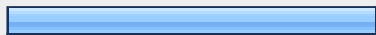






Wikipedia Editing Environment Survey

If it were your decision, would you consider allowing Wikipedia to be used as a primary research resource for students? (Choose only one answer)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
No, not under any circumstances		60.8%	268
Yes, but only up to junior school levels		13.4%	59
Yes, but only up to senior school levels		7.0%	31
Yes, including tertiary education		6.6%	29
Yes, Wikipedia is a sound resource for all levels of education		12.2%	54
Comments [max. 300 characters]:			154
answered question			441
skipped question			9

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
1	As anyone can edit Wikipedia at any time, the information therein can not be relied upon to be accurate.	Dec 14, 2009 4:36 PM
2	Some parts of Wikipedia may be acceptable but too many, especially in science, are totally biased. Consequently, if used by students, they would gain an unrepresentative picture of a subject and certainly not be encouraged to search for the truth.	Dec 14, 2009 8:35 PM
3	Wiki does not handle controversial subject matter honestly.	Dec 20, 2009 2:54 AM
4	Wikipedia represents the "mainstream" or the most politically correct/most "democratic" answers to many issues. As such it is not a good source for development of critical thinking.	Dec 20, 2009 10:35 PM
5	However, with some reservations...	Dec 21, 2009 4:50 AM
6	Wikipedia is quite competent in many non-politicized scholarly areas. It cites sources, draws on the expertise of many scholars and is very current. I wouldn't encourage students to cite Wikipedia as the source of a datum, but referenced quotes can cite those sources. Also, with hypertext, you can instantly retrieve satellite info and cut research time considerably. Wikipedia is a work in progress. It's creators hope for it to one day contain all existing human knowledge. They burned the Library of Alexandria. Wikipedia is revenge in spades.	Dec 21, 2009 6:26 AM
7	I would under some very restricted scenarios with appropriate guidance but that does not match any of the choices really. But it's a lot closer to No than Yes.	Dec 21, 2009 4:16 PM
8	Might allow it in conjunction with more traditional resources and with corroboration.	Dec 22, 2009 4:55 AM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
9	why dont you say 'in conjunctuion with other sources' or with adequate warnings based on its prejudices and being a tool for character and ethnic and ideological assassinations?	Dec 22, 2009 2:43 PM
10	With the caveat that researcher and teacher be acutely aware that the probability of bias and even deception is higher than in more conventional peer-reviewed sources (comparison with which may be a useful basis for subject analysis).	Dec 22, 2009 6:15 PM
11	Not familiar enough with Wiki to konw if reliable to pass as a "primary research resource for students", considering the large number of subjects found in this Encyclopedia.	Dec 26, 2009 6:30 PM
12	Depends on the subject. 'No' at any level for EU/PC cosmology topics, as the editors are obviously hostile. 'Yes' for less controversial subjects where some good work has been done in Wiki. I refer often to Wikipedia but use it with as much care as possible.	Dec 26, 2009 7:34 PM
13	There has to be some order and reponsibilty! There's always going to be someone with ill intentions and it should be your(wikipedia's) job to handle that or everything your working for is going to end up as a slanderous misinformed mess with no integrity. Great idea but poor follow through imo.	Dec 27, 2009 12:46 AM
14	I would equate it with a supermarket tabloid. It is nothing more than popular opinion.	Dec 27, 2009 3:14 AM
15	Too conformist Would only allow for non-controversial subjects, but never on a subject of any controversy.	Dec 27, 2009 5:20 PM
16	But only in areas where nobody can have any axes to grind. (Mushroom-picking, for example...)	Dec 27, 2009 10:21 PM
17	Secondary, perhaps. My familiarity with how certain 'overzealous' editors seem to be given free rein (or free reign) to shoot down everything else contributed by others if they see fit I see as the wrench in an otherwise perfectly good gearbox.	Dec 28, 2009 12:05 AM
18	But with thew reservation that applies to all sources - double and triple check	Dec 28, 2009 12:33 AM
19	Absolutely as a secondary resource. Could be used as main source of information, but only if main points could be backed-up by a primary source.	Dec 28, 2009 1:10 AM
20	I am very knowledgeable in Financial Regulatory areas and the Wikipedia articles on "naked short selling" have been obfuscated to hide the reality of what has been going on in the markets. Stock counterfeiting is a crime, and the editorial group who have gained control of these pages are attempting to hide the reality of what has actually transpired in the markets.	Dec 28, 2009 2:23 AM
