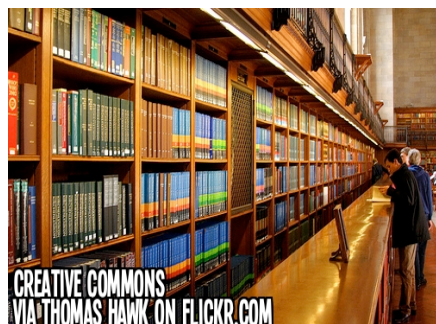


## Wikipedia may become million-page book

22nd February, 2014



A publishing company plans to print all of the articles from the Wikipedia website.

PediaPress hopes to print the entire contents of Wikipedia in

1,000 books, each containing 1,200 pages. Wikipedia has over 4.3 million articles and 2.6 billion words. Over 20 million volunteers have helped to write it. The project will see the physical version of Wikipedia on nearly 1.2 million pages of print. The page numbers will continue from book to book and the final page will be number 1,193,014. PediaPress needs \$50,000 to start the project. It wants people to donate money so it can go ahead with the first copy. The company has already printed number one of the thousand books. It includes the articles from "A" to "A76 motorway".

Many people are questioning why PediaPress wants to print out such a huge website. They say it will be out of date as soon as it starts printing. A spokesperson from PediaPress said the company wants to show the world just how big Wikipedia really is. He said: "We think that the best way to experience the size of Wikipedia is by transforming it into the physical medium of books." He added: "Containing the most volumes and edited by the largest number of contributors, the printed edition will be a work of record-breaking dimensions." The company may take the books on a world tour. After that, it will donate them to a big public library.

Sources: NBC / Tech Crunch / Wired.co.uk

### Writing

*Books are better than websites.* Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

*publishing / articles / Wikipedia / volunteers / print / project / donate money / books / questioning / website / out of date / experience / record-breaking / world tour / library*

### True / False

- Wikipedia end its website and become a book instead. T / F
- There are around 2.6 billion words on the Wikipedia website. T / F
- The last page number in the books will be 1,000,000. T / F
- A publishing company has already printed book number one. T / F
- Many people think the book is a great idea. T / F
- The book will be out of date once printing begins. T / F
- The book will break many publishing records. T / F
- The publisher will sell the book to whoever pays the most money. T / F

### Synonym Match

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. publishing   | a. actually  |
| 2. entire       | b. edition   |
| 3. containing   | c. changing  |
| 4. version      | d. printing  |
| 5. donate       | e. querying  |
| 6. questioning  | f. whole     |
| 7. huge         | g. sizes     |
| 8. really       | h. including |
| 9. transforming | i. give      |
| 10. dimensions  | j. enormous  |

### Discussion – Student A

- Does the world need to see how big Wikipedia is?
- Is Wikipedia better than other encyclopedias?
- Is it important that the books will be "record-breaking"?
- If you helped write a Wikipedia article, what would you write about?
- Would you go to see the books when they go on tour?
- If the books will be out of date, will they have any use?
- Do you think anyone would use the books in a library?
- What questions would you like to ask the PediaPress boss?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. A publishing company plans to print | a. big Wikipedia really is |
| 2. the entire                          | b. money                   |
| 3. the physical                        | c. contents                |
| 4. donate                              | d. questioning why         |
| 5. It includes the articles from       | e. all of the articles     |
| 6. Many people are                     | f. of date                 |
| 7. it will be out                      | g. library                 |
| 8. show the world just how             | h. "A" to "A76 motorway"   |
| 9. record-                             | i. version                 |
| 10. public                             | j. breaking                |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you imagine when you hear the word 'book'?
- What do you think of this project?
- What do you think of Wikipedia?
- What is the best website to find out information (and why)?
- Is printing the Wikipedia website a waste of paper?
- Do you think anyone will ever read all of the books?
- Would you donate money to this project? Why/Why not?
- Do you prefer to find out things from books or websites?

## Spelling

- A nliushpibg company
- print all of the irletacs from the Wikipedia website.
- print the tineer contents
- 20 million eolnuesrvt have helped to write it
- the physical eovirns of Wikipedia
- It wants people to adneto money
- people are niigoetsqun why
- A pesnkoorspe from PediaPress
- the best way to cenxepeeir the size
- Containing the most omvusel
- the printed oitedni
- it will detnoa them to a big public library

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. d	2. f	3. h	4. b	5. i
6. e	7. j	8. a	9. c	10. g

## Role Play

### Role A – Encyclopedia

You think an encyclopedia is the most important book. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their books. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): an English grammar book, a religious book or a world atlas.

### Role B – English grammar book

You think an English grammar book is the most important book. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their books. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): an encyclopedia, a religious book or a world atlas.

### Role C – Religious book

You think a religious book is the most important book. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their books. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): an English grammar book, an encyclopedia or a world atlas.

### Role D – World atlas

You think a world atlas is the most important book. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their books. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): an English grammar book, a religious book or an encyclopedia.

## Speaking - Encyclopedia

Rank these encyclopedia sections with your partner. Put the most interesting at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| • countries    | • wars      |
| • flowers      | • fish      |
| • architecture | • diseases  |
| • inventions   | • languages |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.