



Wikipedia Campus Training: Working on Wikipedia

Objectives

At the end of this training you will:

- Understand verifiability and reliable sources
- Know how to use a Wikipedia sandbox and when to move your article into the main space
- Become familiar with the "Did You Know?" process on Wikipedia
- Know how to engage the Wikipedia community for feedback on your work

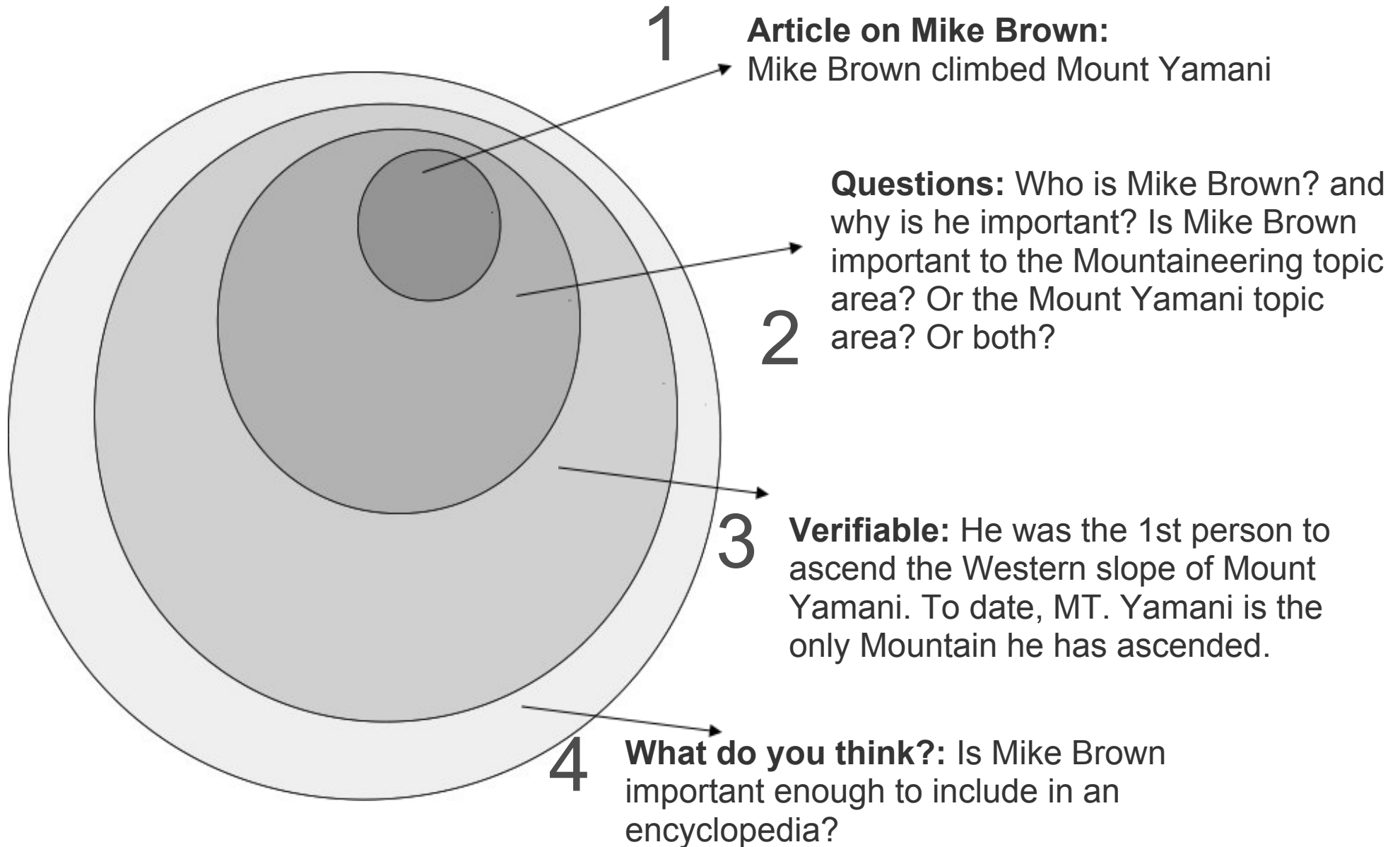
Verifiability and reliable sources



Verifiability and reliable sources

- **Verifiability** – one of the basic rules for creating Wikipedia content
 - “Mike Brown climbed Mount Yamani” – this needs a citation to a reliable source.
 - Anything likely to be challenged should be cited. In practice, almost everything should be cited to a paragraph or sentence level.
- **Reliable sources** – published sources, especially resources known for fact-checking such as:
 - Mainstream press (newspapers and news channels)
 - Published books
 - Magazines (technical and industry standards)
 - Documentaries
 - Scholarly journals

Notability: Is this article right for Wikipedia?



