

World-Changing Technology

UNIT 7

Academic Reading & Writing



Learning Outcomes

- Be able to summarize key points in reading texts effectively.
- Be able to make inferences from texts accurately.
- Be able to write effective thesis statements.
- Be able to paraphrase texts correctly and effectively.



Vocabulary Review

“Future Technology: 3 Amazing Ideas That Could Change Our World”

Complicated

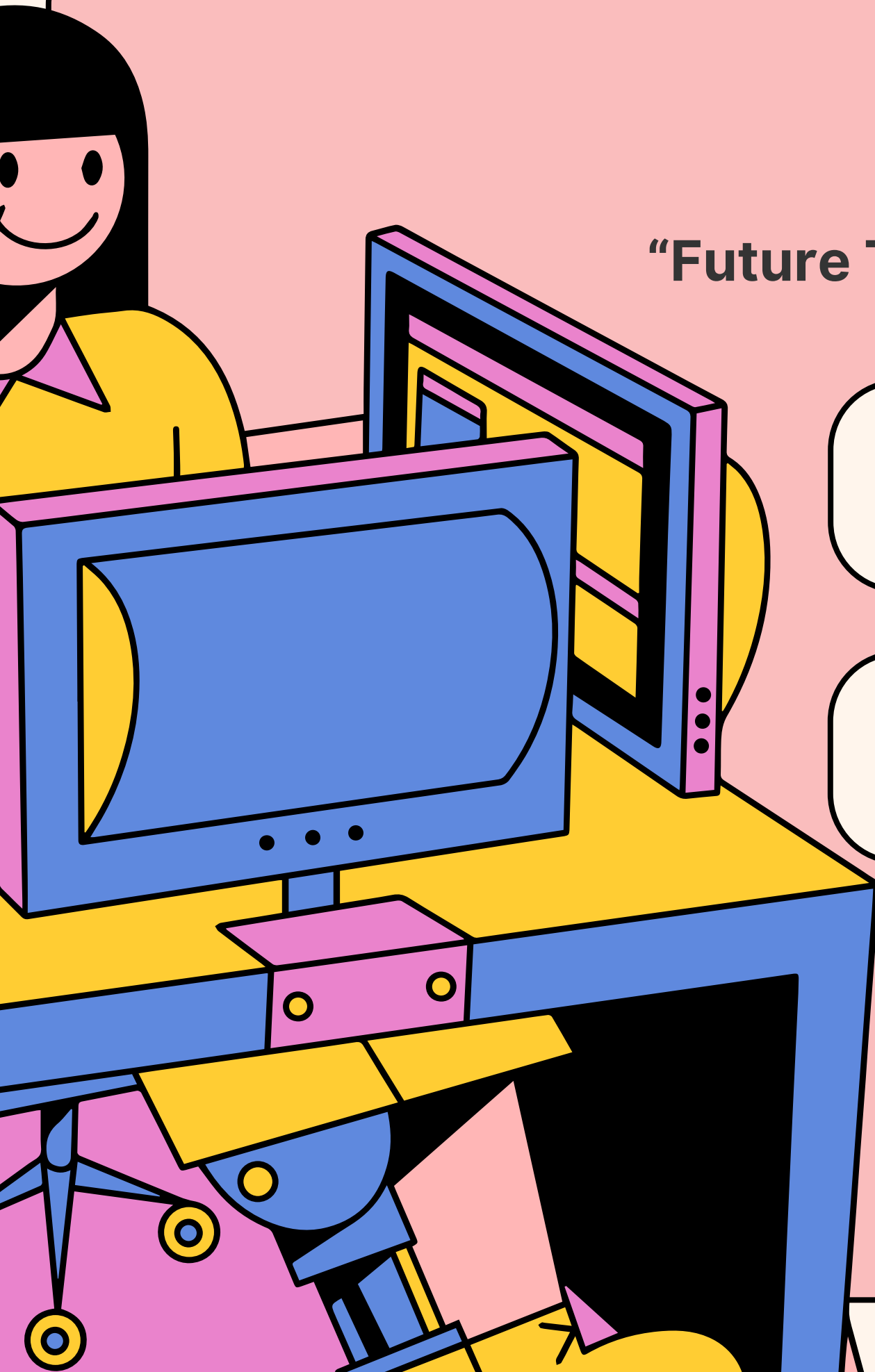
Creepy

Gadget

Gripper

Hydraulics

Infuse





Pile

Revolutionize

Surgeries

Transplant





Modal verbs express ideas like **necessity and possibility**. We use them to give permission, tell people what to do, or indicate how certain or uncertain we are about something (Eastwood, 2002: 113).

