Wikipedia at the University: changes in the perception of value with content creation.

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INTRODUCTION

Wikipedia has been used in a significant number of educational practices and its use has become a common training activity in recent years in all educational environments, thanks to its large readership and to being an open knowledge website where readers can contribute to the construction of multiple topics.

The wikipedia research was carried out at two different institutions: the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) in Barcelona (Spain) and the University of Niš (UN) in Niš (Serbia).

240 students respondents

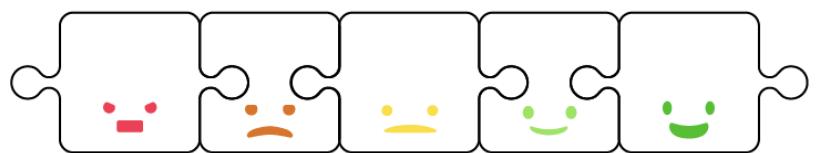upf. Universitat Pompeu Fabra Barcelona — Subject: Digital culture

УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ НИШ — Subject: computer science

The two questionnaires (Q1 and Q2 for pre- and post-experience, respectively) were designed to elicit a perception of value of Wikipedia before and after editing or article creation.

Research questions on the perceived value of Wikipedia before and after editing or article creation.

MethodologyLikert

| Strongly Disagree disagree | At Disagree | I cannot decide | From According to | Very much According to |

The averages have been assigned as follows: 0 to 'Strongly disagree' and value: 4 to 'Strongly agree' in the former, and value: 0 to 'It is highly overrated as well as value 4 to It is highly underrated.

Table 1. Responses (in percentages) to the questions in Q1 and Q2.		Q1	Q2	Change
Editing wikipedia articles is an interesting task. interesting	Very much in agreement	3,8	8,6	4,8
	in agreement	43,3	70,3	27
	I cannot decide	45,4	14,9	-30,5
	Disagree	6,3	5,6	-0,7
	Strongly disagree	1,2	0,6	-0,6
Editing Wikipedia articles is a difficult task	Very much in agreement	15,4	26,3	10,9
	in agreement	51,2	58,3	7,1
	I cannot decide	28,7	10,9	-17,8
	Disagree	4,2	4,6	0,4
	Strongly disagree	0,4	0	-0,4
Wikipedia is a reliable source (for use) in a university context.	Very much in agreement	4,2	8,6	4,4
	in agreement	29,2	56	26,8
	I cannot decide	28,8	20	-8,8
	Disagree	32,5	13,1	-19,4
	Strongly disagree	5,4	2,3	-3,1
Wikipedia is a useful source of information	Very much in agreement	20	24	4
	in agreement	65	68,6	3,6
	I cannot decide	11,3	5,7	-5,6
	Disagree	3,3	1,7	-1,6
	Strongly disagree	0,4	0	-0,4
It is possible to find false information on wikipedia	Very much in agreement	21,7	14,3	-7,4
	in agreement	58,8	53,1	-5,7
	I cannot decide	13,7	18,3	4,6
	Disagree	5	9,7	4,7
	Strongly disagree	0,8	4,6	3,8
Do you think that wikipedia's consideration is correct in the context of university studies?	It is highly undervalued	5	8	3
	It is a bit underrated	41,7	42,5	0,8
	Your consideration is correct	37,9	34,9	-3
	It is a bit overrated	14,2	14,3	0,1
	It is highly overrated	1,2	0	-1,2
Do you think that wikipedia's consideration is generally correct general?	It is highly undervalued	3,8	7,4	3,6
	It is a bit underrated	38,8	42,3	3,5
	Your consideration is correct	44,2	41,7	-2,5
	It is a bit overrated	12,5	8	-4,5
	it is highly overrated	0,8	0,6	-0,2

67,5 % Students UN

upf. Universitat Pompeu Fabra Barcelona **32,5 %** Students UPF

67,9 % Gender female

30,8 % Gender man

1,3 % Did not answer Gender

CONCLUSIONS

Editing and creating articles on Wikipedia generally had a significant influence on students' perception of Wikipedia, in terms of reliability, on the platform.

Students had already anticipated that editing Wikipedia articles would be interesting and challenging, and these perceptions increased after the experience.

Their appreciation of the task of editing articles, which was valued as interesting and challenging, also changed. students' appreciation and valuation of Wikipedia's social prestige, both in the university and general context, did not change significantly.

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