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Articles require:

- **significant coverage**
- **in reliable sources**
- **that are independent of the subject**

Writing in a sandbox

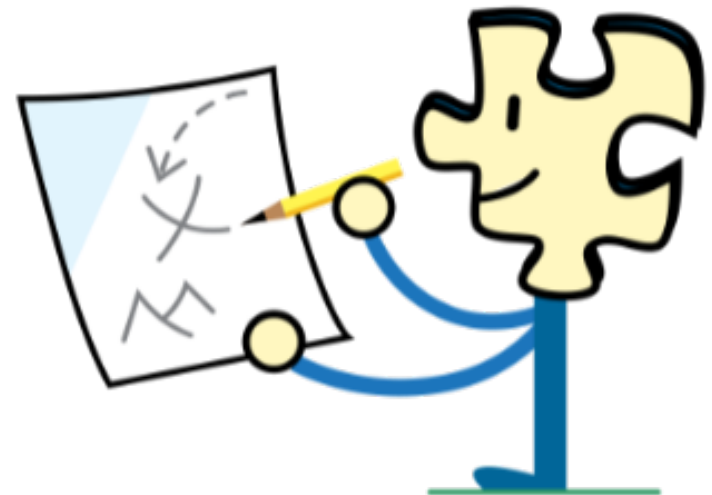


What are sandboxes? What are they good for?

- Wiki pages where you can experiment, plan out articles, or begin work before moving into "mainspace" where live articles are.
- Usually appropriate when starting new articles, but students should move to mainspace after they've added 2-3 paragraphs of content (with citations).
- Usually not appropriate for expanding existing articles.
- Reasons to use sandboxes:
 - lower pressure, "shielded" from larger Wikipedia editor community, students feel safer
 - no risk of having work changed/deleted unexpectedly
- Reasons to edit live (in the mainspace):
 - exciting for the students, immediate changes to Wikipedia
 - collaborative editing, feedback from larger Wikipedian editing community

Create a sandbox (activity)

- Make sure you're logged in on Wikipedia
- Go to your user page and click "Edit"
- Write `[[User:<your user name>/Sandbox]]`
- Click on "Save Page"
- Click on the link you just created
- You are now in your sandbox!
- Try writing and adding references
- Don't forget to click on "Save Page" when you're done editing
- Note: Sandbox is public!



Moving your article from sandbox to Wikipedia

This slide applies to new articles only.

- In your sandbox, click “Move” in the pulldown near the search box.
- Put the title into the “to new title” input box.
 - Look at similar topics to find an appropriate name.
- Explain the reason for the move
 - For example, “I'm moving my sandbox article into Wikipedia.”
- Click “Move page.”

Don't Stop Here!

- Find another editor who might be interested in your topic
- Leave a request on their user talk page
- Link your article to other articles that mention your topic.
- You've become part of the Wikipedia community!