Grammar

Modals





Here are three ways to use modals:

Affirmative: Subject + modal + base verb (V1)

Technology can change the world.

Grammar





Negative: Subject + modal + not + base verb

Technology cannot change the world.

Grammar





Interrogative: Modal + Subject + base verb?

Can technology change the world?

Grammar





Cambridge (2025) categorizes modals into three groups below:

- **Core modal verbs:** can, could, may, might, will, shall, would, should, must
- **Semi-modals:** dare, need, ought to, used to
- **Other verbs with modal meanings:** have (got) to, be going to and be able to

Grammar





Reading

Reading for Summarizing

Summarizing involves identifying the main ideas of a text and understanding how they are connected.



Reading

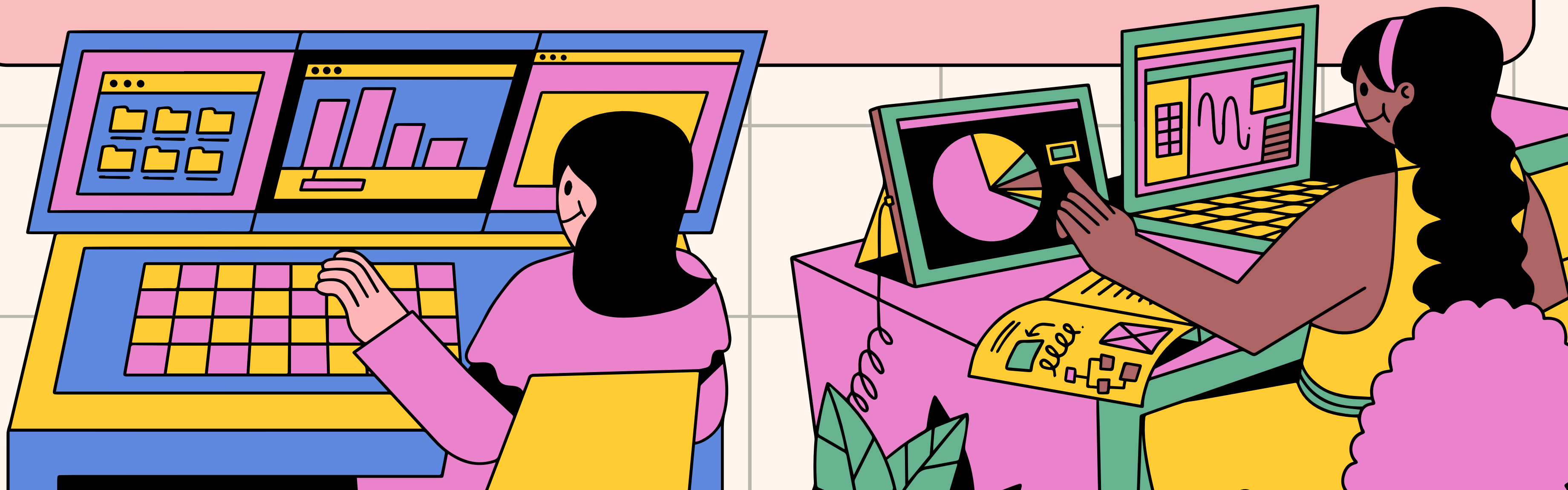
Tips for summarizing

- Read multiple times
- Take notes
- Use the 5 W's: who, what, when, where, and why
- Paraphrase
- Omit unnecessary information
- Combine ideas
- Check your summary

