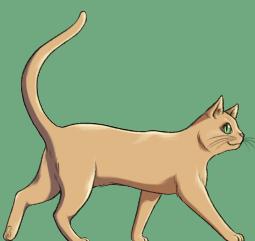




User Guide

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What is An Scéalaí?

An Scéalaí is an online learning platform for students of the Irish language. It provides an environment in which users can write and correct Irish texts, or *stories*. One of An Scéalaí's unique features is the ability to listen back to a computer-generated voice reading your story in *Gaeilge*. As well as this, users can run their story through a grammar-checker that highlights any spelling mistakes or other grammatical errors found in the text. More detail on these technologies can be found at the *Technology* tab on our website.

An Scéalaí also serves as a research project by Trinity College Dublin, investigating the effectiveness of different language-learning methods. We invite you to try using *audio check* as well as *grammar check* to correct spelling and grammar mistakes in your stories. This will provide us with useful data to help design language-learning resources in the future!

You can contact us with any queries / feedback at scealai.info@gmail.com

Student

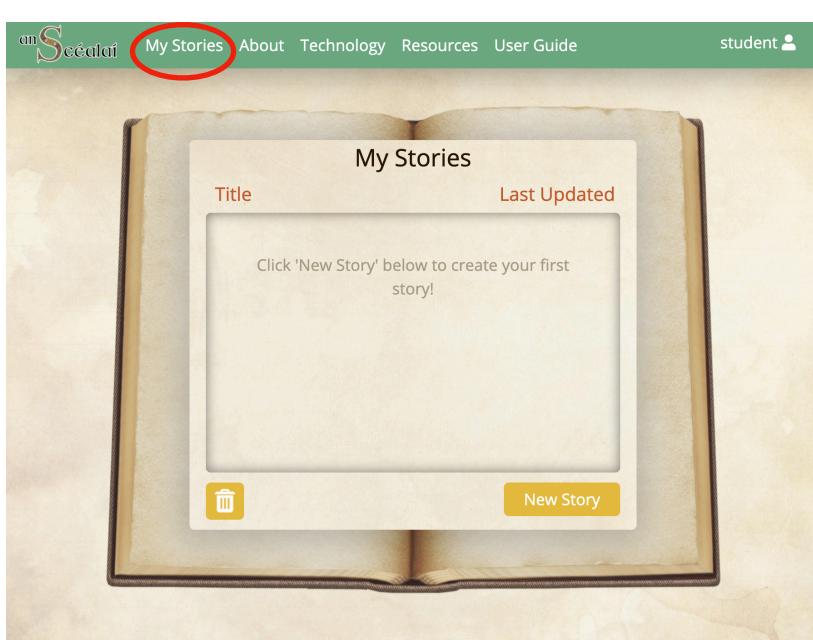
This section outlines the features available to a student account on An Scéalaí. The term 'student' here simply refers to someone who is a student of the Irish language, not necessarily someone studying Irish at school or university. For those of you who *are* studying Irish at school, however, An Scéalaí has a classroom feature that allows your teachers to read and provide feedback on your stories.

Write stories

As a student on An Scéalaí, your homepage will be the *My Stories* page. This is accessible on the top left of the navigation bar at the top of the screen, or on mobile by clicking on the menu button on the top right.

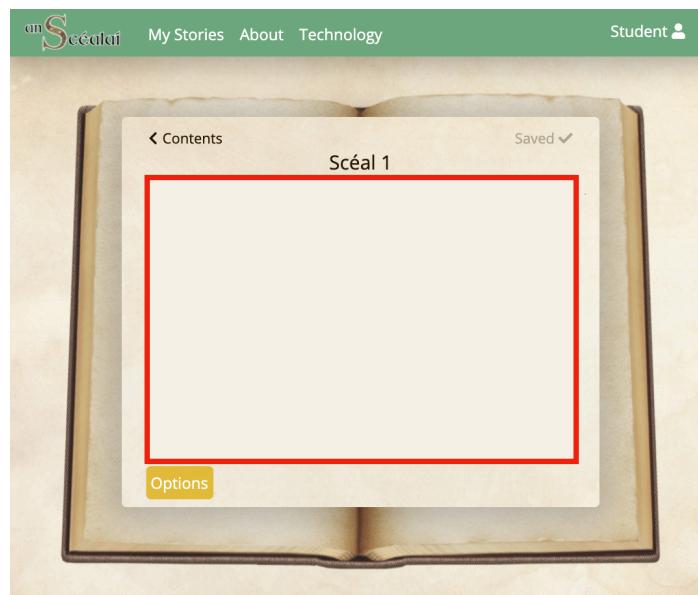
Find the 'My Stories' page

(For those on mobile)



