

Re: Letters with **three** cases?

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- *From:* madms@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Dr. Des Small)
 - *Date:* 05 Jul 2005 10:16:40 +0100
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Lee Sau Dan <danlee@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:

> >>>> "Seán" == Seán O'Leathlóbhair <jwlawler@xxxxxxxx> writes:
>
> Seán> I had expected that many people would have answered this
> Seán> one. It is "Short Message Service". This is a feature
> Seán> available on most or all GSM mobile (cell) phones. It is
> Seán> also commonly called "text".
>
> "Text"? I've never seen such a usage.

Dude, you're in Hong Kong, isn't it? "Text" and "texting" are the standard form in Blighty.

> People say "SMS". This is true in Germany as well as Hong Kong.

Germany and Hong Kong! That's pretty much everywhere where the Engleesh is spoke, after all.

> "SMS" is also the term used by the mobile phone providers in their
> phamplets, service contracts, etc.

Remind us what you're providing evidence of?

[...]

> Seán> It allows you to send short (usually <= 160 characters)
> Seán> messages from one mobile phone to another. It is very
> Seán> popular in Europe and Asia but it does not seem to be
> Seán> popular in the USA.
>
> Asia? Not sure. Since voice calls in Hong Kong are so cheap, people
> simply don't bother to type such messages. Making a call and telling
> the recipient the message verbally is often cheaper than sending an
> SMS. And you don't waste time typing the message, and you get
> immediate verbal acknowledgement from the recipient.
>
> In Europe and Japan, it is quite popular, though. This is because an
> SMS costs much less than making a 1-minute voice call. (Japan doesn't

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> use GSM. They have their home-brewed PHS system.)

Your word for the day is "asynchronous". (Japan doesn't use SMS last I heard, either. When my sister was there her phone did honest-to-goodness email.)

Des
communicates asynchronously in real time too

• **Follow-Ups:**

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◇ From: Peter T. Daniels
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