Writing

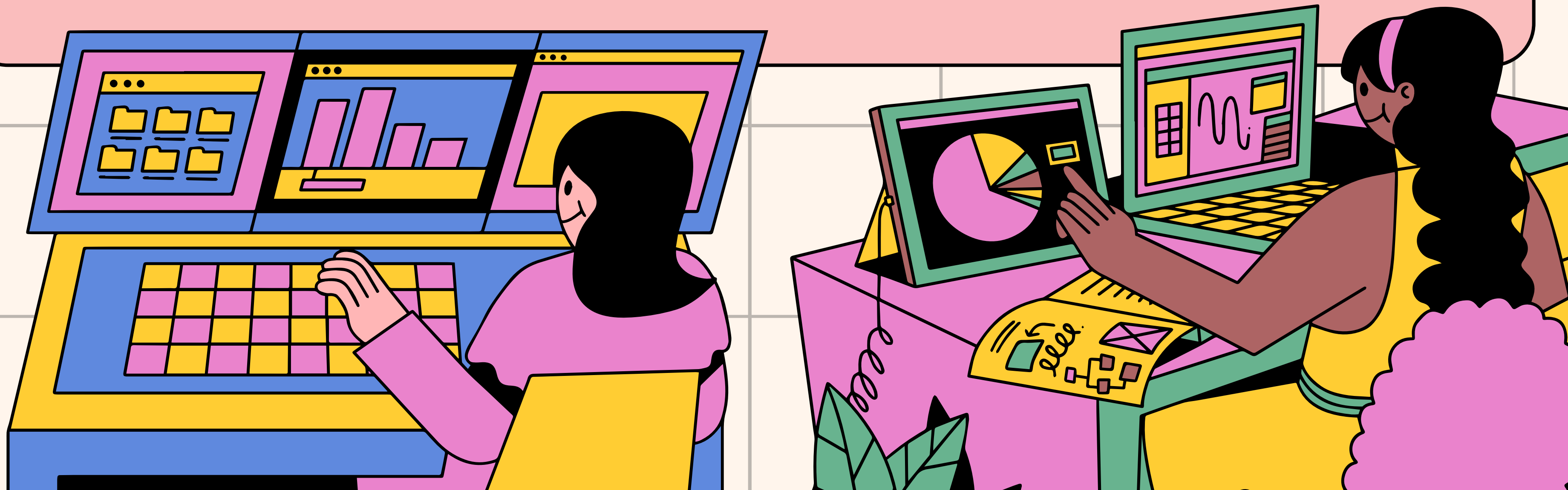
Discourse Markers: Sounding Less Direct

The **two main types of claims in writing** are **thesis statements** and **topic sentences**. A thesis statement presents the central argument, while topic sentences introduce the main idea of each paragraph, supporting the thesis.



Writing

Discourse markers are **terms or expressions**. They help to link, structure, and manage our speech or writing, while also conveying our attitudes (Cambridge, 2025).



Writing

Here are some discourse markers that can help you sound less direct.