21	While useful, the accuracy of the material is unverifiable.	Dec 28, 2009 2:26 AM
22	Does it matter where the misinformation comes from?	Dec 28, 2009 2:49 AM
23	There are currently a spate of agenda driven 'edits' and it is difficult to identify those from true science edits. One needs a BS detector.	Dec 28, 2009 2:51 AM
24	As one of many opinions.	Dec 28, 2009 3:22 AM
25	I only chose this option because of the editing abuses I have heard of. Otherwise, I would have chosen option 5.	Dec 28, 2009 3:30 AM
26	Wikipedia is a resource for all levels of education to get a quick overview of a subject. However, it should not be a source for citations.	Dec 28, 2009 3:30 AM
27	I say on no terms because there is so much bias in some of the subjects to make it not worthy of a reaserch tool. If the editors could lose the ego and just stick to the facts I would reconsider.	Dec 28, 2009 3:36 AM
28	It's a great reference and starting place, especially for the links to supporting information, but the references made in articles need to be checked and verified by other, reliable sources.	Dec 28, 2009 3:40 AM
29	Wiki is biased in way information is presented.	Dec 28, 2009 3:42 AM
30	Biased information is a religious experience. Wikipedia is becoming a dogmatic venture.	Dec 28, 2009 3:44 AM
31	as A source, not THE only source	Dec 28, 2009 3:45 AM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
32	However, the student should be aware that scientific "knowledge" is in most cases actually theory and any information gleaned from the "pedia" should be filtered through that knowledge. I see no reason why competing "interpretations" cannot coexist, allowing the student to see the alternative interpretations of scientific data. I need no gatekeeper.	Dec 28, 2009 3:52 AM
33	I do not let my students, grad or undergrad use wikipedia as a source.	Dec 28, 2009 4:18 AM
34	My SA is a professor.	Dec 28, 2009 4:25 AM
35	Wikipedia is not a good source of reliable information. It is frowned upon as a research source by many academic institutions and there are rules against using it, especially at the graduate level.	Dec 28, 2009 4:31 AM
36	With the caveats that even more so than many other sources, Wikipedia information must be researched & verified!	Dec 28, 2009 4:37 AM
37	Based on my research they are not impartial, but have a way of bending their findings to match certain mainstream ideas.	Dec 28, 2009 4:38 AM
38	But not as the only such resource and not until this orthodox science "consensus" controversy is resolved.	Dec 28, 2009 4:44 AM
39	A democratic well-spring of knowledge is actually a contradiction in terms--not about everything, obviously--but the liberal arts and all genuine university disciplines are not subject to a vote--or consensus, as university snobs like to call it. A demo is a thing that needs to be educated; it does not, as a rule, educate.	Dec 28, 2009 4:59 AM
40	Wikipedia is still a very useful research tool on many occasions. However by preventing little known and alternative views the naysayers have won a long time ago. Almost all areas of human knowledge have problems. There is need for informed views that oppose every majority view. The alternative is tyranny.	Dec 28, 2009 5:09 AM
41	As a research source, yes, but not as the primary or definitive source. On non controversial subjects, I have found it to be pretty good - biographies, etc.	Dec 28, 2009 5:45 AM
42	Well, it used to be, in some areas it seems to be becoming less sound.	Dec 28, 2009 5:59 AM
43	Too many politically distorted edits of truth. Cleverly slanted information in many places. There is a danger to young undiscerning minds lurking there. One simple disinformation can hold a developing mind in dark for life.	Dec 28, 2009 6:11 AM
44	It seems helpful in fields I don't know, but erroneous in fields I do know. Thus it may be dangerous generally.	Dec 28, 2009 6:17 AM
45	As long as views contrary to mainstream thought are mis-edited, Wikipedia can be considered no better than a forum where selected people get their views aired and everyone else is blocked.	Dec 28, 2009 6:55 AM
46	There are too many instances of editors injecting their personal prejudices into the information contained. This inexcusable behavior has been observed by me in a number of different divisions of the site.	Dec 28, 2009 7:36 AM
47	There are no absolute truths or facts and students of all ages must learn to use discernment or else education is by rote.	Dec 28, 2009 7:43 AM
