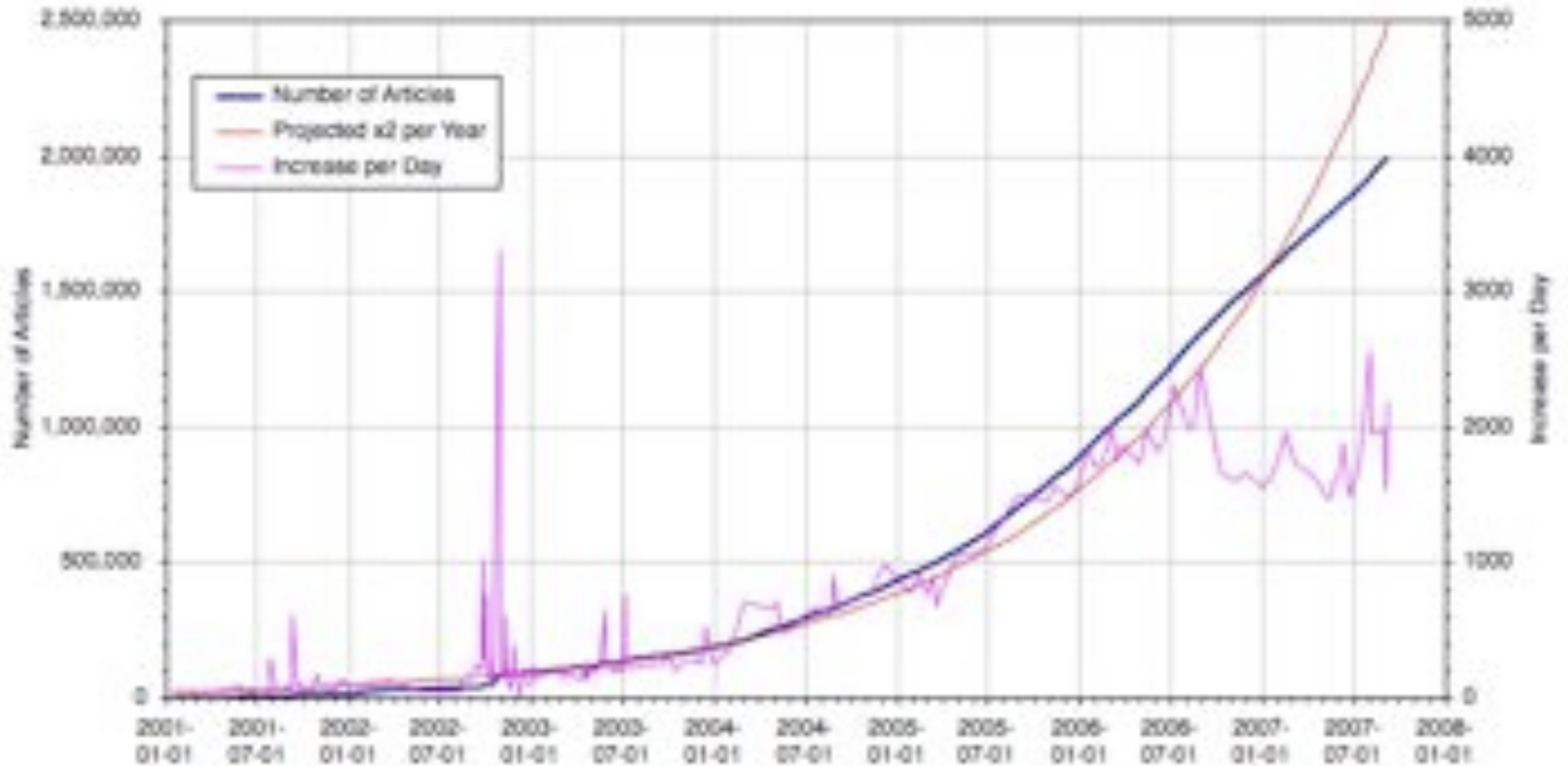
1. Rich Farnbrough 177557
2. Bearcat 155714
3. Charles Mathews 135901
4. Longhair 118124
5. WhisperToMe 115271
6. BrownHairedGirl 109418
7. Everyking 105389
8. Can't sleep, clown will eat me 101536
9. Ahoerstemeier 100376
10. Michael Hardy 99128
11. SimonP 95552
12. Gurch 91666
13. MER-C 91049
14. Waacstats 90702
15. Bryan Derksen 90169
16. Gutness 89687
17. NawlinWiki 86903
18. Badagnani 86325
19. Dbachmann 85658
20. Arcadian 85614