apparently

kind of/sort of

perhaps

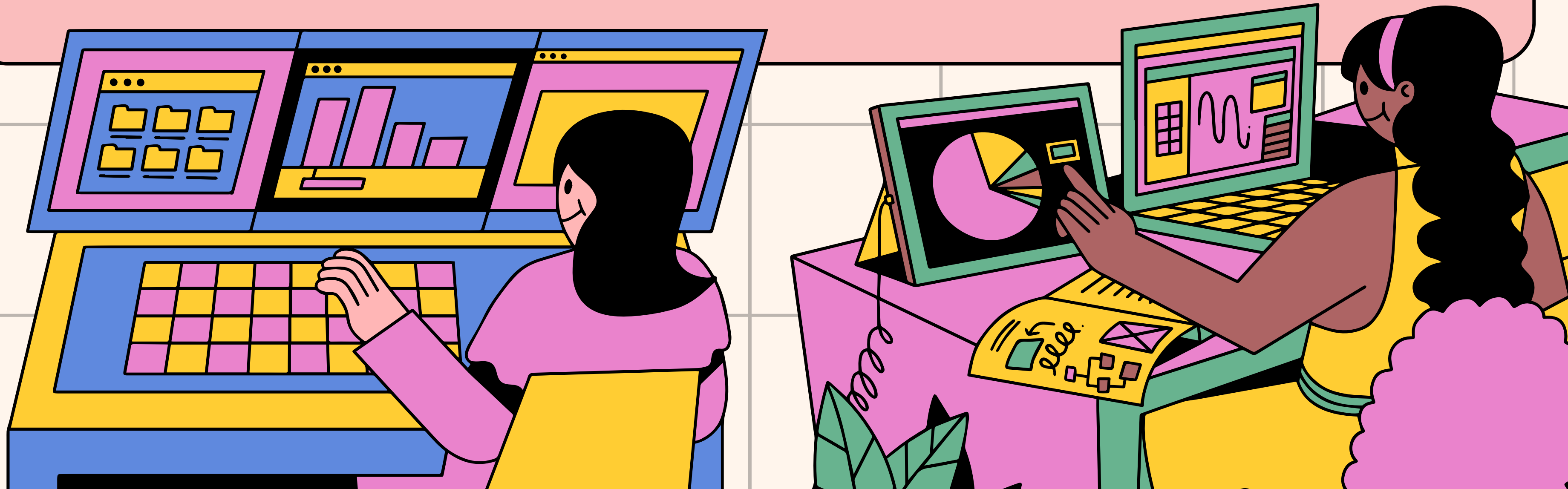
roughly

arguably

like

presumably

I think



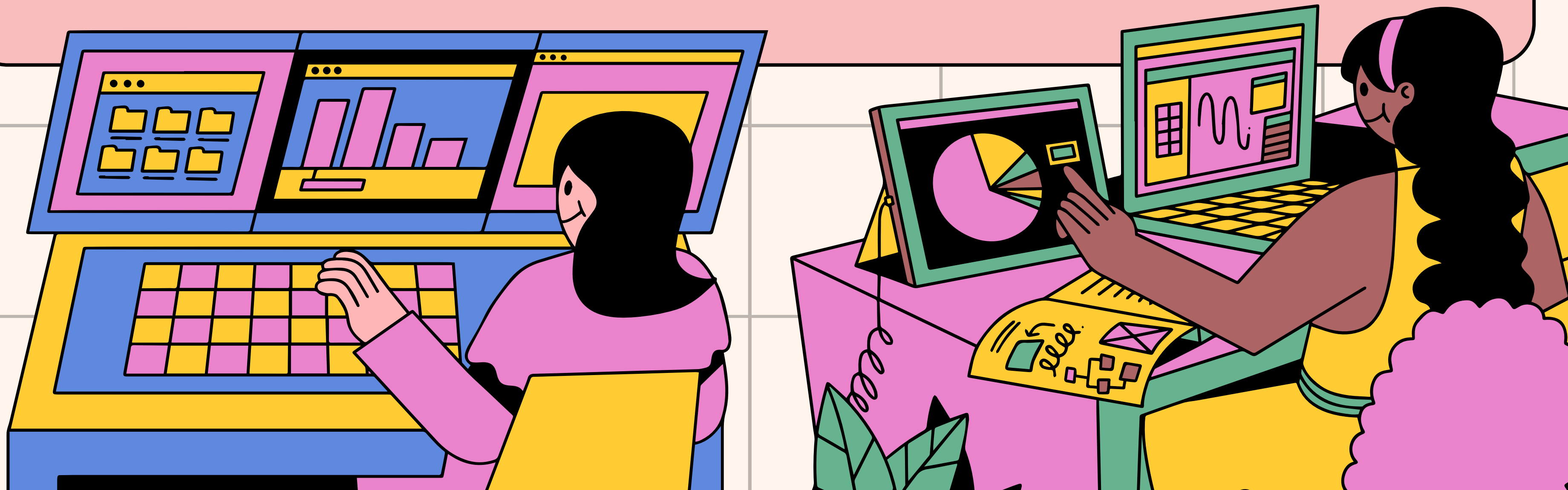
Writing

maybe

probably

surely

just



Vocabulary Review

'There's More to Technophobia Than the Fear of Technology'

