

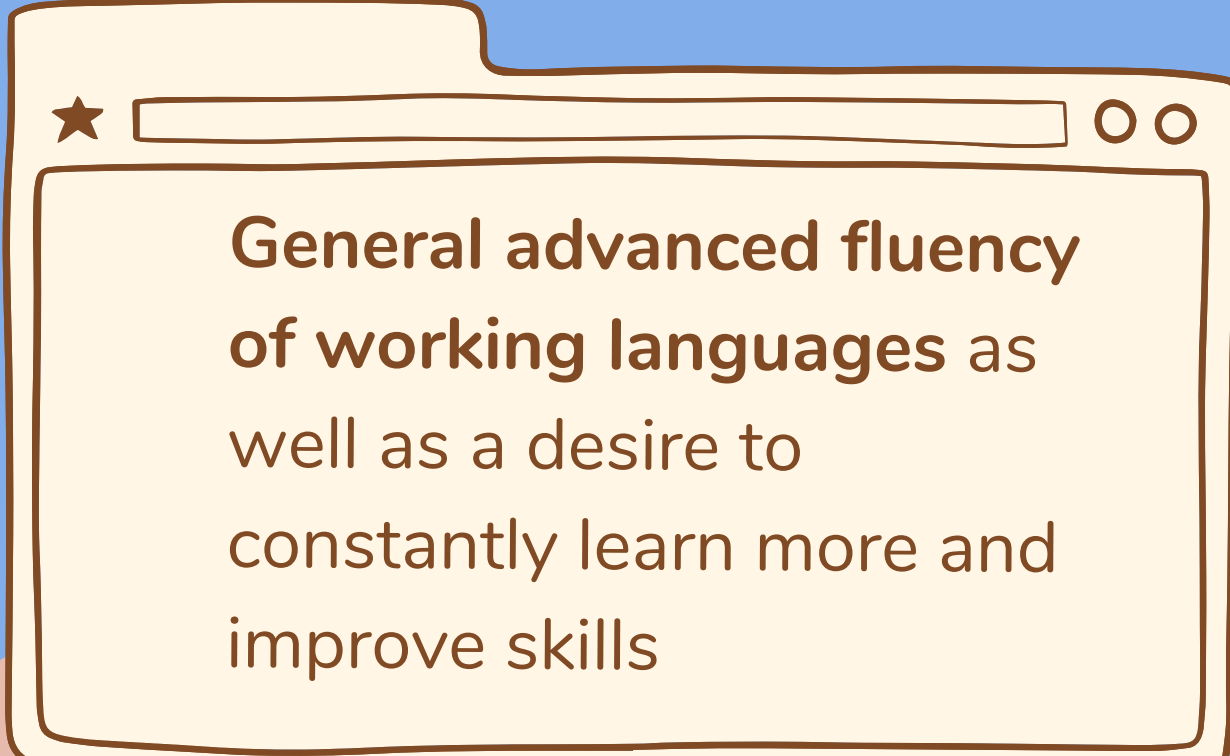
Qualities of an Interpreter



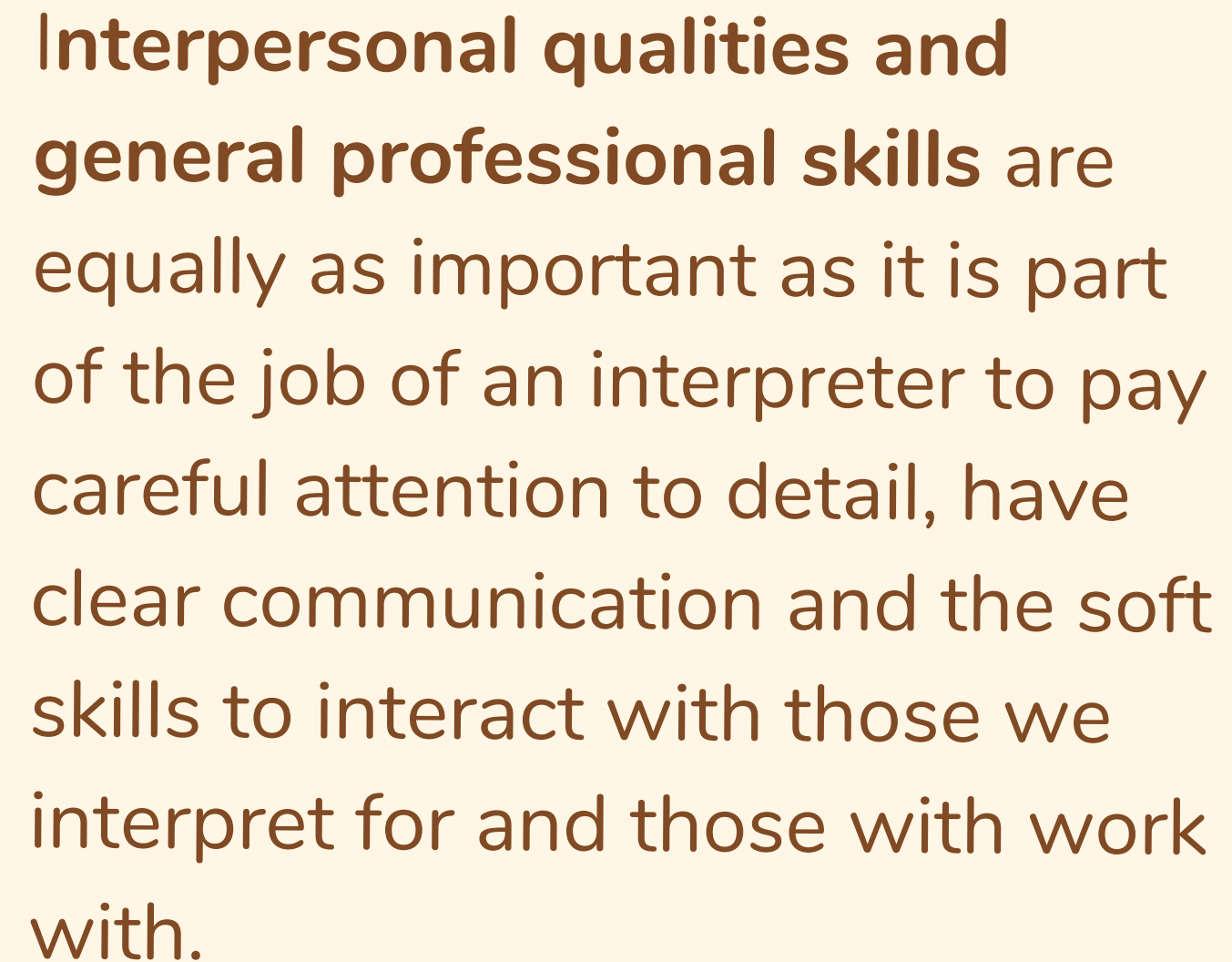


An effective language interpreter possesses more than just top-notch language skills – **they are able to combine a number of linguistic and interpersonal abilities to get the job done right.**

