

Re: Need help to answer a boy genius.

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- *From:* David C. Ullrich <ullrich@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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On Mon, 22 May 2006 02:00:17 GMT, The Ghost In The Machine  
<ewill3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Sun, 21 May 2006 03:56:25 +0300, Aatu Koskensisilta wrote:

Charlie-Boo wrote:

Aatu Koskensisilta wrote:

Since sci.logic is a USENET newsgroup, its  
being  
unmoderated means that it couldn't even  
theoretically have "members",

False and unsubstantiated.

It's true and there isn't anything in particular to substantiate.  
Unmoderated USENET newsgroups don't have "members" simply because  
there  
is no concept of anyone being a member of a USENET newsgroup to be  
found  
in either the relevant technical specifications or in common usage.

One can, of course, subscribe to a newsgroup. This is about as close to  
membership as anyone can get, and it's not all that close since the news  
server don't really give a fig as to which groups one subscribes to; they  
only care which groups are \*read\*, using the commands available in RFC977  
et al.

Does a news server even know who's subscribed to what group?  
My impression was that the notion of subscribing to a group  
was not part of the official protocol, it was just something

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that client software typically does – the `_client_` knows which groups the user has asked the `_client_` to subscribe to, and then the client uses the list of subscribed groups to decide which groups to ask the server about.

That's the way I `_thought_` it worked.

Also, newsgroups don't have users as such; they have articles. :-) In any event, a moderated newsgroup has moderators, and I don't think they'd be called members as such, though they might belong to a mailing list.

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David C. Ullrich

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