

a. What is Wikipedia?

Wikipedia is an online encyclopedia that anyone can edit, and anyone can view for free (as long as they have internet!).

b. How would you answer the question posed in this piece "How reliable can a source be when anyone can edit it?"?

I think that, given the proper supervision, most people will happily share what information they know, and hopefully that information is correct.

c. Who do the creators of Wikipedia place their trust in when it comes to weeding out misinformation?

They put their faith in the "wisdom of crowds," believing that by having many people watching what appears there, errors and vandalism will be weeded out, sooner rather than later.

d. Why did founder Larry Sanger leave Wikipedia?

He believed it should give more authority to experts, and has since founded another site that does just that.

e. What would abuse or vandalism look like on a Wikipedia page?

Abuse would be companies or countries rewriting their wikipedia page to make themselves look better, or make the opposition look worse. Vandalism would be things like "hi" or "Mike is stupid." in the middle of a page.

f. What do the statistics quoted in the third paragraph of this piece reveal?

That wikipedia is one of the biggest, most popular sites on the web!

g. Why do you think Wikipedia is so successful?

Because anyone can go in and edit it, and see their work there for all the world to see.

h. Why might Wikipedia's creators not want to accept advertising?

Because it will make them look like they are favoring certain companies, who will then get good write-ups.

i. How does Wikiscanner help increase the reliability of Wikipedia entries?

By tracking the IP address of the person who wrote the article, it can help track abuse and vandalism.