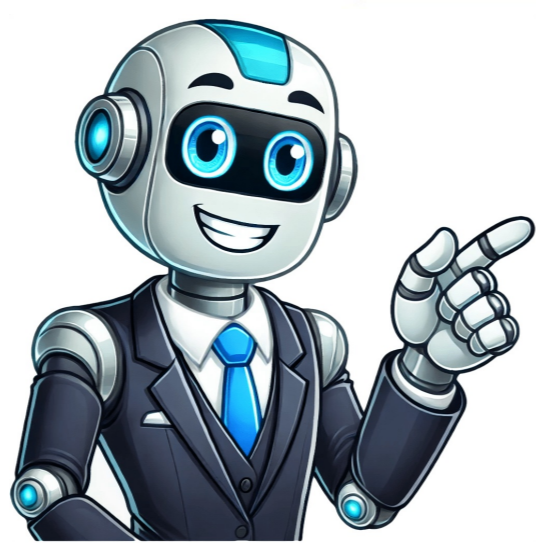


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Hello. I have read a sentence, and I want to know what it really means.Be honest when you write an essay. Admissions officers will not tolerate hype. You will be perceived as immature at best and unethical at worst. An admissions officer explained:"After 15 years of reading hundreds of essays a year, you develop an amazing ability to see straight through the bull"Thanks in advance. To see straight through the bull: "bull" here means "bullshit", and so the meaning is "to understand when people try to deceive you or tell you some nonsense, and see through it". Thanks a lot, I really thought about a "BULL", you know hehe, the male counterpart of the cow. But it makes more sense if I see it as "Bulshit". "Bull" is a very common short form of "bullshit" in places where people think it would be inappropriate to use "shit." A book on how to write a good essay for university admissions is that sort of place. What does "straight" mean in here? Is it used to modify "through"? If it's omitted, the expression would become "to see through the bull". The meaning doesn't change much. - It still refers to understand or be aware when people try to deceive you or tell you some nonsense.>Thanks. Last edited by a moderator: Feb 5, 2013 "Straight" has two meanings. It is an adverb, meaning "immediately", and also it modifies "through", i.e. "in a straight line". The two senses reinforce each other in this sentence and I wouldn't like to try to separate them.Nothing to do with "see me straight" which means give me some small compensation. I incline more to the "immediately" sense in this context.to see immediately through the bull.Less experienced people could take a while to realise they are reading bullshit. The experts note it immediately. (Just my opinion) Hello Keith and Biffo, You have both explained the "straight" in "to see straight through" in elegant ways, and I have understood it fully now. Thanks.> Last edited by a moderator: Feb 5, 2013 Namaste, Dear members. Please see this sentence and tell me why "intentions" is the only correct form and not the "intention".- I do not find any reason to doubt the intention/intentions of the two men who came here looking for honest work. Have a look at the photo I have attached. Thanks in advance. If it had been only one man, you might be tempted to use "this intention", though I think "doubt his intentions" would be a lot more usual. It's two men, so I'd unhesitatingly use the plural. They are two individuals, each with his own intention(s). I don't think it's to do with the number of men, but rather the plural meaning, which is not the same as intention. For example, we say He has good (or bad) intentions (not a good intention) A single "intention" is what a person "intends to do" (plans to do) about one specific thing. Every person has many intentions, not just one. In the example, you have no reason to doubt each man's intentions (plural). That means you have no reason to think they have any bad, unethical or immoral plans (intentions). Some examples of specific good intentions a new employee usually has. Each one is "an intention". - get to work on time. - work hard. - impress the boss. - get along with co-workers. - find a place near work to live. - save money. - eventually get a promotion. - wear appropriate clothing to work Some examples of specific bad intentions a new employee could have (but rarely do): - steal from the company. - murder the boss. - get away with being lazy and doing little work. - drink alcohol while working. - sell illegal drugs to co-workers Hi there, In a contract I'm translating there's a clause relating to monthly pay, reading: Salaire de xxxx euros net mensuel (primes d'éthique et d'assiduité incluses) What would (primes d'éthique et d'assiduité incluses) mean. All I can think of is bonus for work ethic and good attendance, but that seems a little like a contract for a school! Thanks I've no idea for "prime d'éthique" (only found one reference on google relating to a baseball player's contract...), but a "prime d'assiduité" is fairly common in France.Yes, it does sound very scholastic, but don't forget that there is always a cultural element. French companies report absenteeism as part of their productivity indicators, and I assume that there is in fact a high level of it for them to be so preoccupied by it (but maybe this is perception). If it is in fact true, it may be that the extreme hierarchical nature of the French workplace demotivates workers to such an extent that they are in fact often