
Global Certificate in Court Interpreting

Interpreting in Special Court Settings

A posteriori is a term used in philosophy and logic to describe knowledge or justification that is derived from experience or observation, as opposed to a priori knowledge, which is derived from reason alone. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, a posteriori knowledge may be relevant in understanding the nuances of language and culture that are specific to a particular region or community. For example, an interpreter working in a court setting in a rural area may need to be familiar with local dialects and expressions that are not commonly used in urban areas.

Ad hoc is a term used to describe a solution or approach that is created for a specific purpose or situation, rather than being a standard or established procedure. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, ad hoc solutions may be necessary in emergency or unanticipated situations, such as when an interpreter is not available to interpret a particular language or dialect. For example, a court may need to use a telephone or video interpreting service in order to provide interpretation services in a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Administrative regulations are rules and guidelines that govern the administration of a particular organization or institution, such as a court. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, administrative regulations may be relevant in understanding the procedures and protocols that govern the use of interpreters in court proceedings. For example, a court may have regulations governing the certification and qualification of interpreters, as well as the scheduling and assignment of interpreting services.

Adversarial system is a legal system in which two or more parties present their cases to a judge or jury, with the goal of winning or prevailing in the dispute. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, the adversarial system may present challenges for interpreters, such as the need to remain impartial and neutral in the face of conflicting evidence and arguments. For example, an interpreter working in a criminal trial may need to interpret testimony from both the prosecution and the defense, while avoiding any appearance of bias or partiality.

Ambiguity is a term used to describe a situation or statement that is open to multiple interpretations or meanings. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, ambiguity may be a challenge for interpreters, who must strive to provide clear and accurate interpretations of testimony and evidence. For example, an interpreter working in a civil trial may need to interpret technical or specialized terminology that is subject to multiple interpretations.

Appeal is a request to a higher court to review and reverse a decision made by a lower court. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, an appeal may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony

and evidence that was presented in the lower court. For example, an interpreter working in an appellate court may need to interpret transcripts of testimony that was given in a trial court.

Arbitration is a process in which a neutral third party hears evidence and arguments from two or more parties and makes a binding decision. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, arbitration may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony and evidence that is presented during the arbitration process. For example, an interpreter working in an arbitration proceeding may need to interpret technical or specialized terminology that is relevant to the dispute.

Back-translation is a process in which a translation is translated back into the original language in order to check its accuracy and validity. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, back-translation may be used to verify the accuracy of interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a criminal trial may use back-translation to verify the accuracy of testimony that was given in a foreign language.

Bilingual is a term used to describe an individual who is proficient in two or more languages. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, bilingual individuals may be used as interpreters or translators, particularly in situations where a high level of linguistic and cultural competence is required. For example, a bilingual interpreter working in a family court may need to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Certification is a process in which an individual or organization is recognized as having met certain standards or requirements for competence or qualification. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, certification may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters have the necessary skills and knowledge to provide accurate and effective interpreting services. For example, a court may require that interpreters be certified by a national or international organization in order to work in court proceedings.

Civil law is a branch of law that deals with disputes between individuals or organizations, rather than criminal behavior. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, civil law may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony and evidence in civil trials, such as personal injury or contract disputes. For example, an interpreter working in a civil trial may need to interpret technical or specialized terminology that is relevant to the dispute.

Cultural competence is a term used to describe the ability to understand and appreciate the cultural differences and nuances of a particular group or community. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, cultural competence may be essential in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where cultural differences may impact the outcome of a case. For example, an interpreter working in a family court may need to be familiar with the cultural and linguistic nuances of a particular community in order to provide effective interpreting services.

Deaf is a term used to describe an individual who is profoundly hearing impaired or deaf. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, deaf individuals may require the use of sign language interpreters or

other auxiliary aids in order to participate fully in court proceedings. For example, a deaf witness may require the use of a sign language interpreter in order to testify in a trial.

Deposition is a statement or testimony that is given by a witness outside of a courtroom, often in a law office or other location. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, depositions may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a deposition may need to interpret technical or specialized terminology that is relevant to the case.

Dialect is a term used to describe a variety of a language that is spoken in a particular region or community. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, dialects may present challenges for interpreters, who must be able to understand and interpret the nuances of a particular dialect in order to provide accurate and effective interpreting services. For example, an interpreter working in a court in a rural area may need to be familiar with the local dialect in order to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak that dialect.

Discourse analysis is a term used to describe the study of language in use, including the structure and organization of text and talk. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, discourse analysis may be relevant in understanding the ways in which language is used in court proceedings, including the roles of participants and the structure of interaction. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to be aware of the power dynamics and social relationships between participants in order to provide effective interpreting services.

Due process is a term used to describe the principle that individuals have the right to a fair and impartial hearing, including the right to be informed of the charges against them and to have the opportunity to respond to those charges. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, due process may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a criminal trial may need to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to ensure that the defendant has a fair and impartial hearing.