48	The many topics I consulted were always mainstream points of view. There were never any information presented that explained, in a positive way, other theories. (eg. the existence of hominoids; UFO; Planet X; texts of the Sumer civilization as real human history, the fallacy of evolution to explain the origins of man, to name a few. Also saw where articles of real experts were labeled as lacking authority (probably because the articles didn't follow the "approved" position on the subject.).	Dec 28, 2009 8:17 AM
49	Not as a primary research resource. Maybe as a secondary research resource, and only if the student is skeptical/critical enough to work with Wikipedia. Gullible people should stay far from Wikipedia.	Dec 28, 2009 9:51 AM
50	that's a tricky question to answer, I find it useful with certain subjects and use it to get dates for events etc or a quick summary of something but I already know not to believe everything I read so I am wary about children and youngsters using it and believing in everything that is written there	Dec 28, 2009 10:17 AM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
51	As an "awakener" giving an overview, and if nothing else is available, yes. But everything should be corroborated from other sources, which is a pretty tough task when it comes to question of politics, history, ideology, or the issues that are those of Thunderbolts-	Dec 28, 2009 10:37 AM
52	The reason for my choice being that the articles are too biased. Some articles are admirably fair and uncritical but others are terribly biased. An encyclopaedia is a knowledge resource, whether or not that knowledge is 100% proven and factual is irrelevant but some articles are written as though god himself wrote them, yet the subject matter is about as proven as the aforementioned big chap! The only items which need to be checked for accuracy are figures. 1.8×10^{33} has to be precisely that with no deviation whatsoever. A scientists opinions and theories, on the other hand, should be common knowledge and open to rigorous debate. Censorship of this basic knowledge is just a way to make sure the sheeple keep that vacant look in their eyes....I'm convinced of this!	Dec 28, 2009 10:56 AM
53	Students must have a clear picture how Wikipedia functions	Dec 28, 2009 11:07 AM
54	Brainwashing begins at a young age. I suppose that Wikipedia is no worse than any other mainstream produced educational material, so perhaps my response above is unfair. I just don't agree with the whole idea of say, just teaching primary school children about say, the Bohr model of the atom when we know that isn't the case "but they can learn that later if they continue taking physics in the future". I have run into this in introcuctory texts at the university level in the 1980's and I think it is just plain wrong to not introduce the scientific controversies at a very early stage. It would do everyone a big favour!	Dec 28, 2009 11:11 AM
55	Too much false info from those with grudges and other bad motives. Wikipedia is 'opinion' information, and has some value because of that, but it is not 'the absolute truth' on many matters due to opinion.	Dec 28, 2009 11:46 AM
56	Not as a PRIMARY resource, but certainly as a resource. In other words, I would allow my students to use Wikipedia to support or corroborate conclusions they had drawn base don information derived first from other sources maintained by the experts in their respective fields. This does not ensure an unbiased or even correct interpretation of available data, but at least it allows for expert testimony. A read of Wikipedia, interesting as it may be, does not afford one a look at the state of the art of any science or other topic but merely the state of opinion of the controlling editors of Wikipedia.	Dec 28, 2009 12:10 PM
57	Since the un-biassed scientist only lives in utopia I would never allow students to use 1 source only.	Dec 28, 2009 1:19 PM
58	a grain of salt is appropriate in every researchers diet	Dec 28, 2009 1:38 PM
59	In time, Wikipedia *may* become a primary research resource, but it has not reached that level yet.	Dec 28, 2009 1:47 PM
60	This would be ridiculous. How can you trust or verify an anonymous source.	Dec 28, 2009 1:48 PM
61	It is heavily biased to the view of some very bigotted individuals who refuse to even acknowledge some alternative ideas.	Dec 28, 2009 2:27 PM
62	It would be great if Wikipedia could be considered a reliable primary research resource. However, even without the evident editorial bias and inaccuracies it could never be better than a good secondary (review) source - and would require extensive referencing and bibliographies. I think an original literature review, crosschecking of primary sources and citation analysis will always be essential in research.	Dec 28, 2009 2:40 PM
