

**Short assignment****c. 500 words****50 points****Due: 15 July 2009, 2 pm, Oncourse**

Choose one article from the “Did you know...” section of Wikipedia’s main page and analyze its sources.

**Source analysis:**

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Rs>

Wikipedia has a “reliable sources” policy which outlines that “articles should be based on reliable, third-party, published sources with a reputation for fact-checking and accuracy. This means that we only publish the opinions of reliable authors”. In general, scholarly publications and well-respected news publications are the most reliable sources, but other sources are accepted when they represent an expertise in a particular subject matter.

- What kinds of sources does the article you are assessing use?
- Are any other sources unreliable or not well-respected? Why do you think so? Are there any you are unsure of? Why?
- Check five individual facts in the article against the sources. Are the facts reported correctly in Wikipedia? If not, what is incorrectly reported?
- Do you think the information in this article is generally reliable based on your analysis of the sources? Why or why not?
- Based on the level of detail and accuracy of this article, who would you recommend use this article and for what purposes?