The Magic Combination

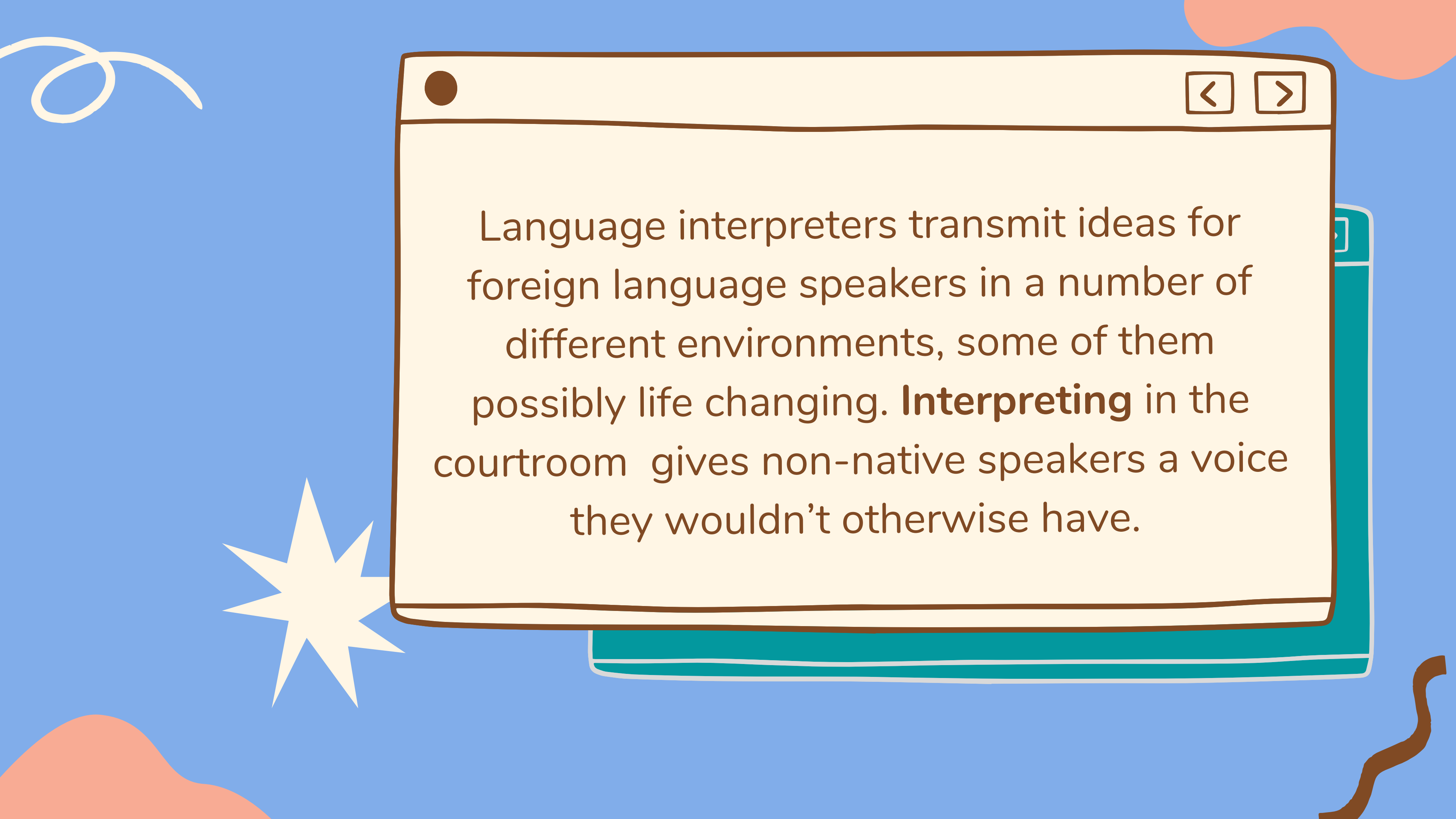


General advanced fluency of working languages as well as a desire to constantly learn more and improve skills



Interpersonal qualities and general professional skills are equally as important as it is part of the job of an interpreter to pay careful attention to detail, have clear communication and the soft skills to interact with those we interpret for and those with work with.





Language interpreters transmit ideas for foreign language speakers in a number of different environments, some of them possibly life changing. **Interpreting** in the courtroom gives non-native speakers a voice they wouldn't otherwise have.