63	I had to answer NO because the knowledge available in wikipedia is, unfortunately, politically controlled (not a matter of national or governmental politics but of organizational, in this case, editorial politics...too many agendas competing for dominance of wikipedia) when you all for all theories in all subjects then wikipedia can be said to be THE repository of the sum of human knowledge. Until then, other sources will suffice.	Dec 28, 2009 2:50 PM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
64	However, with that said, Wiki is not the 'end of the discussion' or the 'ultimate authority' on the subject. It must be taken with a 'spoon of salt', and as an 'educated and potentially well sourced resource' for ideas and data upon a wide range of subjects, but not quoted as 'gospel' ! [Tho who quotes the Gospel on subjects like atomic physics and quantum mechanics ?]	Dec 28, 2009 3:12 PM
65	Depends on the subject matter.	Dec 28, 2009 3:43 PM
66	I did initially think this would be a good encyclopedia but it seems morte and more to have ben taken over by revisioneist and special interest editors - who is paying these people?	Dec 28, 2009 5:00 PM
67	But usually not as a sole source. It is excellent as a foundation, and in some cases is completely reliable, but I would recommend following the citations and looking for additional sources.	Dec 28, 2009 5:12 PM
68	In areas where I have some working knowledge, I have found inaccuracies in Wikipedia articles. I also remember some years ago that there was a problem with malicious editing of biographies on Wikipedia (I don't remember what year, but it was late 90's to early 2000's).	Dec 28, 2009 5:24 PM
69	While it is often useful, I would encourage researchers and readers to vary their reading outside of just Wikipedia, mainly due to its more and more visible bias, and adherence to group beliefs on various subjects.	Dec 28, 2009 5:44 PM
70	What's the alternative? Banning? I AM saddened by the big labels posted on my own bio, for example (which I had NOTHING to do with) that imply it is invalid because it doesn't quote "secondard sources", etc. And I'm concerned about what I feel is over-academicizing and intellectualizing what started as a from-the-heart info source.	Dec 28, 2009 5:55 PM
71	All sources of information have biases. That's why multiple sources cited is generally a necessary (yet insufficient) practice.	Dec 28, 2009 6:04 PM
72	Not any more, after reading the current allegations of "editor bias"	Dec 28, 2009 6:11 PM
73	<p>The expansion of human knowledge cannot be attained by 'editing its potential scope'.</p> <p>Gibbs and Heaviside 'edited/narrowed' Maxwell's work; thinking they were smarter, restricting its potentials. We have all paid the price for that blunder.</p> <p>Editors should qualify as 'inductive thinkers', rather than 'deductive thinkers'... they should be comfortable seeing the greater picture, into which some knowledge might fit... if it does not fit, then they should ask for help until all possibilities are exhausted.</p> <p>Wiki-Entries can be labeled accordingly, from 'accepted to fringe'. But nothing should be 'tossed out'.</p> <p>How many incredible ideas from minds far beyond the 'editors', have the 'editors tossed out' so far?</p>	Dec 28, 2009 6:44 PM
74	I would allow/disallow based on the research subject, not the level of education. But since it is completely unacceptable for some things and only a shortcut for the acceptable things it's a clear disallow if we don't distinguish by subject.	Dec 28, 2009 8:00 PM
75	Yes, and it is more important than ever to be able to decide for yourself the value / accuracy of your source.	Dec 28, 2009 8:17 PM
76	For a truly academic research paper, all referenced sources need to go back to the original resource. Thus, a student might start with Wikipedia, but it would be encouraged that they go to the original source to verify and authenticate the Wiki article. This is common practice especially in post-graduate work.	Dec 28, 2009 8:39 PM
77	it's a convenient place to find quick facts and related information, but for senior students it shouldn't be more than just a place to start searching for facts.	Dec 28, 2009 9:28 PM
78	Definitely not as a sole source of info.	Dec 28, 2009 10:02 PM
79	just for seniors/tertiary education. you have to really know how is to do a intelligent/ responsable research	Dec 28, 2009 10:55 PM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
80	i have seen too many lies in wikipedia. How can it be trusted as a source when anyone can edit?	Dec 28, 2009 11:02 PM
81	can sometimes provide reasonable collations	Dec 28, 2009 11:14 PM
