

Assignment 2 Responses

- **Name two things that every ontology term must have?**

Every term in an ontology needs a subject and object, which are connected by a predicate to form the RDF triple.

- **What is the GO (Gene Ontology)?**

The Gene Ontology is a major bioinformatics initiative that creates controlled vocabulary and hierarchies for domain in molecular and cell biology. It aims to unify the representation of genes and their attributes across all species.

- **What is the OBOFoundry?**

This is an open biological and biomedical ontology resource being contributed to by a network of ontology developers. OBO Foundry (<http://www.obofoundry.org/>) takes the positive characteristics of functional ontologies such as GO and attempts to create a resource of ontologies based on strict standards and principles that contribute to the development of valuable content.

- **In your opinion, what is the biggest argument for using an ontology?**

Considering Information management and data management professionals are required to collaborate in most enterprise settings, I think the biggest benefit of using ontologies is that they allow teams to understand relationships in subjects that are often unfamiliar. It is difficult to manage data without having grasp on the nature of it, and other tools are less effective at identifying relationships between data points. Ontologies can

clarify the nature of the data by identifying links and dependencies that would otherwise be harder to grasp.

Since ontologies are less technical than other data management approaches, it is useful to create an ontology to level set and ensure non-technical resources are fully aware of the connections present in the data they may be asked to work with.