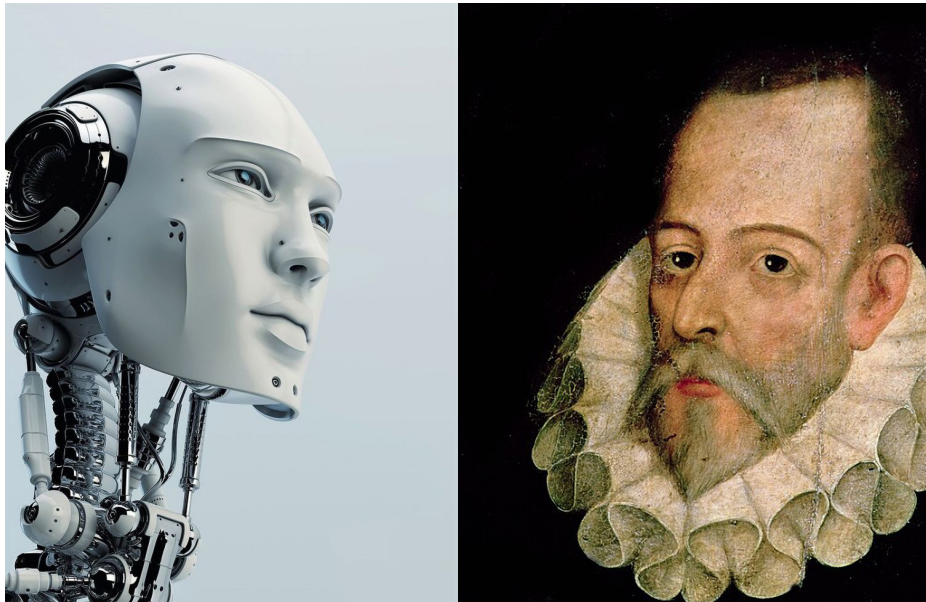




Fiesole  
Retreat



# What if Cervantes Were a Machine?

A Creative Writing Workshop  
with AI Across Cervantes  
Libraries



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA  
DE CATALUNYA  
BARCELONATECH



Authors:

**Carme Fenoll &  
Antoni Hernández-Fernández**

# Who We Are



## **Carme Fenoll**

Director of Culture and Community at Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), former Head of the Catalan Library System, expert in cultural innovation and public libraries.

X (Twitter): @CarmeFenoll



## **Antoni Hernández-Fernández**

Physicist, linguist, and cognitive science PhD. Professor at UPC's Institute of Education Sciences. Researcher on the intersection of language, education, and mathematical modeling.

X (Twitter): @therfer

# The Context



## ¿Y si Cervantes fuese una máquina?

Taller de escritura creativa  
con Inteligencia Artificial



Literature, AI, and language learning can be allies.

This initiative arose to foster **creativity**, **multilingualism**, and **critical thinking** about AI.

**Libraries of the Instituto Cervantes**, present on five continents, were the perfect global stage for this experiment.



# About the Project



## “What if Cervantes Were a Machine?”

A hands-on, international **creative writing workshop** using AI tools to inspire collaborative storytelling among Spanish learners across the world.

Designed for students with at least **B1 level** in Spanish.

Facilitated by library staff in each participating country.

5 structured online sessions + 1 final celebration.

# Workshop Flow

Use a timeline or visual icons to show:



Intro to AI &  
Creativity



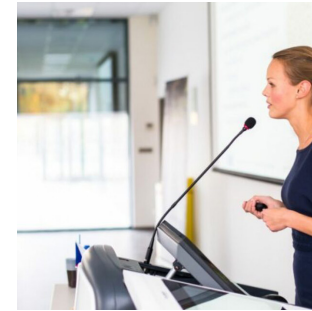
Writing First  
Drafts



Character  
& Plot  
Development



Collaborative  
Editing



Presentation  
& Feedback



Public Event  
on Book Day  
or another  
cultural  
milestone

# What Students Learn



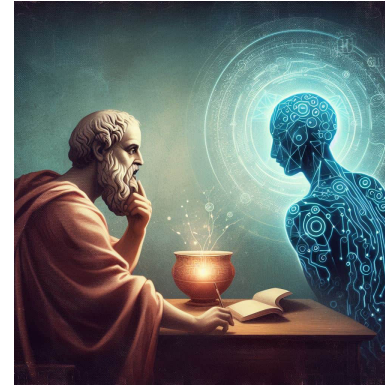
Use of  
**generative  
AI** tools (text  
generation,  
rewriting,  
translation)