absent. OTOH, if it's a perception, the idea of rewarding people, or rather penalising people by taking away the so-called attendance bonus when they are repeatedly absent, is in and of itself a manifestation of this extreme hierarchical nature. Thanks. So does it refer to an actual bonus or is it a kind of absentee deterrent? Meaning "if you don't attend or behave yourself we'll find some way of penalising you." Almost "good work ethic and attendance have to be met for you to get what we've promised. Cheers Agnello It is in fact an absenteeism deterrent, but it is referred to as an attendance bonus, and that is how I would translate, euphemism and all. Regarding the "prime d'éthique", it is unlikely to refer to the work ethic, which you will recall is protestant in origin. The work ethic is a belief in the moral value of work. How can you give someone a bonus based on what they believe? would suggest that the ethics in question are specifically related to the industry concerned. Since I don't know what that is, I can't help you further. However, I can assume that the industry is ethically sensitive, and that it is considered necessary to deter employees from unethical behaviour (something in healthcare would be my guess). Therefore, the best translation would more likely be something in the vein of "a good behaviour bonus". 8o Perhaps a "professionalism bonus"? Is there any equivalent of that? It is moderate slang, but it means someone who both gossips but also spreads stupid things, and false allegations. There are a few terms that are possible, ag.meunier. Can you give us the sentence in French that you would illustrate the French term? It is used in south-west of France (and perhaps Corsica?), and usually not in a sentence. When someone says something exaggerated or false or slanderous, we say "Bouche de vieille!" as if we were calling him names, like "you liar!". It can also be used into a sentence, but I hear it less, like "celui l, c'est une bouche de vieille!" L'expression ne m'est pas familière. Dirais-tu, Michelvar, que c'est l'équivalent de langue de vipre ? Et sinon, quelle est la nuance? Si ce sont de proches synonymes, pourrait-on dire en anglais : malicious gossip? C'est en effet assez équivalent "langue de vipre", et "langue de pute". Personnellement je trouve que "langue de vipre" fait trop sec, trop "du nord", du coup j'utilise plutôt "langue de pute" Malicious gossip n'est pas dans les fils que t'as mis en lien, mais c'est ce que le dico de WR suggre, avec vicious tongue, pour traduire langue de vipre. J'aime en particulier ce post de bh7, sous le fil langue de pute : I would respectfully suggest that the woman's occupation as a prostitute need not figure at all in the English translation to convey the meaning of "a person with a foul mouth", "a female with a spiteful / venomous / vicious tongue". In fact, in BE "she talks like a fishwife" would do. C'est effectivement un dialogue, o après avoir entendu le tas d'inepties qu'une certaine personne a pu rprendre, quelqu'un, srieusement agac, mais qui ne veut pas trop le grossier s'exclame "c'est une vraie bouche de vieille". Une langue de pute m'on sens plus quelqu'un qui mtdit pour faire du mal ("pas forcément quelqu'un d'idiot). Une "bouche de vieille" n'est pas seulement mchante, elle/il/ dit des trucs stupides. Non? En Acadie, on entend le mot 'bagueur' (prononc badjeuler), issu de l'ancien franais bagouer; parler inconsidérment. Le reste des francophones n'ont gard que le mot 'bagout()'; Facilit de parole, pour tromper essentiellement.Un 'bagueux' tait un bavard assommant, mdisant. Je ne serais pas surpris outre mesure si on me disait que l'expression anglaise 'to badmouth someone' est issue de cette souche franaise (ou vice-versa). But, all that doesn't bring us any closer to an English equivalent for 'bouche de vieille', and I do agree with AG that the solutions offered in the thread aren't an exact fit. A paraphrase, as quoted from a well known cartoon character (Maxine), may be the only solution: 'Wipe your mouth with a napkin, you still have a bit of stupid stuck to your lips'You may want to go with the familiar 'stupid-talk', as in: 'Enough with the stupid-talk already!' or 'Don't listen to him, its only stupid-talk.' Last edited: Aug 26, 2014 Hahaha Carlos! 