

# WikiData

Monday, October 17, 2016 8:30 PM

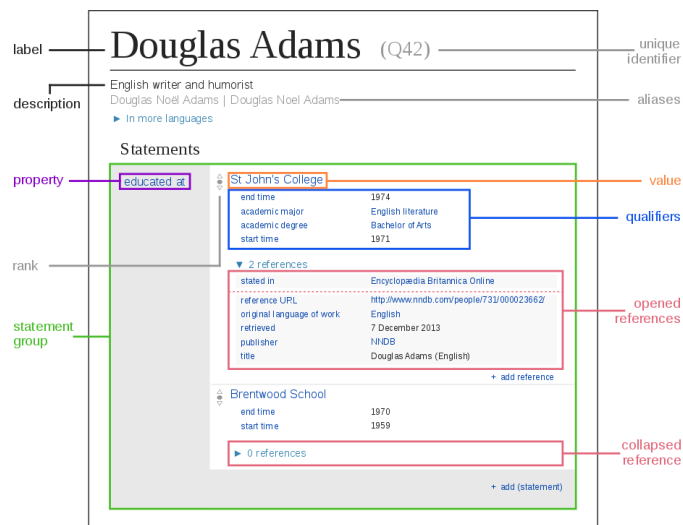
Wikidata is a

- free and open knowledge base that can be read and edited by both humans and machines.
- project of the Wikimedia Foundation: a free, collaborative, multilingual, secondary database, collecting structured data to provide support for Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, the other Wikimedia projects, and well beyond that.
- initial development of the project is funded with a generous donation by the Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, and Google, Inc.

Wikidata is a document-oriented database, focused on items. Each **item** represents a topic (or an administrative page used to maintain Wikipedia) and is identified by a **unique number**, prefixed with the letter **Q**—for example, the item for the topic Politics is Q7163. This enables the basic information required to identify the topic the item covers to be translated without favouring any language.

Information is added to items by creating statements. Statements take the form of key-value pairs, with each statement consisting of a property (the key) and a value linked to the property.

The Wikidata repository consists mainly of items, each outlined by a label, a description and likely one or more aliases. Sitelinks connect each item to corresponding articles on all client wikis. Statements describe detailed characteristics of each Item. Each statement consists of a **property** and a **value**. You can give mountain peaks, places, and buildings geographic coordinates. You can link a person to his or her place of birth, occupation, or to its number of an



authority control database; link a politician to his or her political party; link an item about a township to its next higher administrative unit; link a country to its highest representative and its national anthem; and so on. All this information can be displayed in any language, even if the data originated in a different language. When accessing these values client wikis will show the most up-to-date data

## Glossary

- **items** are used to represent all the things in human knowledge, including topics, concepts, and objects. For example, the "1988 Summer Olympics", "love", "Elvis Presley", and "gorilla" are all items in Wikidata. More: <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Help:Items>
- A **statement** is how the information we know about an item—the data we have about it—gets recorded in Wikidata. This happens by pairing a property with at least one value; this pair is at the heart of a statement. More: <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Help:Statements>



- A **property** describes the data value of a statement and can be thought of as a category of data, for example "color" for the data value "blue." properties have a P prefix and are stored in the property namespace. More: <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Help:Properties>
- Values: More: <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Help:Statements#Values>
- **label** is the most common name that the item would be known by. The label is the most common name that the item would be known by.

Ideas useful for the study

- Using unique identifiers for items and properties, and thus making the knowledge language independent.
- Storing property-value statements for the item