

I'm not a bot



查看: 41407|回复: 487 【复制链接】本站被以下淘专辑推荐: 收藏372 淘帖5 有用65 分享到朋友圈 发帖前要善用【论坛搜索】功能, 那里可能会有你要找的答案或者已经有人发布过相同内容了, 请勿重复发帖。 Hi, I was reading a sociolinguistics book and the author said the word "professional" can mean different things in the following two sentences. Could anyone kindly explain the different meanings? I am a nonnative speaker of English and have no clue. "He is a professional." vs. "She is a professional." Thank you for your time and attention! There is no difference unless a specific person is being discussed. It is now common practice to use both genders to represent a person of unspecified sex, as a way of removing gender-bias from the language. Dear Oldnovice, Here's what the author says: Lakoff cites numerous examples and clearly establishes her point that 'equivalent' words referring to men and women do have quite different associations in English. A particularly telling example is the difference between "He's a professional" and "She's a professional." Possibly the female 'professional' was a prostitute. That doesn't sound like current usage, but it might have been the implication perhaps thirty years ago. The book was published in 1986. I suggest that this example is a serious misunderstanding. Either that, or I was living in a little bubble of naivete in 1986 - it's not all that long ago. The actual example should probably be: A particularly telling example is the difference between "He's a pro" and "She's a pro." The first would have been interpreted as "professional", the second as "prostitute". I was trying to come up with a way of relating the two back to 'pro' that made sense. I don't think Lakoff can have used the actual word 'pro' in the sentences, because this obviously isn't a single word with two non-equivalent uses. I mean, it's just a coincidence, isn't it, that both 'prostitute' and 'professional' can be so abbreviated? I'm sure I read this myself many years ago; but I hate sociolinguistics, so it's blotted out. Edit. Found it, or at least where it comes from. They're quoting Robin Lakoff's 1975 Language and Woman's Place, and the female sense was "prostitute" back then. My thanks for the information on when the sentence was written, which makes my original answer wrong. Maybe it's an AE-BE difference, but I clearly remember when "professional lady" was a polite term for prostitute, based on the expression, "the world's oldest profession." So back in the day, I might well have interpreted "she's a professional" to mean that she was a prostitute. In that usage, she would probably have been a high-end call girl, not a streetwalker. 百度知道>提示信息 知道宝贝找不到问题了>_