

Watch/Discussion Party
Crash Course: Navigating Digital Information

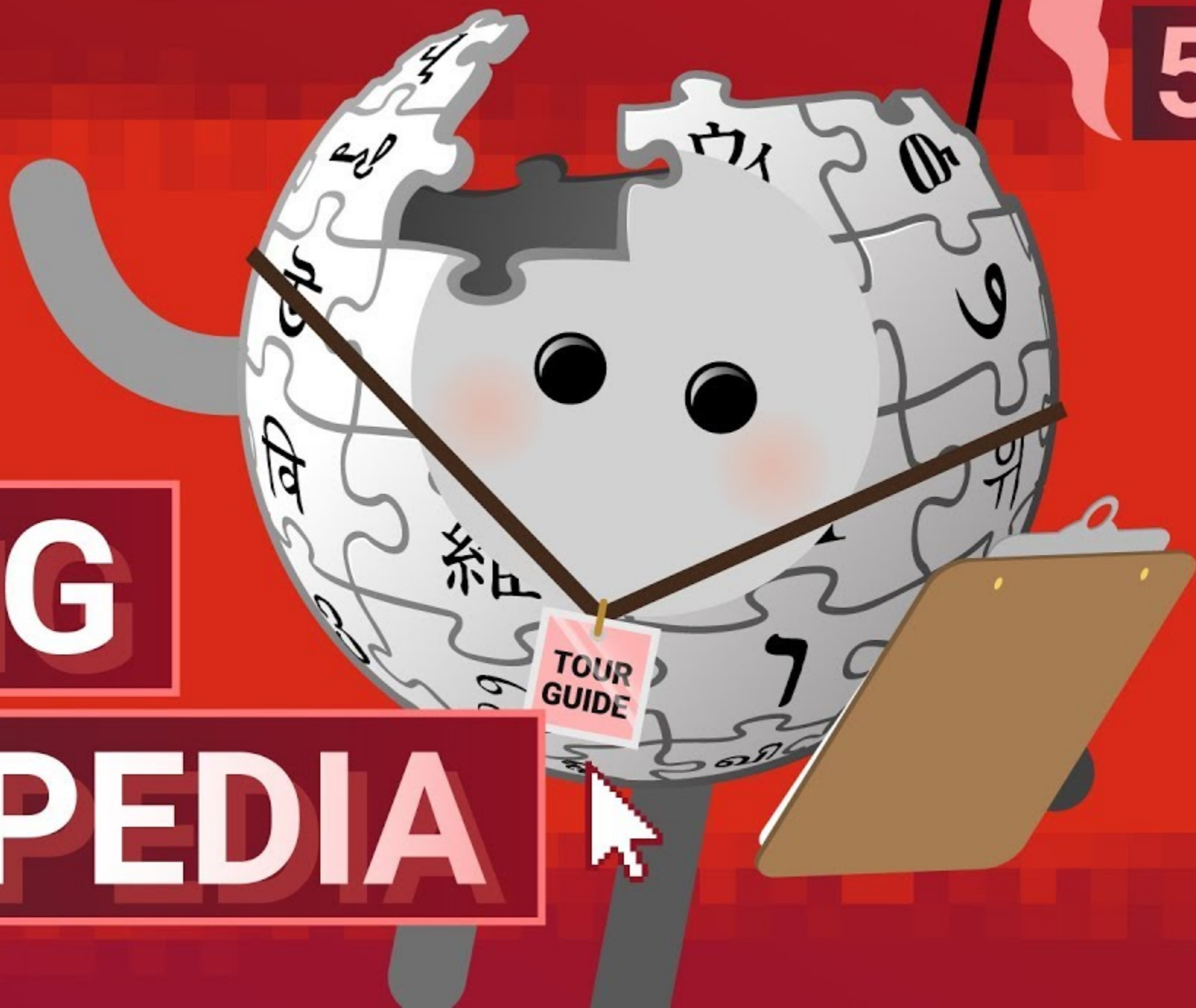
Episode 5: Using Wikipedia



5

USING

WIKIPEDIA



League of Women Voters Mission

- Established 1902
- Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy
- LWV of Kittitas County since 1968
- Nonpartisan educational & political
grassroots organization

Katherine Murphy

- League member since 2017
- Trained since high school in research, journalism, debate, technical writing,
- BA: Anthropology
MS: Human-Centered Design & Engineering
- 40+ years of patient advocacy

OnBeing Interview

- Jimmy Wales, “The Sum of All Human Knowledge
- <https://onbeing.org/programs/jimmy-wales-the-sum-of-all-human-knowledge-2/>


Wikimedia Foundation

- Mission: The mission of the Wikimedia Foundation is to empower and engage people around the world to collect and develop educational content under a free license or in the public domain, and to disseminate it effectively and globally.
- Vision: Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment.

Wikimedia Organization

- Nonprofit foundation
- Staffed largely with volunteers who
- Use open source software
- Share ethos, standards, & processes
- Strive for transparency

By the Numbers

- 200,000+ editors contribute monthly
- 68+ million articles
- 1+ billion unique devices access Wikimedia projects monthly
- Charity Navigator rating = 

What is the Source's Expertise

- Author's profession & education
- Source's verification process
- Source's bias & perspective
- How source acknowledges & corrects mistakes

Content Policies

- Neutral Viewpoint
- Published Sources
- Verifiable Information



6

EVALUATING

EVIDENCE



What We Practice, We Become

- How frequently do you use Wikipedia?
- Will you use it more after this discussion?
- Is anyone here a Wikimedian?

Tips to Help Detect Fake Science News

- Seek peer reviewed “Seal of Approval”
- Look for your own blind spots
- Correlation is not causation
- Who were the study’s subjects?
- Science doesn’t need “sides”
- Clear, honest reporting may not be goal

Thank You

- To view again, visit our YouTube channel, [LWV Kittitas Channel](#)
- For slides/links, visit our blog at <https://kittitasleague.org>
- To continue the discussion, visit our League of Women Voters of Kittitas County on Facebook, @Kittitas LWV on Twitter, or @kittitas_league on Instagram

WIKIPEDIA TAKE-AWAYS

Wikipedia
helps with
lateral
reading

Humans
are fallible

There is no
one perfect or
objective
source

Wikipedia is
dependent
on published
sources*

Use Wikipedia
as a launch
pad, not finish
line

Use as a tool
in a toolkit,
follow
citations

*which have gender and racial biases