Language Skills



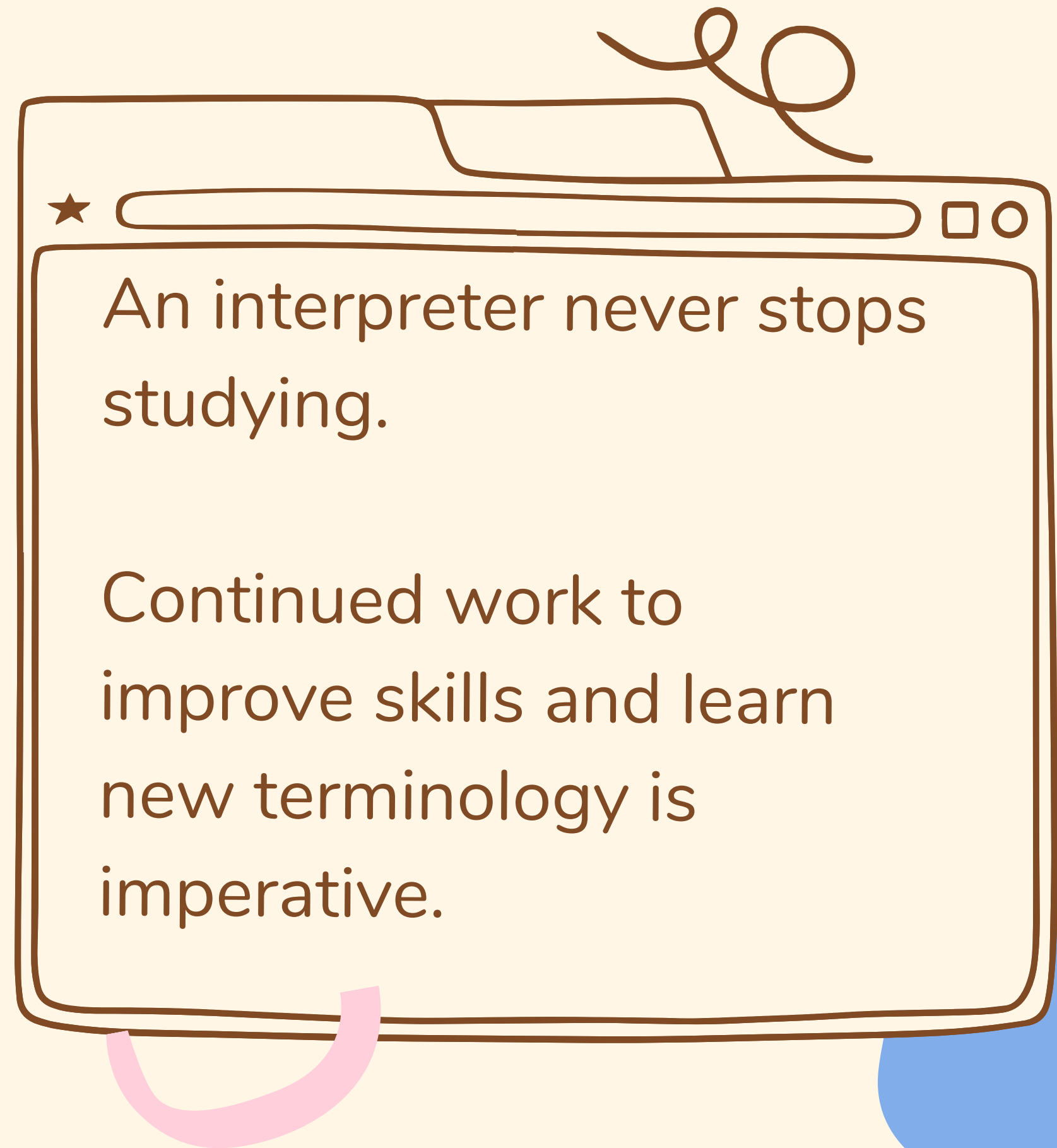
FLUENCY IN LANGUAGES

An interpreter should be able to speak just as well, and preferably better, than a native speaker. Superior grammatical knowledge and the ability to interpret idioms, nuance and metaphors in conversation is essential to effective communication.

TECHNICAL TERMINOLOGY

Knowledge of court systems, the legal field, and every day legal terminology as well as any other technical terminology that might be part of any legal proceeding.