'Wipe your mouth with a napkin, you still have a bit of stupid stuck to your lips' is indeed hilarious!After digging what Nicomon suggested, I have found filthy fishwife's mouth... Would it be Okay? "She is just a filthy fishwife's mouth" sounds awesome but does it convey that she gossips also or just that she is loud and vulgar (I.e not gossiping just screaming her head off)? Last edited: Aug 26, 2014 For me a fishwife is just loud and vulgar, I wouldn't associate the term necessarily with gossip.What about "old windbag" or "old windbag (or even a bit more extreme: gasbag) does suggest stupidity and useless talk, but not necessarily nastiness. Maybe we need two words for the meaning of bouche de vieille:Nasty old windbag? Mix & match? ..., a badmouthing old windbag... It is about a very greedy, very corpocrat and unethical lawyer that uses her status to vehemently asserts things that are wrong. In order to con people into hiring a lawyer instead of filing a claim by themselves (very easy process), she of course says she is a lawyer but most importantly, she pretends also she is a victim herself and spreads false rumors on a dedicated victim forum. What she does misguides many many victims and most importantly, many victims who cannot afford a lawyer are so desperate because of what she spreads, that they just give up and lose everything. She is not only greedy and unethical, she is also aggressive and irrational in the reasoning she holds.One of her victims is saying: 'elle est la fois malfaisante, stupide et dpourvue de conscience. En plus de toutes ces "qualits" c'est une vraie bouche de vieille!' scheister Saw this word this morning intended to mean some sort of bad person, probably a fraud or huckster from the context. The only other place I could find it was in a post in the French-English forum, where it apparently meant a thief or embezzler. I thought perhaps my friend meant to say either shyster or keester, but neither fits. Here is the sentence: We need the free speech. We need to let scheisters sink or swim by themselves. It is spelled "shyster", and it does mean disreputable, dishonest, connan; unethical and dishonest lawyers are usually referred to as shysters. I agree that shyster fits your description. I found an entry about the etymology that explains it a bit more, including the reason for your alternate spelling. Nobody can find a word "schiester"? My young friend who used it almost never makes a spelling error, especially on a word as common as shyster. I found a yiddish forum, but apparently the registration process is going to take some time. Anybody here know a lot of Yiddish? Giro, I spoke Yiddish growing up, and it is not written in Latin characters, so the spelling is irrelevant. Your friend with the good spelling probably wrote it with the spelling he or she expected in a word German derivation.You could always ask about Yiddish in the Other Languages forum if you want, but think you will have good information from WestSideGal and Lablady. The Useseal Dictionary has an entry for it in Dublin Irish as an expletive, I can't find it in an online German dictionary, but I believe there is a word scheister meaning slicer and also figuratively applied to lawyers. And thanks WestSideGal and Lablady and Nun-translator. Still hoping for someone who can find a reference for the word as spelled. If my young colleague has an answer I'll post it when I hear back. Also have emails out to some native speakers of German and Irish. I have found a few quotes from an entry on the word "scheisser" in a German English reference, but I can't find a dictionary entry that lists it as an alternate spelling. Both spellings ("shyster", "scheister") seem to be in use, although the second looks German while the first German word is "scheisser" with no "t". "They are the epitome of stability in a fast shifting culture full of shifty shiftless sheisters." Stephen Powers, The Art of Getting Over: Graffiti at the Millennium, 1999, p. 113. "I left them with the parting shot that they should have their scheister call my lawyer, when convenient." Tony & Sandra Midea, A Fool's Guide To Landlording, 2004, p. 115. Yes it means a bullshitter, but it is a slightly cute word if you catch my meaning. Yes it means a bullshitter, but it is a slightly cute word if you catch my meaning. In the US, at least, it refers exclusively to unethical or unaccredited attorneys, and is not cute at all. It's a derogatory term for a lawyer, rather like calling a civil-claims attorney an "ambulance chaser". It almost certainly came into English from Yiddish rather than from German. I'm from the US and I've never heard of this exclusive use. People or institutions that lend at a usurious rate are also sometimes referred to as shysters. So are unethical politicians as the WordReference dictionary suggests. The word schyster comes most certainly from the German Scheisser as has been pointed out. The English suffix "ster" (one who