Sociologist

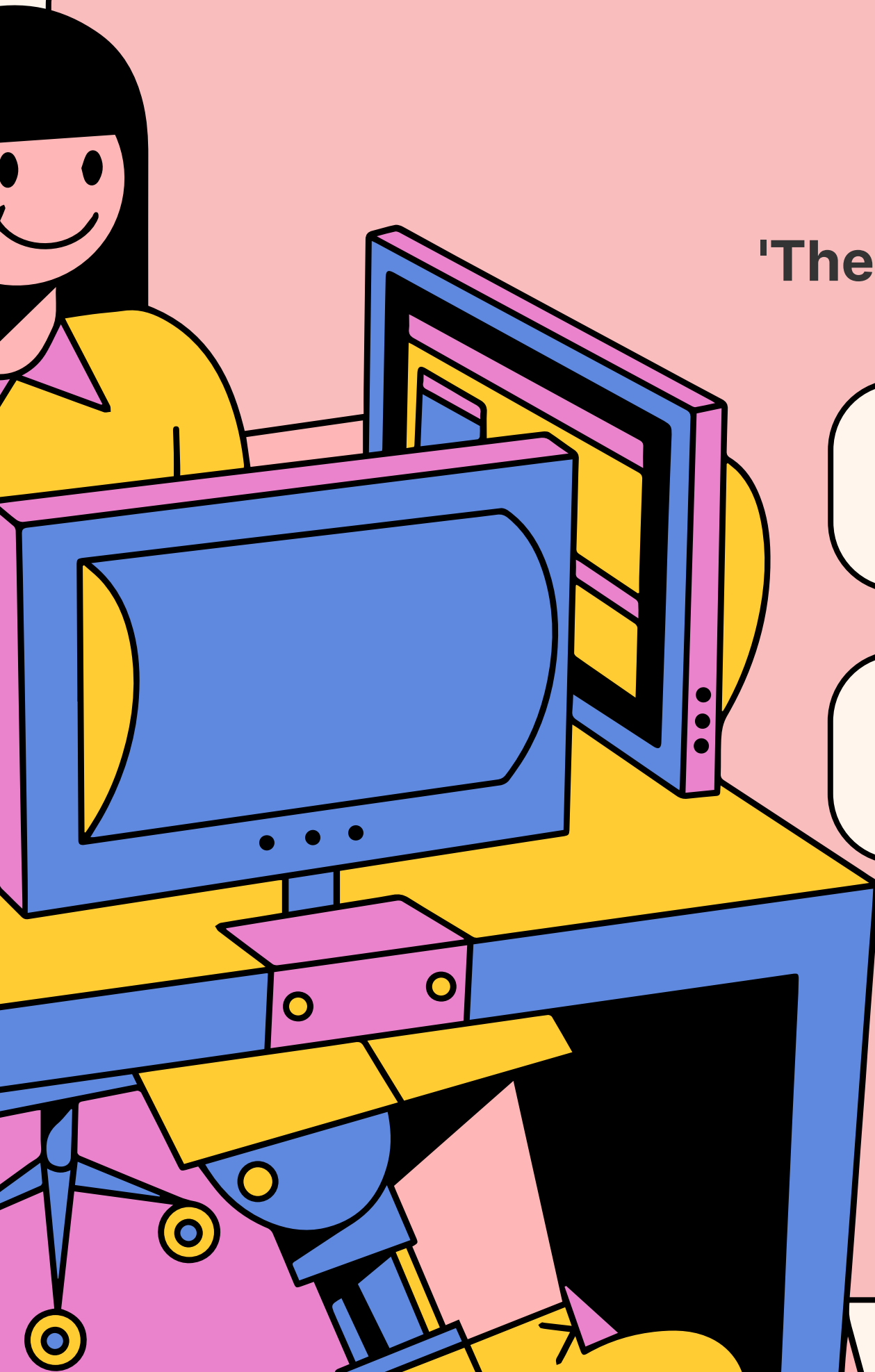
Wary

in tandem with

Accustomed

Terrorism

Corporate



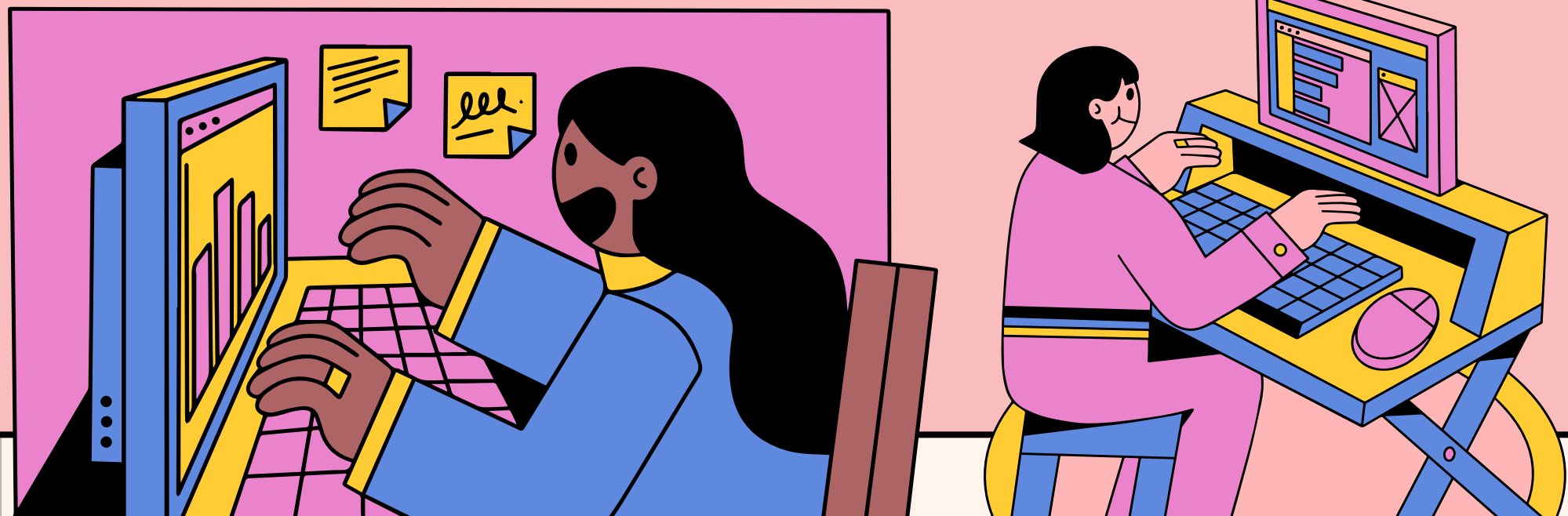


Prominence

Catastrophic

Ironically

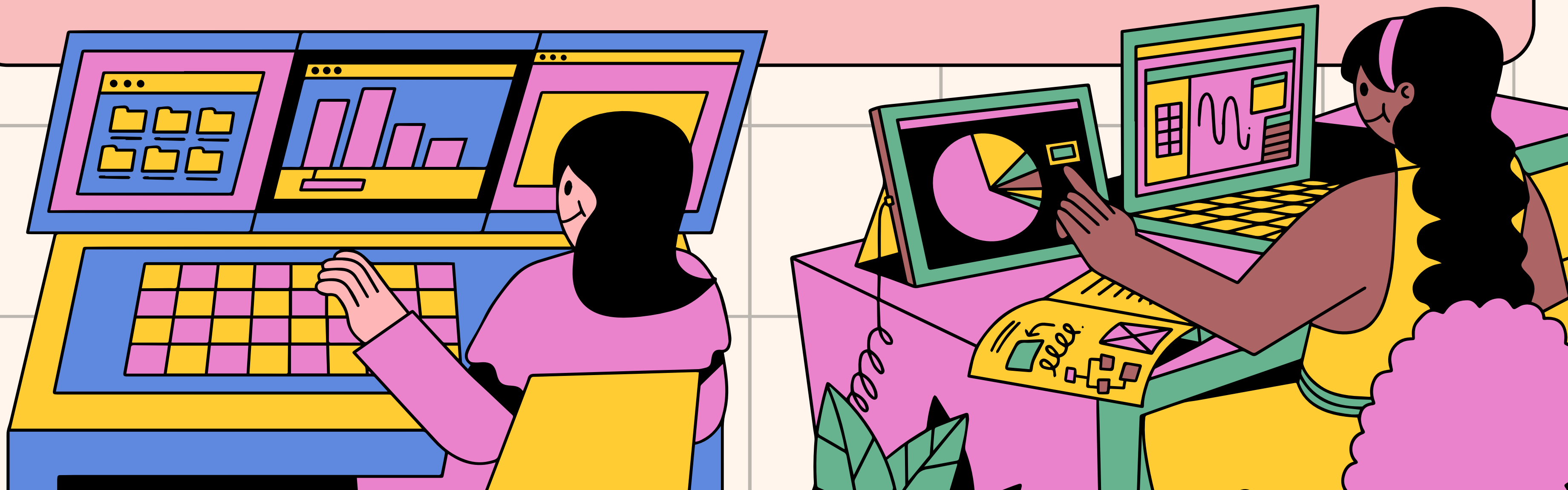
Seemingly



Writing

Paraphrasing

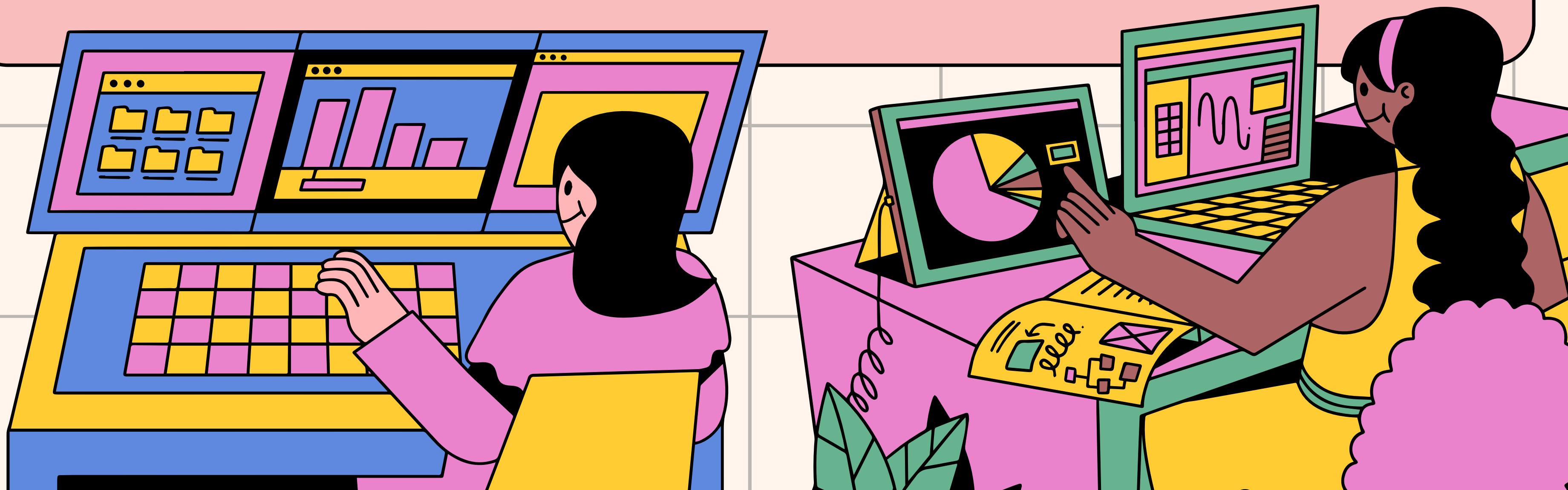
Paraphrase is a sentence or longer piece of text that expresses the same meaning as **another sentence or piece of text using a different wording** (Aarts et al, 2014: 287-288).



Writing

Source Text:

Throughout the ages, people have feared everything from forks to the printing press. “We're hardwired to fear the unusual rather than the normal,” says Ed Day, a sociologist at Chapman University in Orange, California.



Writing

Incorrect Paraphrasing:

Over time, individuals have been afraid of various things, from utensils to the printing machine. 'We are naturally programmed to be scared of the strange instead of the usual,' explains Ed Day, a social scientist at Chapman University in Orange, California.

This paraphrasing has four problems:

- Poor Synonym Choice
- Less Academic Tone
- Needlessly Long-Winded
- Inaccurate Meaning



Writing

Correct Paraphrasing:

Over time, individuals have been afraid of various things, ranging from utensils like forks to inventions such as the printing press. According to Ed Day, a sociologist from Chapman University in Orange, California, "We are naturally inclined to be afraid of things that are different rather than what is typical."

This paraphrasing is effective because:

- Relevance
- Signal Phrase
- Key Terms Retained
- Different Structure



Q&A

