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Summary of Wikipedia Assignment

The process of developing an entirely new Wikipedia page about Aaron Levy’s *Pizza with Shrimp on Top* started hesitantly, but with determination on all group members’ part. We started by familiarizing ourselves with Wikipedia and the tutorials that ensued through the “About” section. After creating an account, satisfying the goals, edit counts, and expectations of Wikipedia strongly showed all of us that this online encyclopedia is a well developed and credible system, full of checks and editorial supervisions.

Therefore, we attempted to not follow our initial instincts of creating a page strictly about Aaron Levy, as Wikipedia advises against creating bios about less well known individuals, but to research and develop his published play information, *Pizza with Shrimp on Top.* We began creating individual edits on local pages that we were personal experts of, such as out home town or even Kennesaw State University on Wikipedia. By experimenting with small edits in class to meet edit count, we started gradually without being overwhelmed at once with Wiki protocol. Learning the process of coding headings and subheadings, linking to Wikipedia articles, and the painful task of citing embedded source links with footnotes took much diligence and time, however, after those initial edits. James and Jordan worked to master the structuring of Wikipedia entries, while Molly and Elisma developed a credible source foundation from Aaron Levy and other online references. We had several group meetings to pool our information, learn the system of Wikipedia, and gradually develop the encoded format of our entire wiki entry. By using Wikispaces were able to all add our information instantly as well when we were unable to meet.

We effectively planned and created a *Pizza with Shrimp on* Top Wikipedia article entry with cast, publication, staged readings, author bios with details, and even a YouTube linked video with Aaron reading along in a staged reading. While not necessarily adding significant quantities of reliable entries, we attempted to remain focused on this play and the contents there in that have documentation. Directly after posting the article to Wikipedia, screen shots were taken and posted to our wiki cite in case of removal. We all agreed that this was a very challenging assignment that required all our full efforts to even attempt to develop. Wikipedia certainly is nothing to be dismissed, and implementing this assignment in a classroom would certainly drive home similar sentiment among students and teachers.