does) is the equivalent of the German "er" in this case. It is Aeronautical English Hello, what does "bet on a certainty" mean? "Oh, Elmer, you can't bet on a certainty," said Mrs. Ramsay. This sentence is from 'Mr. Know All' by Somerset Maugham The story happens on a ship. Mr. Ramsay and Mr. Kelada talk about Mrs. Ramsay pearl chain. Mr. Ramsay says that it is an imitation and Mr. Kelada is sure that it is real. So they decide to bet on it. You usually bet on something which isn't certain, hence the odds as an enticement to bet. If you know that something is certain to happen, you are happy to bet on it, when someone else offers you odds - maybe they don't know it's a certainty. Of course the expression has numerous possible figurative and ironic overtones. What does it possibly mean in this case?As it's revealed in the story, Mrs. Ramsay's pearls are real but her husband doesn't know about it. Mr. Ramsay is an American consular service and he was stationed at Kobe. So he left his wife in New York. Mrs. Ramsay probably has a lover and the lover bought this pearl chain. It still means what Thomas says it means. Bets are normally placed on future events, which horse will win a race, who will be dealt the winning hand in a card game, whether or not it will rain tomorrow, etc. I think there is a moral implication here. If you bet against someone and you already know the outcome then it comes close to cheating. If several people are looking at a string of pearls trying to decide if they are real or not, and one of them knows the provenance on the pearls and knows for certain that they are real his betting on the outcome the the discussion might be considered unethical. He has information that the others are not privileged to, an unfair advantage. Does Mrs. Ramsay know the pearls are real? If so, I believe Mrs. Ramsay is advising Elmer (is that her husband?) not to make the bet because she is certain the pearls are real. Does Mrs. Ramsay know the pearls are real? If so, I believe Mrs. Ramsay is advising Elmer (is that her husband?) not to make the bet because she is certain the pearls are real. Exactly. The last thing she wants him to discover is that they are real, so she does not want to bet. Elmer's certainty is that they are fake pearls - he just happens to be wrong and she knows it.P's she is basing her argument on the morality of betting on a certainty as pointed to by Packard. Surely she knows that pearls are real but he doesn't want to reveal it. She told his husband that they are imitation and paid a little money for it. There isn't written that she had a lover but we guess that she really did. So she pretends that she just didn't want her husband to be certain to win and spend money. But the reality is the different, she doesn't want her secret to be revealed that she has a lover and pearls are gifted by him. Bonjour, je cherche la traduction d'une expression que Tom cruise utilise dans son film Jerry Maguire, pourriez-vous m'clairer?" Ok, I shopliffed the pootie" Je crois que ca s'crit comme a. D'avance merci OK, I remember this quote from watching the movie and it's rather difficult to explain. Shopliffing is a certain type of theft. Pootie is a slang term for vagina. So literally he says, "OK, j'ai vol l'talage la chatte." More or less he's saying he got sex for nothing. It's extremely difficult to explain, and I hope you understand. I was able to find a link with this quote in it, so if anyone can explain better than me, here's the transcript of the scene: Rod Tidwell: I feel for you, man. But a real man wouldn't shoplift the pootie from a single mom, Jerry Maguire: I didn't shoplift the pootie. [Rod gives him a long Look] Jerry Maguire: All right. I shopliffed the pootie. Good luck and sorry I don't know much more. "Pootie" est simplement un mot d'argot pour le vagin d'une femme. L. c'est pour dire qu'il avait des relations sexuelles avec une femme pauvre rien. Je suis americain, et c'est un mot assez familier. Pour le dire crument mais on ne peut plus clairement, je crois que a veut dire "tirer son coup", sans sentiments, juste pour s'amuser. As an American and native English speaker, I have to say this is not a phrase you hear often. Maybe it was briefly popular slang in the mid-90's, but I think I've only ever heard this phrase in Jerry McGuire, never elsewhere. Shoplift is of course a very common word, but not "pootie". Not in the 2020's anyway. Perhaps, Je l'ai baise. With the double meaning "I fooled her," and "I fucked her."