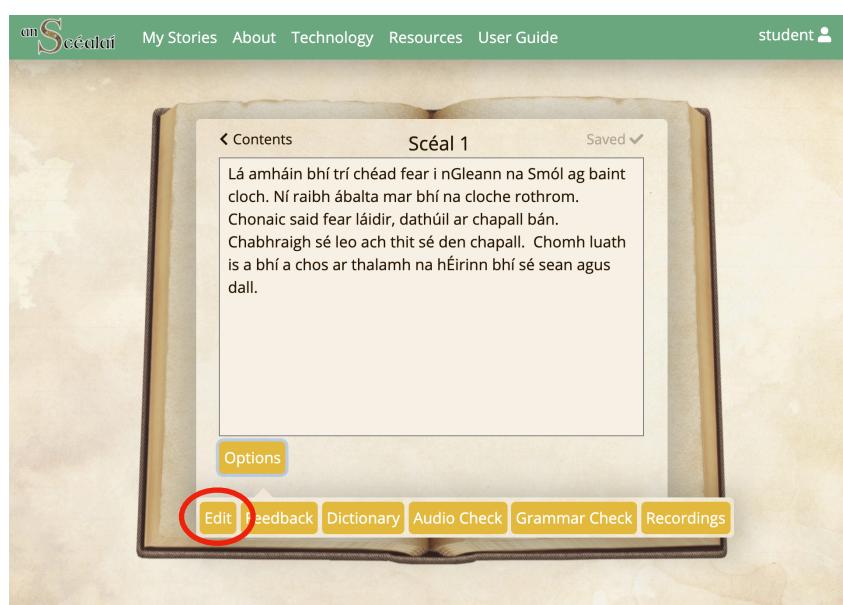
Here you will find a list of the stories you have written on *An Scéalaí*, as well as the ability to create or delete new ones. To create a new story, simply click on the *New Story* button at the bottom right of the screen. You may then give your story a title and dialect. The dialect you choose will determine the voice used by the *Audio Check* feature for your story. If you want to hear your story being read in the *Connacht* dialect, for example, you simply choose *Connacht* as the dialect for this story. Once you have created your story, you will be brought to the *Story Writing* page for that story. This is where you can access all the main features of *An Scéalaí*: *Audio Check*, *Grammar Check*, *Recordings*, and *Feedback* if you have a teacher using the site. You can begin writing your story in the main text area shown below.

The story writing area



If you wish to edit your story title or dialect at any point, you can click on Options > Edit to do so.

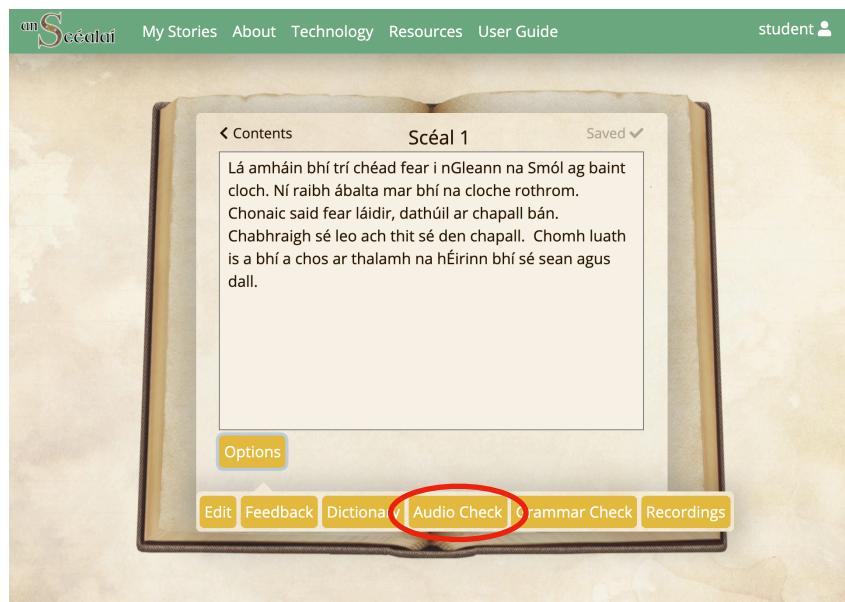
Edit your story's details



Audio Check

The ability to *Audio Check* your stories is one of *An Scéalaí*'s unique features. Upon clicking the Options > Audio Check button on the Story Writing page you will be brought to the *Audio Check* page. Here you can listen to a computer-generated, or *synthesised* voice reading your story aloud. This may serve as a great way to spot spelling or grammar mistakes — by *hearing* them!

Go to the Audio Check page for your story



From the *Audio Check* page, you will see green play buttons next to your text. Simply click on a button to hear *An Scéalaí* read your text! These buttons will appear next to each paragraph by default, but you may choose to listen to each sentence individually, which you can do by clicking on the Listen by : *Sentence* button.

Listen by paragraph

Lá amháin bhí trí chéad fear i nGleann na Smóil ag baint cloch . Ní raibh ábalta mar bhí na cloche rothrom . Chonaic said fear láidir , dathúil ar chapall bán . Chabhraigh sé leo ach thit sé den chapall . Chomh luath is a bhí a chos ar thalamh na hÉirinn bhí sé sean agus dall .

Thug na fir oibre é go dtí Naomh Pádraig . D'inis sé a scéal faoi Thír na nÓg agus Niámh Chinn Óir . Lá amháin bhí na Fianna ag self . Chonaic said Spéirbhéan . Niámh Chinn Óir ab ainm di . Thit Oisín i ngrá le Niámh agus chuaigh sé go Tír na nÓg le Niámh . Bhí brón ar Oisín agus Fhiann . D'imir Niámh agus Oisín ar an gcanall

Listen by [Paragraph](#) [Sentence](#)

Listen by sentence

Lá amháin bhí trí chéad fear i nGleann na Smóil ag baint cloch .

Ní raibh ábalta mar bhí na cloche rothrom .

Chonaic said fear láidir , dathúil ar chapall bán .

Chabhraigh sé leo ach thit sé den chapall .

Chomh luath is a bhí a chos ar thalamh na hÉirinn bhí sé sean agus dall .

Thug na fir oibre é go dtí Naomh Pádraig .