Creative  
expression  
through  
**personal  
and cultural  
storytelling**



Collaboration  
across borders



Ethical  
reflections on  
AI in literature



Strengthening  
language  
learning  
through  
technology



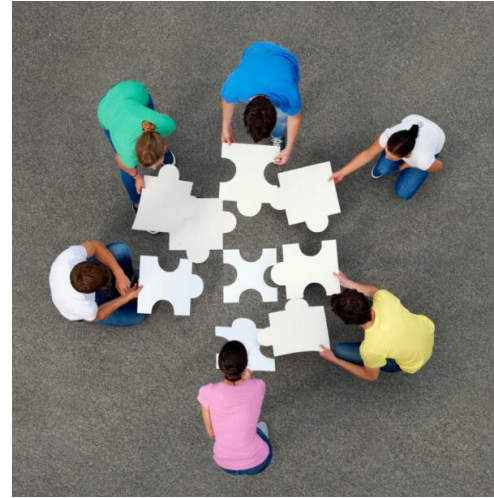
# The Role of Libraries



Local facilitators  
and cultural  
connectors



Hosts of the virtual  
sessions

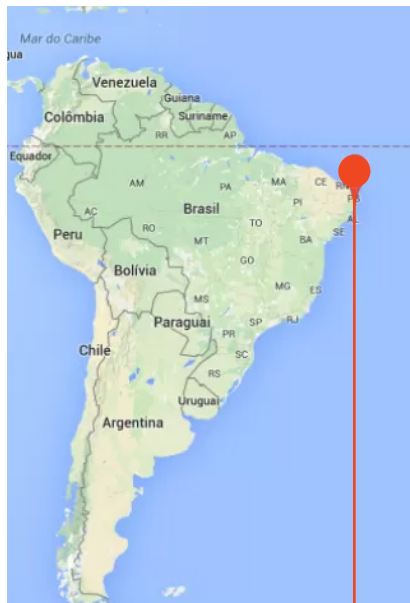


Keepers of the final  
collaborative work

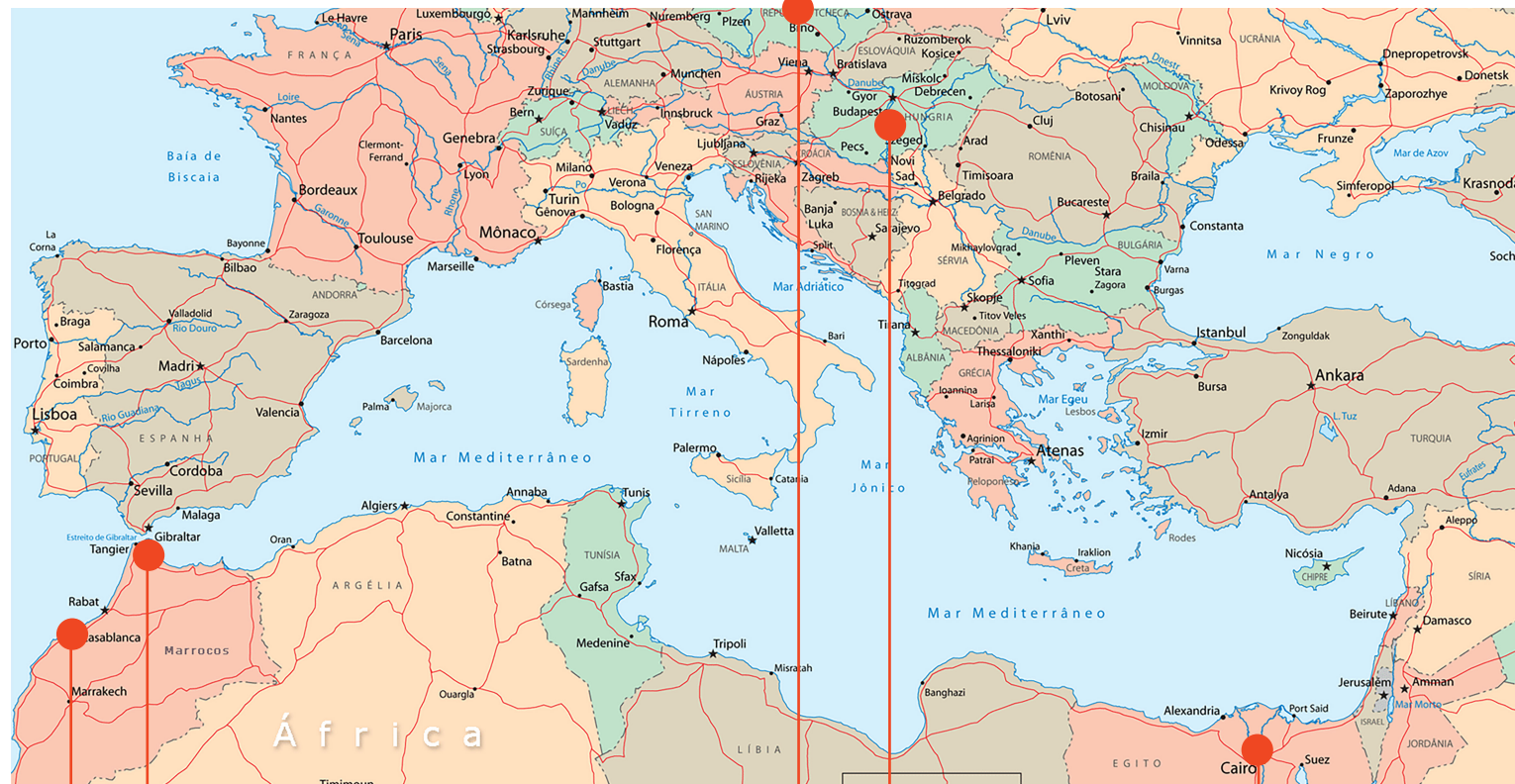


Amplifiers of  
community  
voices in a global  
conversation

# Participating Countries



**Recife**  
(Brazil)



**Tetuan**  
(Morocco)

**Casablanca** (Morocco)

**Cairo** (Egypt)

**Budapeste** (Hungary)

**Prague** (Czech)



# What They Created

¿Cuánto cuesta un bocadillo?  
—Dos tirones de orejas.  
—Y de aquí a París, ¿cuánto hay?  
—Mil kilómetros nuevos, un kilo  
de chokolatinas.  
—¿Cuánto pesa una lágrima?  
—Depende: una lágrima de un niño  
menos que el viento, una lágrima  
de una hambre pesa más que la tierra.  
—¿Y cuánto dura este cuento?

Quotes or  
fragments from  
participant texts



Screenshots  
of working  
sessions



Testimonials  
from students  
and library staff

## Zsofia Bene

Quiero que la protagonista del relato “El gato que misteriosamente desapareció a su esposo” fuera Verónica, el mismo personaje que aparece en el relato “Abrazo transformador”. Quiero que mientras viaja en el tren visualice su futuro distópico, cómo sería si no hubiera dejado atrás a su marido....

## Zsuzsanna Fehér

### Descubrimiento

Una tribu indígena vivía en un pueblo pequeño, desconocido y escondido en la selva. Cazaban, pescaban y recogían frutas y bayas. Sus cabañas estaban hechas de madera y plantas. Un día, los espías de la tribu volvieron corriendo y dijeron que unos hombres muy extraños, blancos y con ropa peculiar, se acercaban al pueblo.

# What's Next?



Expanding the workshop to more Cervantes libraries and University libraries



Publishing a **collaborative digital anthology**



Linking with other international networks (e.g., UNESCO, cultural institutes)



Using **AI ethically** to preserve cultural diversity through storytelling

# Thank you for your attention

## **Carme Fenoll Clarabuch**

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