

# Introductory Remarks

## Jimmy Wales

# Frankfurt Wikireader

- Donated by Qoop.com
- Wiki -> PDF
- PDF -> paper
- On demand printing, available in Europe, North America, Asia
- We are talking to Lulu.com as well



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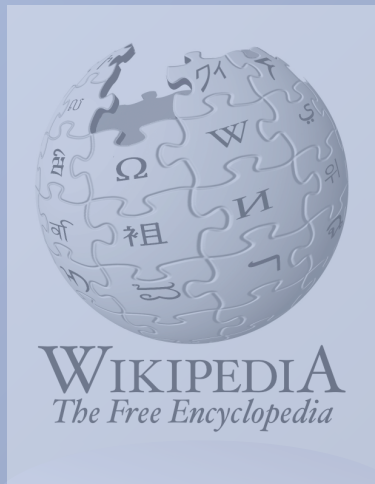
# Print on Demand Concept

- 80% of the remaining format errors in this version have already been fixed
- Books can be constructed on the site for re-use, or constructed on the fly
- Open standards to allow for multiple vendors



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# Jimbo's Problems: A Free Culture Manifesto



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President, Wikimedia  
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Wikipedia Founder

# Hilbert's Problems

- In 1900 Mathematician David Hilbert posed 23 problems
- 10 were announced at International Conference of Mathematics
- The full list published later
- These problems became very influential in the course of mathematics



# My Problems

- 10 Challenges for the Free Culture Movement
- Designed to spark and inspire innovative work
- None of these ideas are unique or original to me -- I only list them to focus attention



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# 1. Free the Encyclopedia!

- Wikipedia
- In English and German, if you have a broadband connection, our mission is done
- French, Japanese, etc. not far behind
- Much work left to do globally



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## 2. Free the Dictionary!

- Wiktionary
- Not as far along as Wikipedia, but picking up steam
- Needs software development for support



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# 3. Free the Curriculum!

- Complete curriculum in every language
- Kindergarten through University level
- A much bigger task than the encyclopedia
- Wikibooks.org



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# 4. Free the Music!

- The most amazing works in history are public domain but not many public domain recordings exist
- Proper scores are often proprietary derivative works
- Volunteer orchestras, student orchestras



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# 5. Free the Art!



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400 years old



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# My response?



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## William Shakespeare

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

**William Shakespeare** (April [1564](#); [baptised April 26, 1564](#) – [April 23, 1616](#) (O.S.), [May 3, 1616](#) (N.S.)), [English poet](#) and [playwright](#), has a reputation as the greatest of all [writers](#) in the [English language](#) and in [Western](#) literature, as well as one of the world's pre-eminent [dramatists](#).

Shakespeare's literary achievement is not confined to his mastery of the poetic and dramatic form; his ability to capture and convey the most profound aspects of [human nature](#) is considered by many scholars to be unequalled, due to his understanding of the range and depth of human emotions. A colossal figure in world literature, Shakespeare's legacy and influence continues to be felt in all parts of the globe. He has been translated into every major living [language](#), and his plays are continually performed all around the world. Shakespeare is among the very few playwrights who have excelled in both [tragedy](#) and [comedy](#).

Shakespeare wrote his works between [1588](#) and [1616](#), although the exact dates and [chronology of the plays](#) attributed to him are often uncertain. His prolific output is especially impressive in light of the fact that he lived only 52 years.

Shakespeare's influence on the English-speaking world shows in the widespread use of [quotations from Shakespearean plays](#), the [titles of works based on Shakespearean phrases](#), and the many [adaptations](#) of his works.



William Shakespeare ([National Portrait Gallery](#)), in the famous [Chandos portrait](#), artist and authenticity unconfirmed.

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# 6. Free the File Formats!

- Proprietary file formats are worse than proprietary software because they leave you with no ability to switch at a later time
- Your data is controlled
- There is considerable progress here
- Continued European rejection of software patents is critical



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# 7. Free the Maps!

- “What could be more public domain than basic information about location on the planet?” - Stefan Magdalinski
- FreeGIS software, Free GeoData
- This will become increasingly important for open competition in mobile data services



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# 8. Free the Product Identifiers!

- Increasingly, small producers can have a global market
- Such producers need a competition among aggregators
- Competition among aggregators is furthered by independent product identifiers



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# What should it look like?

- ISBN, not ASIN
- LTIN - “Long Tail Identification Numbers”
- cheap or inexpensive to obtain
- Extensive database freely licensed and easily downloadable to empower multiple rating systems, e-commerce, etc.
- The alternative is proprietary control by ebay, Amazon, etc.



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# 9. Free the TV Listings

- Development of free software digital PVRs is going on
- Free-as-in-beer listings exist, but this is tenuous
- Free listings could be used to power many different innovations in this area



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# 10. Free the Communities!

- Wikipedia demonstrates the power of a free community
- Consumers of web forum and wiki services should demand a free license
- Otherwise, the company controls the community
- Are you a serf living on your master's estate, or free to move?
- Wikicities - for profit, free communities



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