Empathy is a term used to describe the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, empathy may be essential in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where emotional or sensitive topics are being discussed. For example, an interpreter working in a family court may need to be empathetic in order to interpret testimony from a witness who is emotional or distraught.

Ethics is a term used to describe the principles and standards that govern the behavior of professionals, including interpreters. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, ethics may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are aware of their roles and responsibilities, and that they are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services while maintaining the integrity and impartiality of the court

process. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to be aware of the confidentiality requirements of the court and to maintain the confidentiality of all information that is shared with them.

Evidentiary hearing is a term used to describe a hearing in which evidence is presented and testimony is given in order to determine the admissibility of certain evidence. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, evidentiary hearings may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in an evidentiary hearing may need to interpret technical or specialized terminology that is relevant to the case.

Expert witness is a term used to describe a witness who has specialized knowledge or expertise in a particular area, and who is called to testify in a court proceeding. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, expert witnesses may require the use of interpreters to interpret testimony that is given in a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to interpret testimony from an expert witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Federal court is a term used to describe a court that has jurisdiction over federal laws and regulations. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, federal courts may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a federal court may need to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to ensure that the defendant has a fair and impartial hearing.

Hearing is a term used to describe a proceeding in which evidence is presented and testimony is given in order to determine the outcome of a case. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, hearings may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a hearing may need to interpret technical or specialized terminology that is relevant to the case.

Immigration court is a term used to describe a court that has jurisdiction over immigration laws and regulations. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, immigration courts may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in an immigration court may need to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to ensure that the defendant has a fair and impartial hearing.

Impartiality is a term used to describe the ability to remain neutral and unbiased in a particular situation or context. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, impartiality may be essential in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a

court may need to remain impartial in order to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Informed consent is a term used to describe the process of obtaining permission from an individual to participate in a particular activity or procedure, after they have been fully informed of the risks and benefits of that activity or procedure. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, informed consent may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to obtain informed consent from a witness before interpreting their testimony.

Interpreter is a term used to describe an individual who provides interpretation services, including simultaneous and consecutive interpretation. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, interpreters may be used to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to ensure that the defendant has a fair and impartial hearing.

Judicial is a term used to describe something that is related to the administration of justice, including courts and judges. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, judicial proceedings may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Language access is a term used to describe the ability of individuals to access information and services in their native language. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, language access may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to provide interpretation services in order to ensure that a defendant who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area has a fair and impartial hearing.

Legal terminology is a term used to describe the language and concepts that are used in the legal profession, including court proceedings and legal documents. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, legal terminology may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to be familiar with legal terminology in order to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Linguistic is a term used to describe something that is related to language, including linguistics and language teaching. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, linguistic competence may be essential in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services,

particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to be familiar with the linguistic nuances of a particular language in order to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks that language.

Mediation is a term used to describe a process in which a neutral third party helps to resolve a dispute between two or more parties. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, mediation may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a mediation proceeding may need to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to facilitate communication between the parties involved.

Multilingual is a term used to describe something that is related to multiple languages, including multilingualism and language teaching. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, multilingualism may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to be familiar with multiple languages in order to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak different languages.

Native language is a term used to describe the language that an individual learns as a child and speaks as their primary language. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, native language may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to be familiar with the native language of a witness in order to interpret their testimony.

Neutral is a term used to describe something that is impartial or unbiased, including interpreters and translators. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, neutrality may be essential in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to remain neutral in order to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Oath is a term used to describe a promise or vow to tell the truth, often made by a witness before testifying in a court proceeding. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, oaths may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to interpret an oath that is given by a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Perjury is a term used to describe the act of lying under oath, including testifying falsely in a court proceeding. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, perjury may be relevant in ensuring that interpreters are

able to provide accurate and effective interpreting services, particularly in situations where the stake is high and the consequences of error are significant. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to be aware of the consequences of perjury in order to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area.

Plaintiff is a term used to describe the party that brings a lawsuit against another party, often in a civil case. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, plaintiffs may require the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to interpret testimony from a plaintiff who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to ensure that they have a fair and impartial hearing.

Plea bargain is a term used to describe an agreement between a defendant and a prosecutor in which the defendant agrees to plead guilty to a crime in exchange for a reduced sentence or other concessions. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, plea bargains may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a court may need to interpret testimony from a defendant who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to facilitate communication between the defendant and the prosecutor.

Pretrial is a term used to describe the period of time before a trial begins, often used to prepare for the trial and to resolve any pretrial motions. In the context of interpreting in special court settings, pretrial proceedings may involve the use of interpreters to interpret testimony from witnesses who speak a language that is not commonly spoken in the area. For example, an interpreter working in a pretrial proceeding may need to interpret testimony from a witness who speaks a language that is not commonly spoken in the area, in order to facilitate communication between the parties involved.