82	<p>Most demonstrably stilted Wikipedia articles are worded and composed so benignly (and conventionally) that they appear legitimate on their face, yet should not be counted as a reliable source, and certainly not as a comprehensive source. At least there is often evidence of the bias on the "Discussion" page.</p> <p>Students too frequently do not have the analytical skills or judgment to gauge the accuracy of their source materials. Wikipedia actively encourages all comers, and unfortunately, ideologues participate and sometimes prevail, producing questionable results.</p> <p>I see less problem with a student using Wiki as one investigatory starting point. But a student should never use it as source reference material.</p>	Dec 29, 2009 12:01 AM
83	In my opinion Wikipedia may be a general 'starting point' for further research but does not impress me as a definitive source.	Dec 29, 2009 12:05 AM
84	the biased editing of certain subjects prevents my making a stronger choice	Dec 29, 2009 12:14 AM
85	their "textbook" physics seems very good	Dec 29, 2009 12:40 AM
86	This is what I HOPED wikipedia would become, a place you could use as a general source, much like a written encyclopedia used to be.	Dec 29, 2009 1:18 AM
87	<p>Depends on subject.</p> <p>-Only as a source guide to give an idea on how, where or what to research further.</p> <p>To much disinfo.</p> <p>Wiki has been comprised, but is still a good starter guide for those with good, built in "junk-filters" (and common sense)</p>	Dec 29, 2009 4:50 AM
88	<p>There is no (or very little) quality control.</p> <p>Entries are too easily hijacked.</p> <p>Would consider it a secondary research tool provided extensive verification is undertaken.</p>	Dec 29, 2009 7:45 AM
89	I rely on Wikipedia for much of my information, for it is the only resource I'm aware of on the internet. I also use many of my own books and resource materials.	Dec 29, 2009 7:52 AM
90	Most of Wikipedia's articles are basically correct.	Dec 29, 2009 8:14 AM
91	I know from my own editing experience the kind of biased editing and discussions that take place.	Dec 29, 2009 8:54 AM
92	The central theme of Wiki is indoctrination NOT information/education. The Wiki purpose is counter to the WHOLE TRUTH and therefore by-definition has no place even close to our youth and the classroom. Wiki is a truly despicable crowd of charlatans.	Dec 29, 2009 6:15 PM
93	I'd consider it as a very broad starting place, but not as a primary source. Any "facts" should be check 5 ways from Sunday with other traditional / reliable sources.	Dec 29, 2009 6:18 PM
94	It is clearly a biased and erratic source, I often read entries for quick overviews as it pops up first in search engines, but I have clearly read many errors and falsehoods there and just don't have the time to dedicate to sorting that mess out.	Dec 29, 2009 11:00 PM
95	Wikipedia is entirely untrustworthy. All universities with which I am in contact formally bar students from using or citing Wikipedia, on grounds of manifest and repeated prejudice.	Dec 29, 2009 11:18 PM
96	and i'm a teacher	Dec 30, 2009 2:54 AM
97	It would depend on the subject. Most entries are more accurate than Britanica and other reliable referances. But when it comes to learning more about alternative physical models this is the last place to go.	Dec 30, 2009 4:47 AM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
98	For the very reasons mentioned in the article "Wikipedia Woes - Pending Crisis as Editors Leave in Droves".	Dec 30, 2009 1:11 PM
99	As a direct reference, no; as a supplementary reference and pointer to other credible sites, yes.	Dec 30, 2009 3:21 PM
100	With a discretionary reminder.	Dec 30, 2009 8:03 PM
101	Authority of all texts is diminishing; all information must be read, not simply decoded.	Dec 30, 2009 8:43 PM
102	I only look at Wiki for the reference sources, then I visit the sources and try to find other points of view.	Dec 30, 2009 11:42 PM
103	I would make the allowance that it might be a beginning for further research, but as a source? Never!	Dec 31, 2009 4:31 AM
104	actually only if source could be supported	Dec 31, 2009 5:44 AM
105	Wikipedia articles are not backed by authorities in the fields and there is a great deal of incorrect information in articles.	Dec 31, 2009 7:46 AM
106	I think it's fine to use Wikipedia but would caution students to use other sources and check facts.	Dec 31, 2009 8:58 AM
107	An archive of hyperlinks to pro and contra perspectives regarding a special hypothesis or theory would serve better. In general I think there is no "sum of all human knowledge" (quote from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jimbo_Wales#cite_ref-47).	Dec 31, 2009 4:08 PM