D'imir sé a scéal faoi Thír na nÓg agus Niámh Chinn Óir

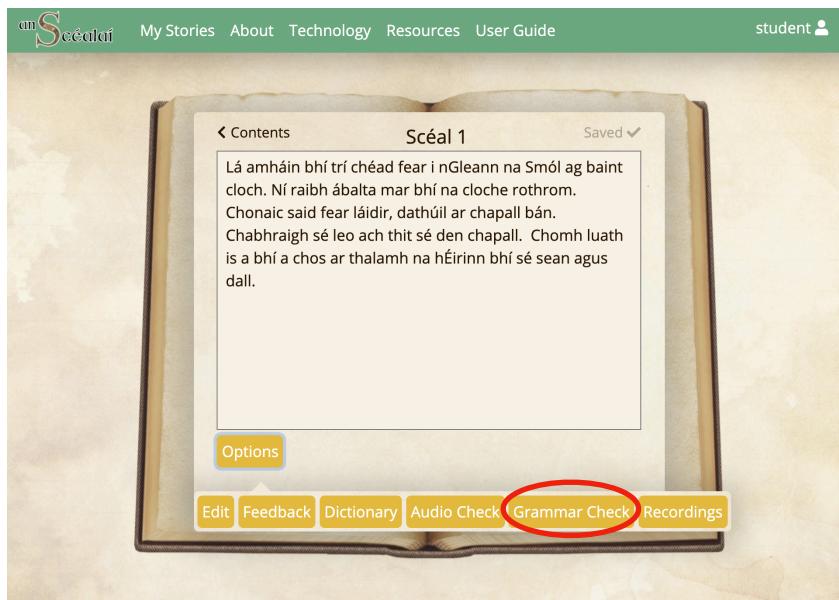
Listen by [Paragraph](#) [Sentence](#)

You can also click on words to hear them read individually! (This feature is currently a work in progress — sometimes *An Scéalaí* will read a word to either side of the word you click on, in this case simply click on the words to the right or left and your word should be read.)

Grammar Check

Another important feature of *An Scéalaí* is the ability to run your story through a Grammar-checker. To open the *Grammar-Checker* click on Options > Grammar Check from the Story Writing page.

Go to the Grammar-Checker for your story



This will highlight any spelling or grammar mistakes in your story according to the specific grammar checker that you choose. At the moment we have the all-purpose *Gramadóir* and the more specific *Broad/Slender checker*. The *Gramadóir* will generate a filter of the different types and numbers of grammar errors its finds in your story. Simply select which error you want to view and the errors will be highlighted. You can click on the highlighted phrases to see details about the error.

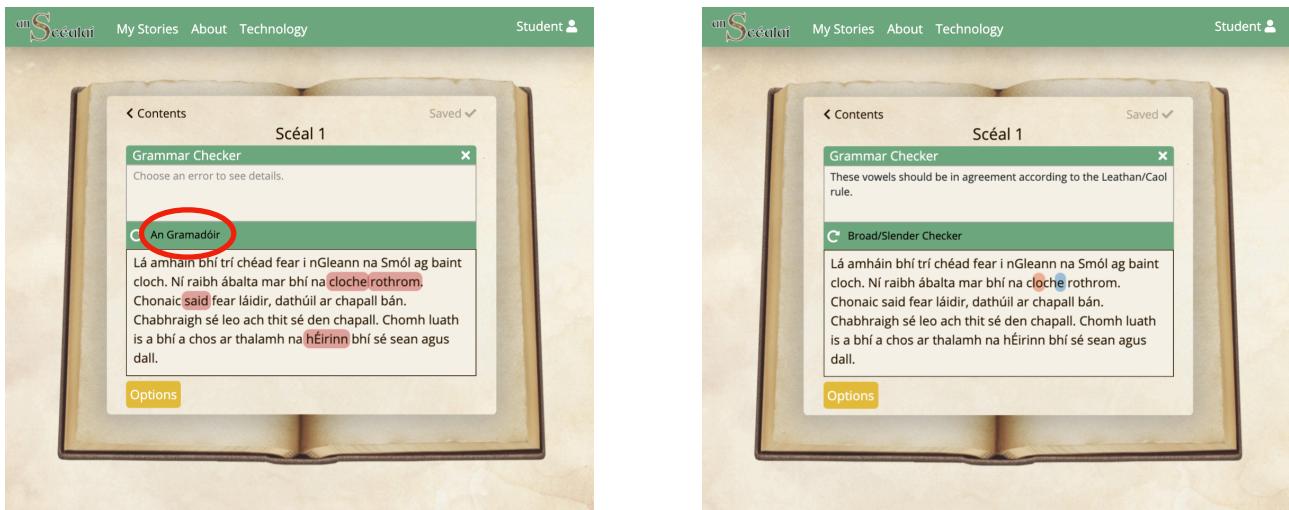
*Spelling & grammar mistakes filtered by
An Gramadóir*

Click on a highlighted word for details

The other grammar checker is the *Broad/Slender checker*. This feature highlights any disagreement between vowels in Irish, according to the Broad/Slender rule. You can switch between *An Gramadóir* and the *Broad/Slender checker* by clicking on the selection box in the centre-left of the screen, as highlighted below.

Switch between An Gramadóir and the Broad/Slender checker

The Broad/Slender checker

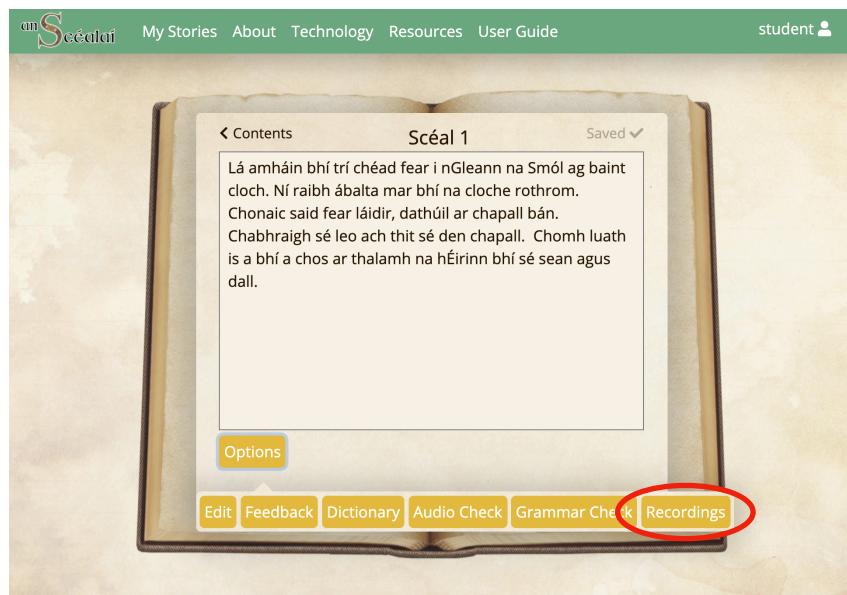


After taking note of any spelling or grammar mistakes in your text, you can return to the *Story Writing* area to correct them.