? I find je l'ai baise more vulgar than I shopliffed the pootie, just like I fucked her. They probably choosed this (pictorial?) expression to avoid using the F word. Thier son coup (#5) is good, there's also culbutter. Je lui ai mis une bote. Je me la suis faite. Dans un forum, on trouve l'explication suivante:In Jerry Maguire it means "playing nice with the kid to get at banging the mother," but it could refer in a broader sense to "any mildly unethical behavior used to get a woman in bed." Outre le sens sexuel, pootie: (slang) A baby's pacifier. Please pick up the baby's pootie and put it back in his mouth.Si cette interprtation est valable, il y aurait l'de de "se la mettre dans la poche" (ou dans son lit) avec diffrnts doubles sens sur "pootie". "pootie" is a child's pronunciation of "pussy" at an age where it wouldn't know the sexual denotation of the word. "Like in the Tweety and Sylvester cartoons where Tweety says "I tawt I taw a puddy tat." Last edited: Jun 21, 2024 Hi all! There is a spanish saying that I suppose exists in well in english but I don't know how translate it... literal translation would be: knock/throw stones over my own roof. May u help me, pls? Tks!!! Hmmm, I'm not sure. Could it be the following? "People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones." That means that people who are acting/behaving in a way that is questionable or unethical, shouldn't criticize or question the behavior of others. For example, a married politician who is having a secret homosexual affair publicly denounces homosexuality and says that being gay is immoral and a sin. Que tal - "to bite the hand that feeds you"...? De hecho, no estoy seguro a que se refiere o que significado tiene tu frase hecha en espanol... espero te sirva, Lachina, please give us a scenario, in Spanish, using the expression or explain under what circumstances your Spanish expression is used. Once you put it in context, it will be easier to give you an English equivalent. Here's a link where the issue was previously discussed in the forum: Hi! Tks! Well, not exactly... it's more...uhmm... when you do things which could come back against you... but acting unconsciously... +/- Yes... I suppose is similar than you're saying... "To shoot yourself in the foot" is an expression that means to take some action that comes back to harm you. Que les parsee - "to cook one's own goose"...? Saludos, Hi!!!... we (the company) would like to promote something but perhaps we don't have enough/strong arguments to support it and the competitors could use our own idea to attack us... so we would be "acting" against ourselves... +/-... Tks!!! ... Heyyy thank you 3 all!! Hi!!!... we (the company) would like to promote something but perhaps we don't have enough/strong arguments to support it and the competitors could use our own idea to attack us... so we would be "acting" against ourselves... +/-... Tks!!! ... Heyyy thank you 3 all!! Well in this case you could use "cook one's own goose" and "shoot oneself in the foot" both are appropriate. For example you could say something like: "we are really shooting ourselves in the foot if our competitors copy our ideas and produce a product that outdoes ours in the market place" or "our goose is really cooked if our competitors copy our ideas and produce a product which is more superior and more successful than ours" If you provide us with what you wish to say in Spanish we will be in a better position to assist you in a more helpful way perhaps. What about using the adjective "blue-on-blue"? Hi everyone, I would like to verify the meaning of these two words because my source says that they are synonyms. I know that what is immoral or unethical can be subjective as it depends on one's personal conviction or religious affiliation. What I would like to learn is the correct usage of these terms [if I understand them correctly] as they are used by native English speakers. Based on my experience, what is usually labelled immoral are illicit sexual acts like fornication and adultery. And when one says immoral woman, one is usually talking about sexual immorality. But I also learned that immorality applies to corruption in the government, cheating in the elections, and similar acts (and not just sexual acts). On the other hand, unethical acts are those that are usually related to good manners and right conduct. For example, it is unethical to groom in public places (combing one's hair or putting on make up) and talk when your mouth is full. Also, they say that it is unethical to ask someone how much is his salary, unless you are very close friend or relative. The same is true with asking tactless questions that can offend other people. In my examples, I wouldn't consider combing