108	I fail to see how any educational resource can be considered appropriate when the peer review process is demonstrably skewed by some editors.	Dec 31, 2009 4:18 PM
109	"knowledge" is an ever-expanding realm. what we know to be "true" today will most surely be leap-frogged with greater truth as the future comes into focus (for simplicity, imagine shapes taking form as one drives along a country road on a modestly foggy night). this "evolution" can be thought of as "Darwinian truth" if you like.	Dec 31, 2009 4:30 PM
110	Because of the anominity of the editing process and the ability of other editors to change the orgional posts I rate Wikkipedia low in reliability. Wikkipedia has allowed a subject which I am very knowledgable (Scientology) to be altered to present a biased viewpoint against Scientology. Editors from the church who are interested in correcting false data about the Church have been banned from correcting these reports. This reflects, in my view, the entire Wikkipedia and I would not use it for any serious study in any topic I may want to investigate Mike B.	Dec 31, 2009 5:23 PM
111	Wikipedia can be a useful START in collecting information and basic overviews of a topic but should not be trusted for any contentious ideas whatsoever	Dec 31, 2009 5:35 PM
112	Only on certain subjects, I would pre-screen all pertinent topics.	Jan 1, 2010 2:01 AM
113	It is not a reliable source. It has many very biased and inaccurate articles and the editors ignore the problems.	Jan 1, 2010 4:26 AM
114	Too much agenda/disinfo.	Jan 2, 2010 3:44 PM
115	Maybe, but with caution to anything Jewish and the holocaust. You can bet it will have its loonies defending the view of extrmination at all cost no matter what the facts are by some Jewish and dispensationalist lunatics.	Jan 3, 2010 12:49 AM
116	By definition, ANY general encyclopedia is not a primary source. I would support Wikipedia only as a general guide to lead the user towards primary sources of material (e.g., papers, books by experts, etc.)	Jan 3, 2010 3:54 AM
117	OK as A resource, but not necessarily a reliable one.	Jan 3, 2010 10:04 PM
118	Not as primary or sole, but it's not a bad place to get a quick overview of an unfamiliar subject and ideas as to terminology and further reading.	Jan 3, 2010 11:26 PM
119	Not sure about 'primary' but it is a good launch point for research into anything, and a sound reference when referring to things outside of the field of research.	Jan 4, 2010 2:19 AM
120	Yes, but I think we need some sort of verification on the information in place.	Jan 4, 2010 2:48 AM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
121	but not the ONLY source, and it would be preferable to follow any given referenes.	Jan 4, 2010 3:11 AM
122	I teach these months at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto and have stated to my students that I don't prohibit its use but also do not recommend it and that the quality of it depends on wat subject the look for. Wikipedia is very weak when it comes to anything related to peace, conflict-resolution, reconciliation, nonviolence and that sort of stuff.	Jan 4, 2010 3:23 AM
123	Wikipedia could be a sound secondary source and a source for general info such as dates of events, etc.	Jan 4, 2010 3:32 AM
124	Wikipedia is useful, but has to be understood to be essentially propaganda if the topic at hand is remotely controversial. You can get ideas from Wiki, but you actually have to go to reliable sources to do research.	Jan 4, 2010 3:49 AM
125	Sound is a loaded word. As with anything online, let the buyer beware and references must be diligently cross check. I would never use Wikipedia as the only reference.	Jan 4, 2010 4:12 AM
126	Wiki as a tool to find other resources is good, however it is too politically driven to be a reliable primary source.	Jan 4, 2010 9:35 AM
127	Not for history or subjects where the thieving-decieving tribe has an agenda.	Jan 4, 2010 1:40 PM
128	too biased towards mainstream	Jan 4, 2010 4:02 PM
129	An inappropriate question: as long as there are no final answers to "nature & history are as they are", ANY research source is proven secondary as well as proving all philosophies, religions, & sciences incompetent to deal with their traumatisatation (cf answer to question 2).	Jan 4, 2010 5:37 PM
130	Information is often opinionated and keeps changing.	Jan 4, 2010 6:33 PM
131	for the reason that Wikipedia is an open source and thus open to the influence of whatever group of individuals that in one way or the other gain dominance of one section or another, it will remain outside the realm of total reliability (as will most source to one degree or another) When I want reliability, I would use multiple sources, in many cases.	Jan 4, 2010 6:50 PM