Recordings

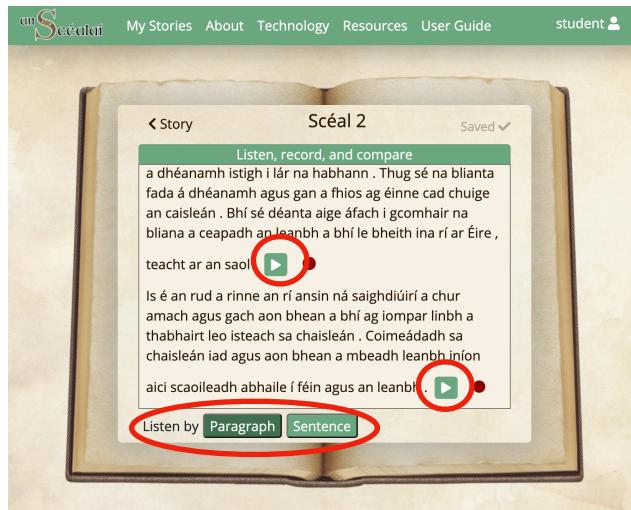
In addition to being able to listen to your story and check your grammar, *An Scéalaí* also provides students the ability to record themselves reading their story and listen back to their recordings. These recordings help students improve their pronunciation over time. To access this feature, click on the Options > Recordings button on the *Story Writing* page.

Go to the Recordings for your story



The *Recordings* feature is similar to the *Audio Check* feature (see page 4). Your story can be read aloud by clicking on a green play button next to a block of text. These buttons are set after each paragraph by default, but you may choose to listen to each sentence individually by clicking on the Listen by : *Sentence* button.

Listen by Paragraph or Sentence



Next to the green play buttons are red, circular, recording buttons. To record yourself reading your paragraph or sentence out loud, simply click on this button once to start recording and click on the button again when you are finished. A red play button will then appear next to the green play button, which allows you to listen back to your recording. You can re-record your story anytime and save the recordings by clicking the save button at the top of the story.

Record your voice



Listen back to your recording



If you have edited your story since making recordings, you will have the option to update the story text on the *Recordings* page. Simply click on the *Update Story* button at the bottom of the story. However, this will clear previous recorded data in order to provide a clean slate for the updated story. It is currently a work in progress on An Scéalaí to be able to view a history of your recordings for all the versions of your story that you make.

Update story text**Profile Page**

Your profile page is where you can view your personal information, join or leave a classroom, change your language settings, delete your account, and log out. It is accessible by clicking on your name in the top right corner of the screen, or by the menu button on mobile.

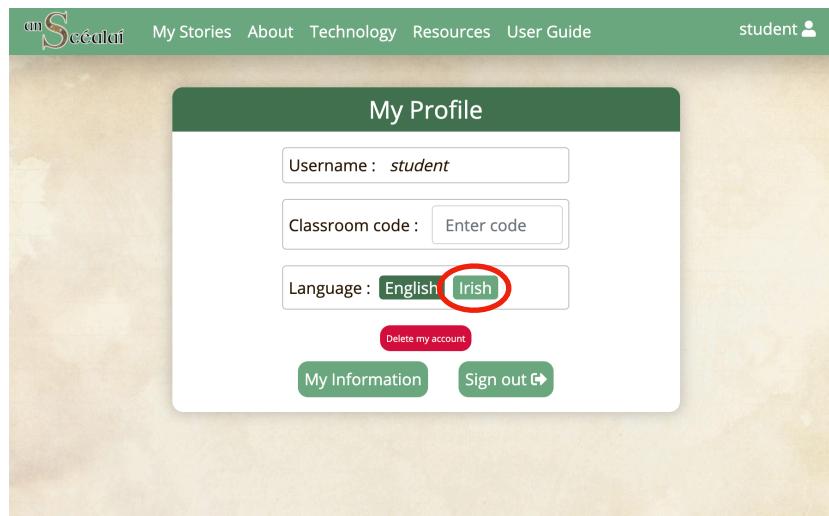
Go to your Profile page

(For those on mobile)

The image contains two side-by-side screenshots of a mobile device displaying the 'My Stories' section of the app. At the top of both screenshots is a green header bar with the 'an Scéalaí' logo, 'My Stories', 'About', and 'Technology' buttons. In the top right corner of the header, there is a 'Student' button with a person icon, which is circled in red in both screenshots. The main content area shows a large open book icon. Inside the book, there is a white rectangular box labeled 'My Stories'. This box has two columns: 'Title' and 'Last Updated'. Below this is a message: 'Click 'New Story' below to create your first story!'. At the bottom of the box are two buttons: a yellow trash bin icon and a yellow 'New Story' button. In the second screenshot, a vertical dropdown menu is visible on the right side of the screen, listing 'My Stories', 'About', 'Technology', and 'Student', with the 'Student' button also circled in red.

