Using Wikipedia (Video)

Check your knowledge about this topic by answering these questions.

Some questions have more than one correct answer.

1. What is Wikipedia?

12 points

* A subscription database for scholars
* A video role-playing game
* A free encyclopedia developed and maintained by the many people who use it
* A free digital science magazine for kids

2. Who writes and edits Wikipedia pages? Choose the BEST answer.

12 points

* Scholars
* Scientists
* Anyone
* Students

3. Why might your teacher prohibit the use of Wikipedia as a research source? Choose the BEST answer.

12 points

* Because the information is monitored by researchers
* Because anyone can edit Wikipedia
* Because Wikipedia is on the internet
* Because they do not like it

4. Why is it problematic that anyone with Internet access can write or edit a Wikipedia entry?

12 points

* You cannot be sure of the qualifications of the author or editor of the entry.
* You cannot be as sure the information that the author provided is reliable.
* Using Wikipedia used to be a problem, but it is not anymore.
* You cannot be sure the changes the editor made are accurate.

5. How can Wikipedia be useful for your research needs?

14 points

* Wikipedia can introduce you to the major ideas on a topic.
* Wikipedia can provide keywords to help you search.
* Wikipedia can provide links to useful sources cited in the article.
* Wikipedia can provide useful links to additional Internet sources to explore.

6. When reading a Wikipedia article, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ could be used as keywords to help you search for more information on your topic.

14 points

* Secondary sources
* Related terms (vocabulary)
* Names of organizations or people
* Important dates

7. How can the citations on a Wikipedia entry be helpful?

12 points

* The citations will prove you know your topic.
* The citations will direct you to fun games.
* The citations will make you smarter.
* The citations will lead you to articles that may provide needed information.

8. How do external links differ from reference citations at the end of a Wikipedia entry?

12 points

* There is no difference.
* The external links will waste your time, and reference citations will not.
* External links lead to related information that is not used in the article.
* Both will take you to scholarly or expert resources every time.