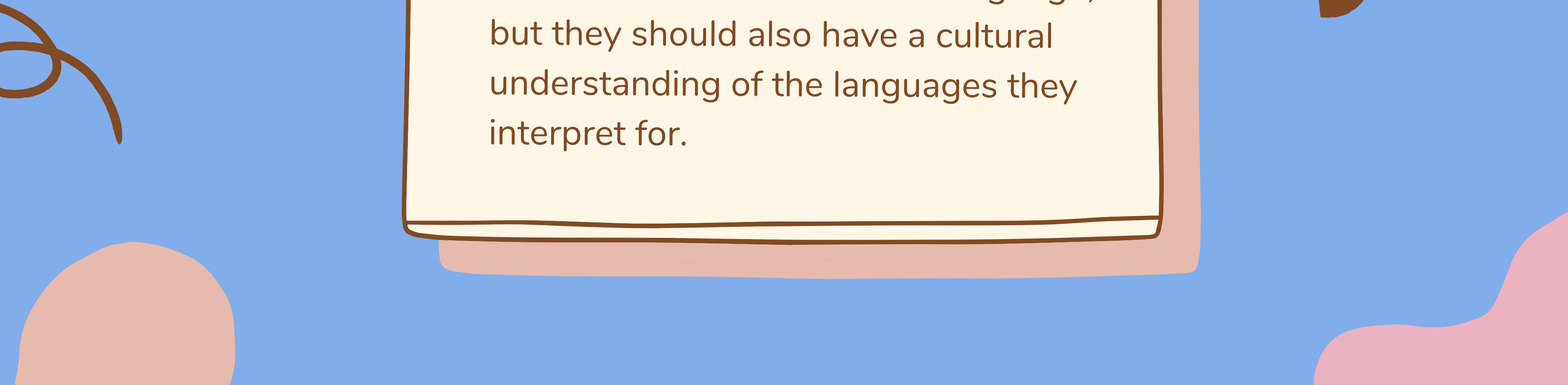
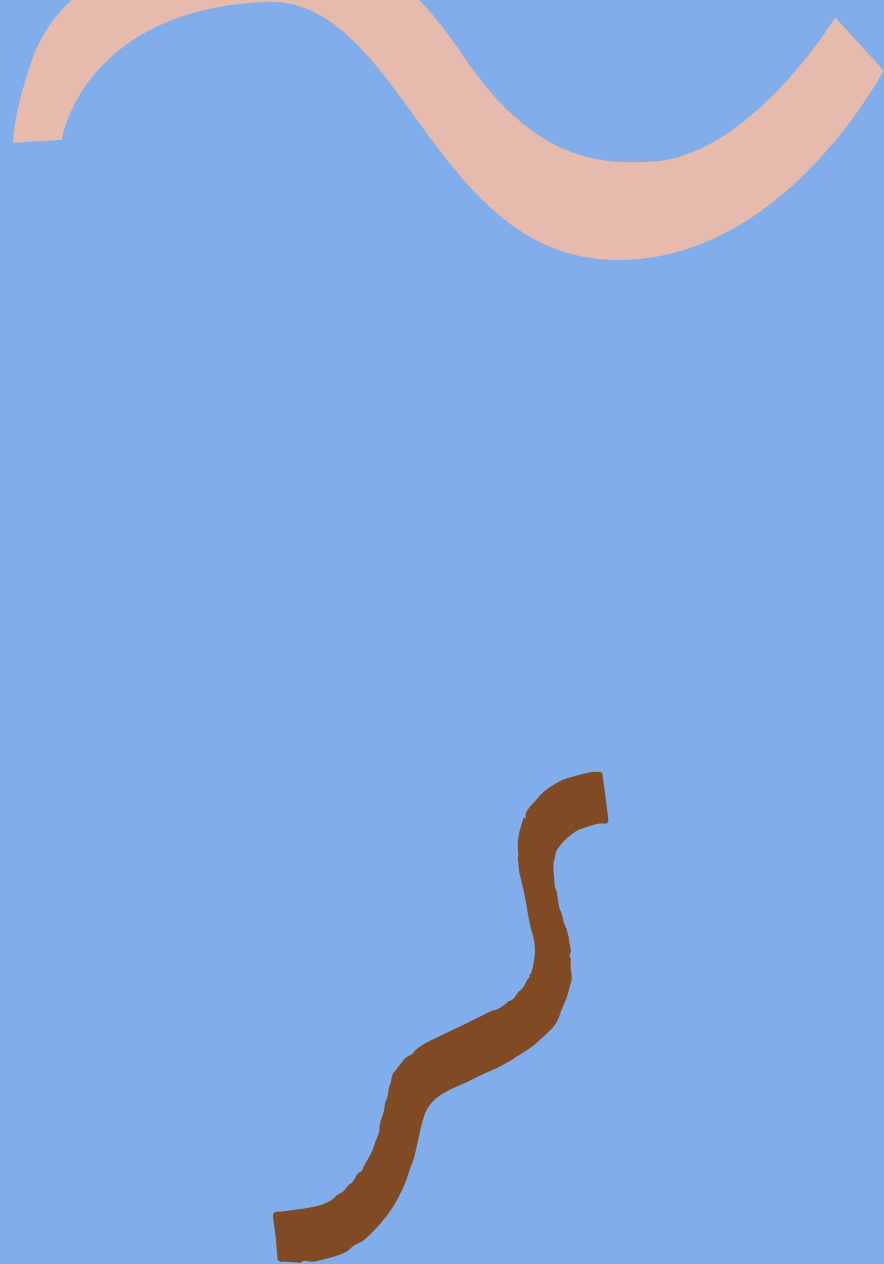
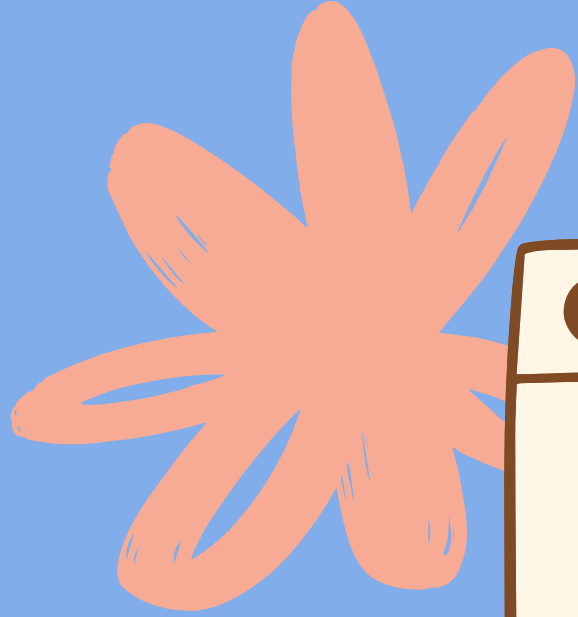
Constant and continued study



An interpreter never stops studying.

Continued work to improve skills and learn new terminology is imperative.

Cultural Competence



Interpreters should not only be very familiar with more than one language, but they should also have a cultural understanding of the languages they interpret for.

Ethics



A complete understanding of the ethical canons interpreters are bound by is imperative to prevent legal repercussions to both the client and the interpreter .

Interpersonal Qualities and other skills



Practice into skills such as **careful reading of instructions and detailed information** is important work for the profession in itself and to stand out as an independent contractor.



Active listening and clear communication

Listening is an important aspect of the work of an interpreter in and out of the courtroom. Listening and clearly communicating is an essential part of good working relationships with colleagues and those you are offering services to.



Time management and organizational skills

Note taking and glossary building is a foundational block of proper interpreting. Outside of court an interpreter must also keep well organized correspondence, invoicing practices and time management skills to ensure timely arrival and correspondence with hiring bodies.





Thank You

Colorado Judicial - Office of Language Access