You have the option to set *An Scéalaí* to Irish or English based on your own preference. You will be prompted to choose a language when creating your account, on the *Registration* page. You may change this setting at any point from the *Profile* page.

Change your language settings on the Profile page

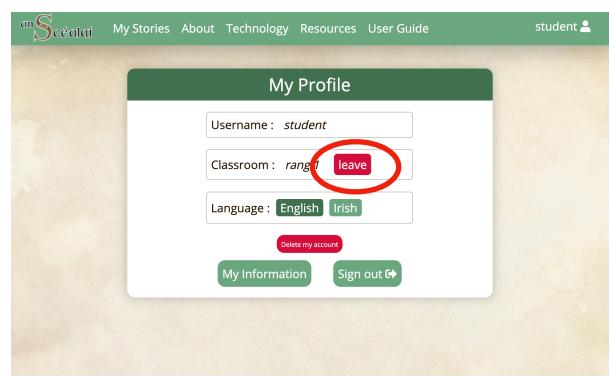
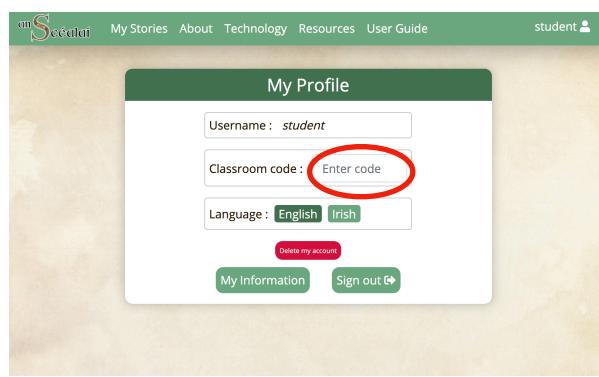


Classrooms

You may be using *An Scéalaí* as part of an Irish class at school or university. In this case, your teacher or professor can create a *Classroom* to group students together. They will be able to give you a *code* which you can then use to join their classroom. By joining a classroom, your teacher can see your *username* as well as all of your stories and types of grammar errors. They cannot however see your password or any of the other information provided on registration. To join a classroom, you can go to your *Profile* page and enter the code provided by your teacher into the *Classroom code* text box. Once you've joined a classroom, you can leave at any point by clicking the *leave* button. By leaving a classroom, your teacher will no longer have access to your stories. Joining a classroom also gives you the ability to send textual and audio messages back and forth to your teacher (see page 10).

Join a classroom with your classroom code

Leave a classroom by clicking the leave button

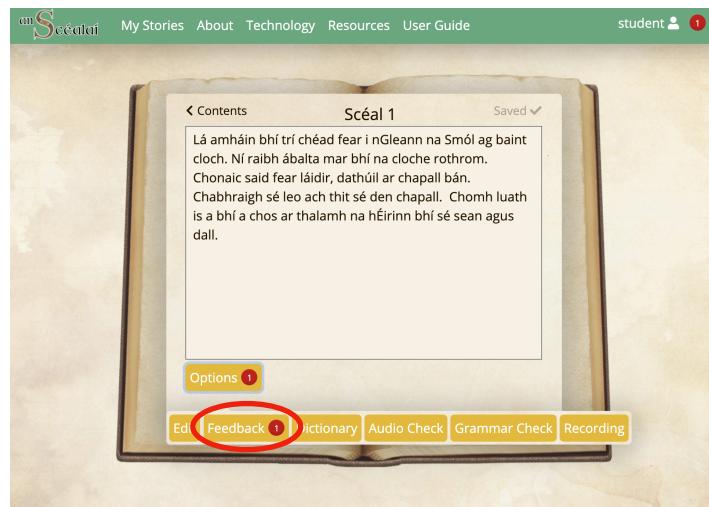


Receiving Feedback

Once you've joined a classroom, your teacher can provide you with *feedback* on your stories. This may come in the form of text or audio and will be available to you when you click on Options > Feedback from the *Story Writing* page. A red notification symbol will appear beside your name in

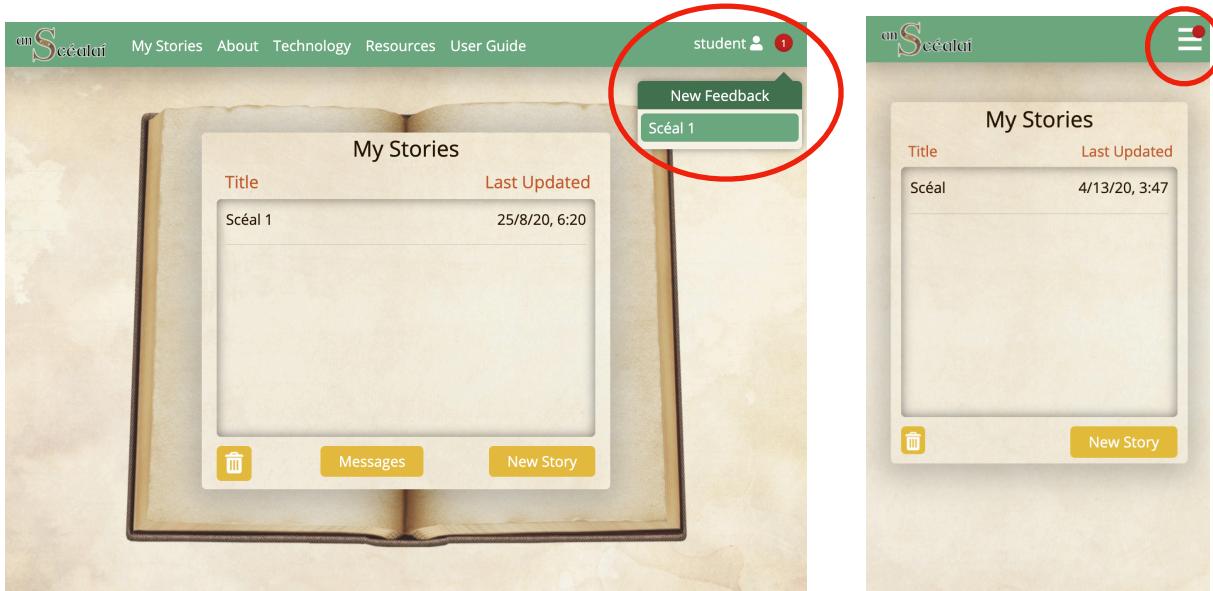
the top right of the screen any time a teacher leaves feedback on one of your stories. When you click on the notification symbol, a list of any stories with new feedback will appear. You can click on a story in this list to go to the *Story Writing* page for that story, where you can view your feedback.