one's hair in public immoral; nor will I consider adultery and fornication unethical. Please correct me if I have misunderstood the terms and feel free to give several very good examples of contrary to commonly held principles about how one should live.unethical = unfair or harmful to someone To me, "unethical" is a characterization of a violation of standards of behavior for a given profession or role. "Immoral" is a characterization of a violation of standards of behavior for a human being, no matter what their profession or role. Of course, there isn't 100% agreement on either type of standard among all humans. To me, "unethical" is a characterization of a violation of standards of behavior for a given profession or role. "Immoral" is a characterization of a violation of standards of behavior for a human being, no matter what their profession or role. Of course, there isn't 100% agreement on either type of standard among all humans. That makes sense too. I think it fits with the idea that "immoral" is more universal. I think the easiest way to remember which word to use would just be to think of "immoral" as worse than "unethical". I also agree with James. It might be acceptable for a single man to flirt with an unmarried woman, but it would be unethical for a doctor to flirt with his patient, for instance. It is immoral to steal money. It is unethical for an investment counselor to give her clients advice that is intended to channel money toward her own enterprises. Those are great examples; you're right! That would be the safe way to remember ! After reading subsequent posts, having a think about it, and doing some quick google-based usage research, I agree with James's definitions more than my own in post 3... I must have been trying to relate "unethical" somehow to the philosophy of "ethics" without thinking much about how the word is used in the real world. Add my voice to the JamesM-NunT chorus. After reading subsequent posts, having a think about it, and doing some quick google-based usage research, I agree with James's definitions more than my own in post 3... I must have been trying to relate "unethical" somehow to the philosophy of "ethics" without thinking much about how the word is used in the real world. Add my voice to the JamesM-NunT chorus. I too got tangled up with the big picture behind the word, I often do this: forgetting that all students of English need is the usage! I once confused the life out of a student in class trying to explain the term "Fall from grace" and going into far to much detail about the history of the phrase the philosophy and it's existence in different cultures, instead of just saying "It's a phrase: he's saying things were wonderful before, and now they're not." Greetings, everyone, I would like to raise a related question if I may. I was watching a video about scalpers turning coveted products around-GPUs in this case-and sell them for a fat profit.It suddenly struck me that I had no clue whether to call this an "immoral" practice or an "unethical" one.On the Internet, I found various examples of people using either of these two adjectives to describe scalping. In my humble opinion, this practice is unacceptable, but I can't seem to decide whether it is immoral or unethical.Could anyone kindly shed some light on this? Thank you! I'd use only use "unethical" for this situation. Something important to remember is that English has a long history as the language of a Judeo-Christian civilization. And so the idea that God exists, and that he holds people accountable for their actions, is an inseparable part of the language, simply because the words we used were adopted by people that believe this. You can see in previous comments that we are wriggling like eels to get out of this trap, or so we perceive it. We are doing everything we possibly can to avoid framing things in a God-including way. I think some of this is healthy, and some of it is dysfunctional.But I think it's really simple. Immoral refers to something that goes against your individual conscience. It is wrong because you shouldn't do it. And ethical refers to something that goes against the agreed-upon standards of a profession or of society in general, or against a general philosophy of good and bad acts. It's wrong because it wouldn't be right. I suppose you could say that immoral is based on tradition or religion, and unethical is based on philosophy and neutrality. But I think the colloquial distinction is more like the difference between personal guilt and social shame. Nicely explained, Snaga.

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