132	But, it would need to be confirmed and verified with a greater review of literature and common sense and discernment.	Jan 4, 2010 7:09 PM
133	if people understand that the infomation contained in Wiki can be freely entered and not always correct	Jan 4, 2010 7:50 PM
134	In all of the "alternative" science areas the editor(s) represent an implacable, totally uninformed bias.	Jan 4, 2010 7:53 PM
135	Yes, as an initial search reference but with the caveat that all citations must corroborated by an appropriate "peer reviewed" source.	Jan 4, 2010 8:09 PM
136	I don't think that everyone has the same level of expertise in a field/subject. To say that Wikipedia is a sound resource is to say that everyone who contributes is an expert in their field and that their submissions are sound.	Jan 4, 2010 8:28 PM
137	it is a good place to start to find the "proper" articles or websites on a subject but no quote from wikipedia can be considered a fact unless it is one of the real mainstream articles	Jan 4, 2010 9:51 PM
138	Even the venerable Britannica must possess an editorial bias. I trust that the wisdom of the people will prevail.	Jan 4, 2010 10:29 PM
139	Wikipedia is a fine research resource _so long as_ the listed references are examined and found to be valid. Merely citing Wikipedia without also examining the listed references should not be allowed. Formal education is an excellent place to learn that information should be cross-referenced and verified, not implicitly trusted because of any notion of credibility (otherwise, it would be the fallacy of appeal to authority).	Jan 4, 2010 11:31 PM
140	Universities and colleges are crowded with too many 'teachers' that like to think of themselves as scientists. These university teachers have to teach status quo science even if it is outdated. Universities avoid science that is unconventional out out of the mainstream.	Jan 4, 2010 11:51 PM
141	No, not a primary resource, but it can be a good resource if used carefully.	Jan 5, 2010 12:51 AM

Comments [max. 300 characters]:		
142	Its over-run with biased people. it would be a disaster for students to 'learn' from.	Jan 5, 2010 2:56 AM
143	Only if a human want information about specifications of something, like cars and processors it is ok. Not for balanced information, just like the media.	Jan 5, 2010 8:37 AM
144	Wikipedia should be used as a research aid, but it is not infallible (nor even correct at times). I was not sure as to whether to pick Yes or No as I use Wiki as if it were a proper encyclopaedia at times.	Jan 5, 2010 10:59 AM
145	As long as individuals or organized groups can edit anonymously and in violation of clear conflict of interest, wikipedia is sub-par source material for any project research beyond personal interest.	Jan 5, 2010 6:34 PM
146	All who use it should be aware of the biases of the editors.	Jan 5, 2010 7:19 PM
147	With the proviso that it should only be used as a starting point. Nothing in it should be considered sacrosanct and everything should be double checked with other (more reliable?) sources.	Jan 6, 2010 6:24 PM
148	As with standard encyclopaedias, the same with Wikipedia. Secondary resource is appropriate.	Jan 6, 2010 8:55 PM
149	<p>It is a starting point only. The glory of the system is that it is theoretically open to all. But that is also its chief weakness: a heightened potential for unreliability because of the massive quantum of info. Because there is so much information in Wiki it is not possible to be sure an article is untainted by the bias or agenda of either the submitter or editors.</p> <p>The greatest problem is the willingness of Wales et al. to allow Wiki to reflect his own biases and politics; and to gather a chief editorial staff which mirrors his attitudes.</p> <p>An unwillingness to be objective is what will ultimately destroy Wikipedia.</p>	Jan 7, 2010 8:16 AM
150	Wikipedia is mostly a good first check on non controversial subjects, with links to more reliable sources. When researching controversial subjects, the discussion page is a must read.	Jan 7, 2010 10:14 AM
151	I'd like to say yes. It's a beautiful idea, and should be a beautiful resource, but with haters allowed to alter/delete what experts take the time to publish, any information there is subject to redaction/obliteration so that potentially persons coming there can never see or find it.	Jan 8, 2010 3:39 AM
152	we are all students on this planet	Jan 8, 2010 4:07 AM
153	I'm in favour of students using all resources. But they must cite their sources and be prepared to be challenged.	Jan 8, 2010 4:25 PM
154	anonymity leads to unaccountability -- how can a student be held accountable when their source appears irresponsible, or when sources are known to be deceitful?	Jan 9, 2010 1:08 AM