To view your feedback for a story



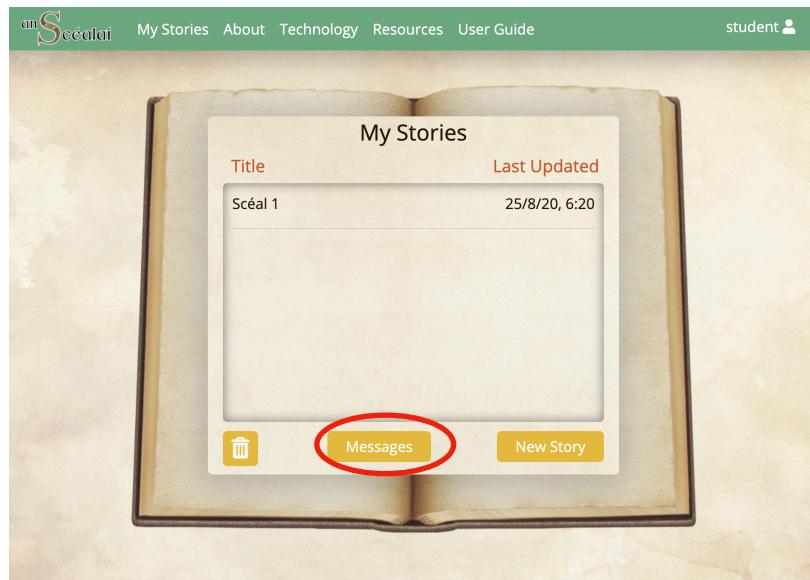
Notification symbol

(For those on mobile)

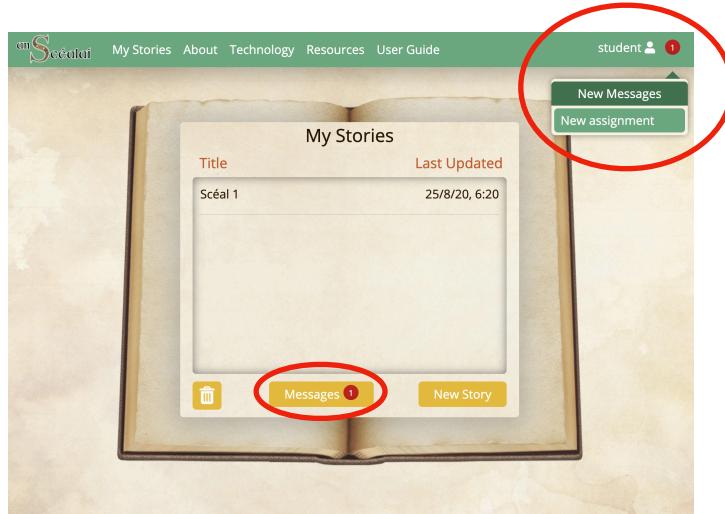


Messages

Once you have joined a classroom (*see page 9*), you will be able to send and receive messages with your teacher. You can access your messages by clicking on the *Messages* button from the *My Stories* page.

Go to Messages

Notifications for new messages are similar to those for new story feedback. A red notification symbol will appear beside your name in the top right of the screen any time a teacher sends you a message. When you click on the notification symbol, a list of any messages you have received will appear. You can click on a message in this list to go to your message inbox, where you can view all of your messages. A new message notification will also appear next to the *Messages* button on the *Story Writing* page.

Notification symbols

After clicking on the *Messages* button, you will be brought to your inbox. Here you can view your messages by clicking on one from the list. A green dot appears next to a message that you have not yet opened. You can refresh and delete your messages using the corresponding buttons at the top of the inbox. To send a new message, click on the *New Message* button at the top right of the inbox. Students currently only have the ability to send a message to their teacher.

Select a message to view

The screenshot shows the 'Messages (3)' screen. At the top, there are buttons for 'Compose' (C), 'Delete' (D), and 'New Message +'. Below is a table with three rows of message details:

From	Subject	Date
teacher	Review grammar errors	26/08/2020 12:03 PM
teacher	Response to assignment question	26/08/2020 12:03 PM
teacher	New assignment	25/08/2020 7:16 PM

The second row ('Response to assignment question') is selected and highlighted with a red box. Below the table is a large text area containing the message content:

Hello,
Please submit your story no later than Friday evening.
Thank you,
Teacher

This area is also highlighted with a red box.

Create a new message

The screenshot shows the 'Messages (3)' screen with the 'New Message +' button circled in red at the top right. The message list is identical to the one in the previous screenshot.

To send a new message, both the subject and the content fields need to be filled. You can use the tools at the top of the content field to add bold, italics, and other styles to your message. If you want to record an audio message, click on the Audio Message button at the bottom of the screen. Here you will be able to record, listen back, and re-record if necessary. Clicking the *cancel* button will delete the recording, and it will not be added to your message.

