

Re: use of small kana on the increase?

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang.japan/2006-12/msg00213.html>

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- *From:* Phil Yff <[phil.yff@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:phil.yff@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 5 Dec 2006 06:35:44 -0500
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On Tue, 5 Dec 2006 05:12:29 -0500, Phil Yff wrote:

On Tue, 05 Dec 2006 03:05:39 GMT, [jwb@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:jwb@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) wrote:

Louise Bremner <[trap\\_for\\_junk\\_mail@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:trap_for_junk_mail@xxxxxxxxxx)> dixit:

I do so wish you'd used ROT13 .....

ROT13? Hugh and Nye are showing our ages. Who knows about ROT13 these days?

It's still in the usenet newsreader standard. Of course, usenet, too, is showing it's age. Kids are more into instant messaging and chat. The command my newsreader (40tude dialog has) is scramble/unscramble with rot13 in parentheses.

I should add that one of the reasons it crept into the newsreader standard is because it was easy to do on UNIX systems. There's a UNIX utility (tr) that does the cipher automatically. Back in the 80s when ROT13 came into vogue, UNIX protocols were a heavy influence on Usenet. After all, Usenet itself originated as a UNIX to UNIX file transfer protocol.

Phil Yff

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