

## Re: ASCII convention

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2005-10/msg00485.html>

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- *From:* Lee Sau Dan <[danlee@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:danlee@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 13 Oct 2005 08:09:40 +0800
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>>>> "Peter" == Peter T Daniels <[grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> writes:

Peter> Peter Daniels is not interested in coding. Peter Daniels is  
Peter> talking about the fonts on desktop computers -- the fonts  
Peter> that ordinary scholars, not up-to-the-minute tech gurus  
Peter> like yourself, use in preparing their scholarly  
Peter> manuscripts. If any portion of the "coding" process is  
Peter> visible to the end user, then the coding process is a  
Peter> failure. Just as no one using a typewriter needed to know  
Peter> anything about its innards other than changing the ribbon  
Peter> (though presumably they had their secretary do that).  
>> Why do you need to care about typing if you've got a decent  
>> secretary? And what if your secretary needs to change the  
>> ribbon? Does he have a secretary of his own to do it for him?

Peter> There were almost no male secretaries in the days of  
Peter> typewriter ribbons.

I thought "he" was a gender-neutral pronoun.

Peter> And there are almost no secretaries at all today; there are  
Peter> "assistants" and "administrative assistants" and such --  
Peter> perhaps because "secretary" had become perceived as a  
Peter> menial title, unsuited to male workers.

Then, why are you talking about it?

Peter> And scholars don't often have secretaries of any kind.

Really? Who does all the documentary work for you?

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Lee Sau Dan N^f ~{ @nJX6X~ }

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