Fill in the new message

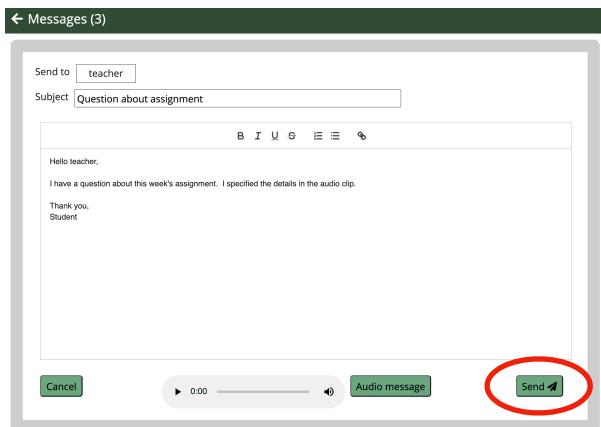
The screenshot shows the 'New Message' screen. At the top, there are fields for 'Send to' (containing 'teacher') and 'Subject' (empty). Below is a rich text editor toolbar with buttons for B, I, U, G, H, E, and %. At the bottom are three buttons: 'Cancel', 'Audio message', and 'Send'.

Record an audio message

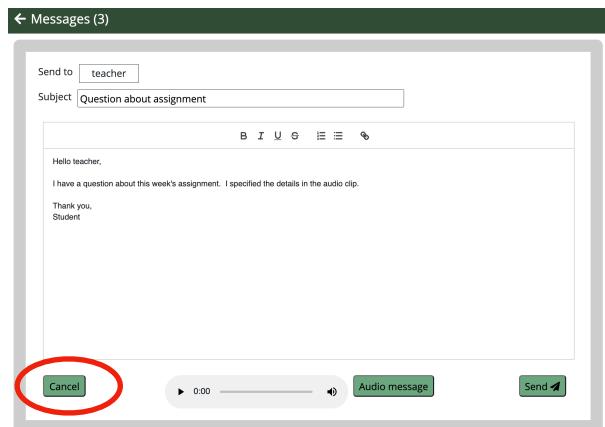
The screenshot shows the 'New Message' screen with an audio recording overlay. A modal window titled 'Record audio message' has a 'Record audio' button highlighted. Below it is a progress bar showing '0.00' seconds. At the bottom of the modal are 'Cancel' and 'Add to message' buttons. At the very bottom of the screen are 'Cancel', 'Send', and 'Send' buttons.

Once you are ready to send your message, click on the send button at the bottom right of the screen. If you have recorded an audio message, it will be sent along with the textual message. If you want to delete your message, click on the *cancel* button at the bottom left of the screen. This will delete the message (and audio if added) and bring you back to your inbox.

Send message (with audio)



Delete new message



Teacher

We recommend that teachers also read the Student section of this document in order to understand the system that their students will be using.

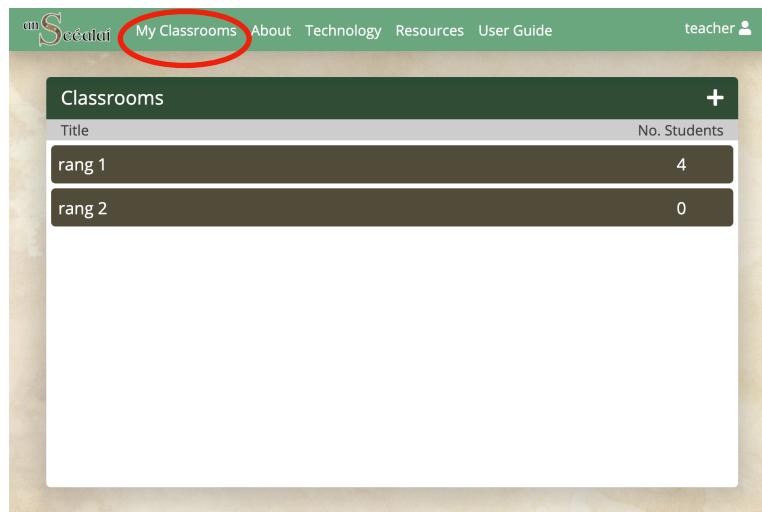
A teacher account on *An Scéalaí* enables you to manage your students' stories through our *Classroom* system. A classroom in *An Scéalaí* is in essence a group of students (and, of course, a teacher!). As a teacher, you will be able to create multiple classrooms, name them accordingly, and distribute a code for each classroom that will enable your students to join. Once a student has joined, their username will appear in that classroom. It should be noted that in this iteration of *An Scéalaí*, students may join one classroom each (this may be changed in future if there is a demand). To view a student's stories, simply click on their username and choose a story. You can leave textual and audio feedback for individual stories, which students will get a notification about the next time they log onto the site.

It is recommended that teachers use *An Scéalaí* on a laptop or desktop computer as some of the features and layouts are not yet suitable for mobile devices.

Classrooms

The dashboard or *home page* for teacher accounts will be the *My Classrooms* page. You can navigate to this page from any other page in the app using the *My Classrooms* button at the top left of the navigation bar.