# License



The GNU Free  
Documentation License

# Is this working?





# Is this working?

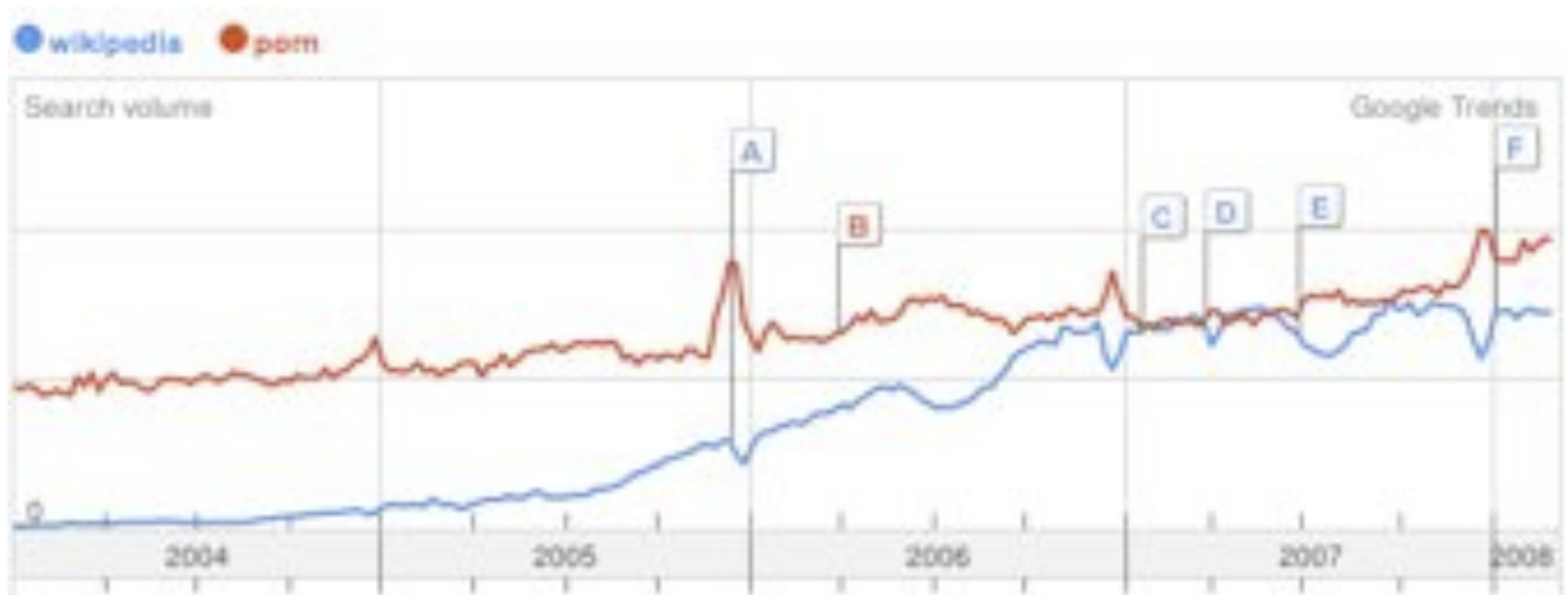
- Wikipedia: 4 factual errors per article
- Britannica: 3 factual errors per article

# Is this working?

## **Alexa Rankings**

1. Yahoo
2. Google
3. MSN
4. YouTube
5. Windows Live
6. Myspace
7. Facebook
8. Wikipedia

# Almost as searched as



# Media copies Wikipedia



**Hindustan Times**  
Saturday, March 15, 2008 | Last Updated 03:33IST [hindustantimes.com](http://hindustantimes.com)



**How can this work?**



**Wikipedia is an encyclopedia**



**Wikipedia has a neutral point of view**



**Wikipedia is free content**



**Wikipedia has a code of conduct**



**Wikipedia does not have firm rules**

# Criticism

- “Bringing democracy to information”
- Vandalism
- Systemic bias
- Poor quality
- Credentials of editors

# Best of

- Featured content
- Article creation



# Worst of

1. George W. Bush (33,568 revisions)
2. Wikipedia (22,491 revisions)
3. United States (17,215 revisions)
4. Jesus (16,010 revisions)
5. 2006 Israel-Lebanon conflict (15,432 revisions)
6. Wii (14,774 revisions)
7. Adolf Hitler (14,555 revisions)
8. World War II (14,453 revisions)
9. Deaths in 2006 (13,788 revisions)
10. RuneScape (13,706 revisions)
11. Hurricane Katrina (13,242 revisions)
12. Canada (11,298 revisions)
13. PlayStation 3 (11,173 revisions)
14. Britney Spears (11,062 revisions)
15. Anarchism (10,930 revisions)
16. India (10,911 revisions)
17. World Wrestling Entertainment roster (10,904 revisions)
18. Michael Jackson (10,827 revisions)
19. Islam (10,766 revisions)
20. 2006 FIFA World Cup (10,684 revisions)
21. September 11, 2001 attacks (10,641 revisions)
22. Bill Clinton (10,387 revisions)
23. Christianity (10,338 revisions)
24. Xbox 360 (10,319 revisions)
25. John Kerry (10,301 revisions)
26. Muhammad (9,856 revisions)
27. Japan (9,751 revisions)
28. Wiki (9,131 revisions)
29. 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake (9,003 revisions)
30. Pope Benedict XVI (8,971 revisions)
31. Fidel Castro (8,965 revisions)
32. Global warming (8,955 revisions)
33. iPod (8,949 revisions)
34. Lost (TV series) (8,913 revisions)
35. List of ethnic slurs (8,901 revisions)
36. Germany (8,854 revisions)
37. John Cena (8,776 revisions)
38. Scientology (8,642 revisions)
39. Bill Gates (8,624 revisions)
40. Albert Einstein (8,598 revisions)

# Worst of

- Some bad articles needing deletion

# Future

- Switching to Creative Commons License?
- Not enough administrators?
- Not enough money?

# How can you help?

- Edit!
- Create content
- Improve content