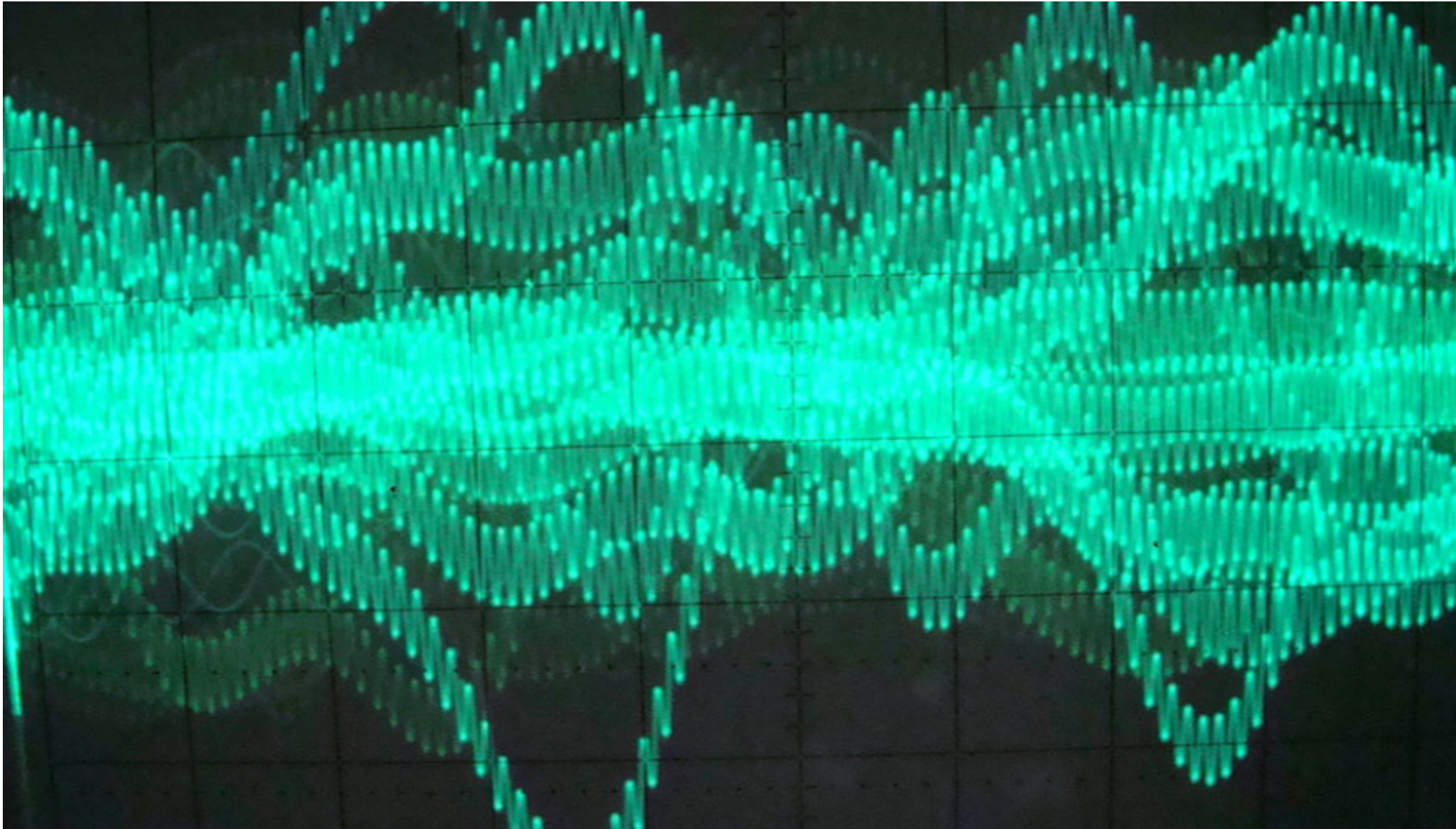
The "Did You Know?" Process

Your article can show up on the front page of Wikipedia through the "Did You Know" (DYK) nomination process!

- Short articles that are **expanded five-fold** are also eligible
- Articles should be **nominated within 5 days** of when they were created or expanded

Once you've done some substantial work on your Wikipedia article, your Online Ambassador can help you nominate it for DYK!

Engage the community to offer feedback



Getting feedback along the way to a great article

- Research →
- Writing in sandbox (with feedback from your mentor) →
- Moving to mainspace and nominating for “Did you know?” (with feedback from mentor and reviewers) →
- More research and writing (with feedback from classmates and other editors) →
- Good Article Nomination (with feedback from a reviewer) →
- Featured Article Candidate (with feedback from multiple reviewers) →
- Win!

Additional opportunities for feedback

- Article ratings – articles may be rated according to the Wikipedia scale: Stub, Start, C, B, GA, A, FA
- Article Feedback Tool at the bottom of page
- Peer review process – Editors can request a review from another editor. Generally less formal than GA and FA reviews.
- Discussion pages of relevant WikiProjects
- IRC
- Ask around! Classmates, parents, friends, lovers, other editors... there are many opportunities to get help and feedback on your work.



Thank you!