

MRC editathon, 11 October, The Royal Society

Feedback form – summary of responses

We received 17 feedback forms from 19 attendees at the MRC editathon.

Notes: the feedback has been given a numerical value to aid analysis, with the bottom of the scale (eg: “very bad”) being given one and the top (eg: “very good”) a value of five.

1. Please rate the following:

Answer options	Very low					Very high	Mean rating
The workshop in general	0	0	5	5	7		4.12
Content	0	0	5	6	6		4.06
Trainers	0	0	4	6	7		4.18
Materials available	0	0	4	7	6		4.12
Your confidence to edit Wikipedia	0	1	5	6	4		3.81
Your understanding of Wikipedia	0	1	4	8	4		3.88

The common theme amongst the nine additional comments was that more time would have been useful, perhaps directed towards more one-to-one training and having a shorter introductory lecture.

See Appendix 1 for further details.

4. Tell us at least one thing that would have improved this workshop for you

Several people suggested that more time for editing would have been useful, and another group of comments indicated that it would be useful to ask participants to prepare beforehand. For one person, having to set up an account on the day delayed them from editing, and the training ran into the problem of registering too many people from the same IP address. It is often common practise to ask people to register before the day. If people have the opportunity to research a particular subject in advance, it is one less thing to worry about on the day.

Katie Chan's talk was specifically highlighted by one person as especially useful. A one-to-one approach was thought to be more effective than demonstrations. On a housekeeping note, one person pointed out that round tables meant some trainees had their back to the presenters.

See Appendix 4 for further details.

5. Further comments – anything positive or negative that you would like to share!

Five people left comments, with two of them taking the opportunity to say they liked the event. It was noted, however, that one person "missed most of the tutorial because the trainer (John?) was talking over the speaker". Another person also suggested that the introduction was a bit complex.

See Appendix 5 for further details.

Appendix 1: Please rate the following – additional comments

“A whole day would be good! Was only just finding info and getting comfortable with the editing”

“Perhaps more step-by-step directions”

“More time for training and editing”

“Useful to advise people to set up Wikipedia account before workshop”

“Perhaps the training could be like a tutorial? Go through it together.”

“Really fun experience”

“Speakers could have been more concise”

“Hands-on part was the most helpful. The lecture at the beginning was less so.”

“I think I'll need a part 2 workshop”

Appendix 2: How likely are you to continue editing Wikipedia – additional comments

“Just need to commit to it”

“It is quite time consuming to create a page, but just editing a page will be easier.”

“Time permitting!”

“It's great fun and I will have time next year”

Appendix 3: Please write three words/expressions which describe this workshop for you

“exciting (unexpectedly)”

“Inspiring”

“Interesting”

“Inspiring”

“Relaxed”

“Relaxed - wonderful birthday cake for Ada! #ALD13”

“Informative”

“Informative”

“Relaxing”

“Interesting”

“Awesome”

“inspiring attendees”

“exciting”

“very interesting”

“informative”

“confidence building”

“enjoyable”

“educational”

“rushed”

“meaningful”

“interesting”

“Informative - I'm now confident to edit”

“Delicious”

“Collaborative”

“Informative”

“fast-paced”

“interesting”

“great atmosphere”

“learning”

“useful”

“gave me time to practice”

“demystifying”

“challenging”

“empowering”

“useful”

“exciting”

“Effective - great to see entries go live!”

“Fun”

“Fun”

“Enjoyable”

“Demanding”

“Fun”

“slightly frustrating”

“female empowerment”

“surprisingly simple!”

“supportive”

Appendix 4: Tell us at least one thing that would have improved this workshop for you

“If I'd researched in advance who I wanted to write about (more encouragement to do that beforehand would be good)”

“More wine :-) Just kidding, maybe more discussion about style of writing”

“More time!”

“Nothing - I loved it”

“Better planning about who would write what article”

“Being able to arrive on time - my bad!”

“Less talks at the start, more one-on-one guided help for those that need it (Katie's talk was very useful).”

“Had to wait to set up account due to number of accounts set up on day - delayed me”

“Better chairs - suitable for working on a laptop”

“More time to get familiar with a plethora of new terms, tools etc.”

“Less demonstrations”

“It you would be better if I prepare myself so I just come to learn about editing. As there is a lot of homework, not just editing.”

“Show advance edit option/page format”

“Round tables mean some of us have out back to presenters”

Appendix 5: Further comments - anything positive or negative that you would like to share!

"The introduction was a bit complicated. I'd like to know how the talk pages etc work more now. That will probably be the part that I hesitate about perusing..."

"Wiki markup sheet very useful. Good friendly collaborative atmosphere - great support given!"

"I missed most of the tutorial because the trainer (John?) was talking over the speaker - be nice to each other guys!"

"I would have liked a talk about the role of wiki in science and education/references etc"

"Lovely food. Everyone really helpful."