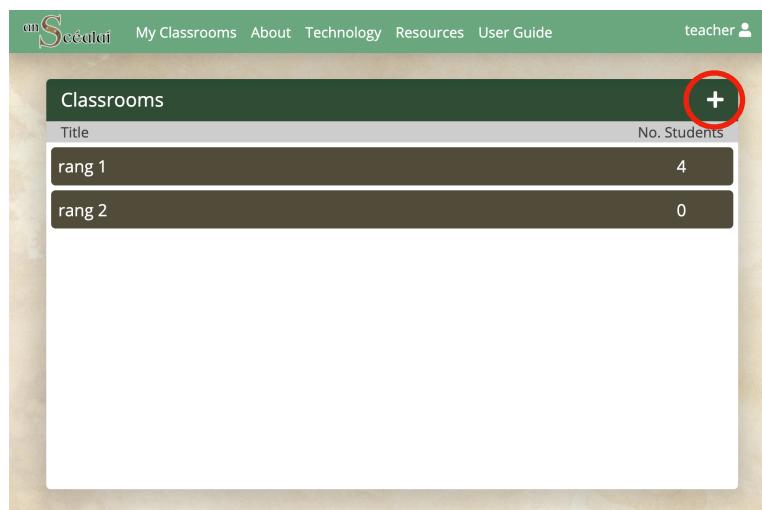
Go to the My Classrooms page



The screenshot shows the 'My Classrooms' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'About', 'Technology', 'Resources', and 'User Guide'. On the right, it says 'teacher' with a user icon. Below the navigation bar is a table titled 'Classrooms' with two rows. The first row is for 'rang 1' with 4 students, and the second row is for 'rang 2' with 0 students. A red circle highlights the 'My Classrooms' link in the top navigation bar.

Title	No. Students
rang 1	4
rang 2	0

You can create a new classroom by clicking on the *plus* symbol on the top right hand side of the *My Classrooms* page.

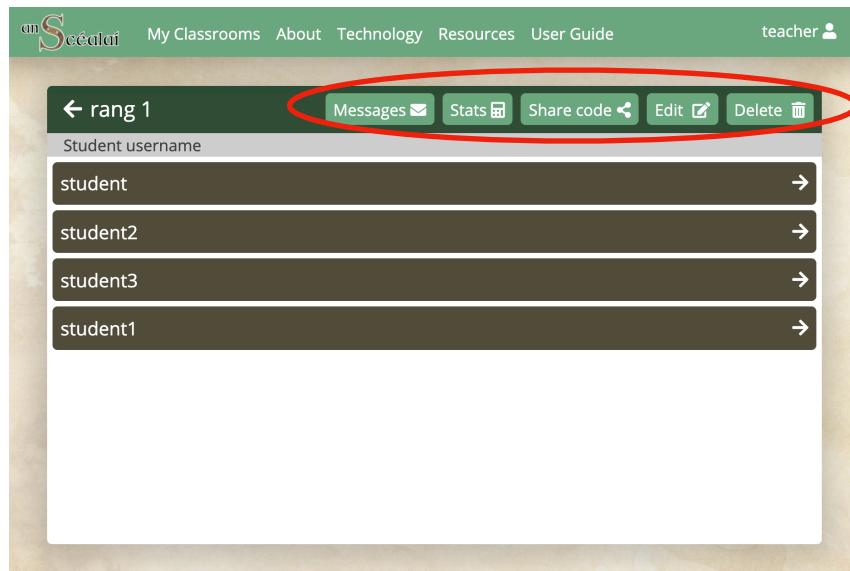


This screenshot is identical to the one above, showing the 'My Classrooms' page with two classrooms listed. However, a red circle now highlights the '+ plus' button located in the top right corner of the 'Classrooms' header area.

Title	No. Students
rang 1	4
rang 2	0

Once you have created a classroom, you can view its members and details by clicking on it, which brings you to the *View Classroom* page. Here, you can edit or delete the classroom, view your classroom messages, and see grammar error statistics for the class. You can also view the *code* for that classroom. This *code* can be used by your students to join the classroom (see pg. 7). Once a student has joined your classroom, upon refreshing the page you will see their username appear. You can click on any of these usernames to view the stories written by that user.

Messages, stats, share code, edit classroom details, and delete classroom options available at the top right of the View Classroom page.

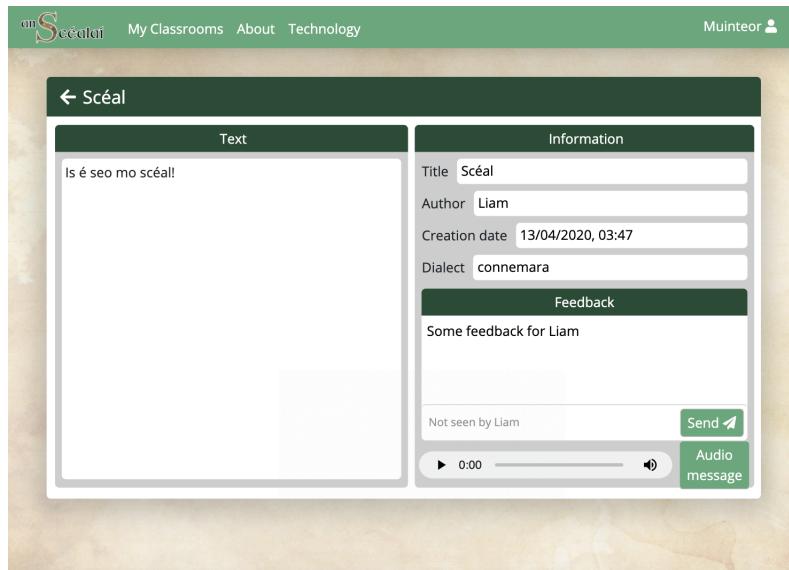


When viewing a student's stories, you will see the titles of their stories in a list. You can filter this list on whether or not you have given the story feedback by selecting the checkbox at the top of the page. You can click on any of the stories to view it in detail: the text, title, author, creation date, dialect chosen and any previous feedback will all be available. On this page, you may leave text or audio feedback for the student's story.

View a student's stories

The screenshot shows a list of three stories titled 'Scéal 1', 'Scéal 2', and 'Scéal 3', each with a creation date and a right-pointing arrow icon. At the top of the list, there is a 'Filter by:' section with a checked checkbox labeled 'No feedback given (2)'. A red circle highlights this filter option.

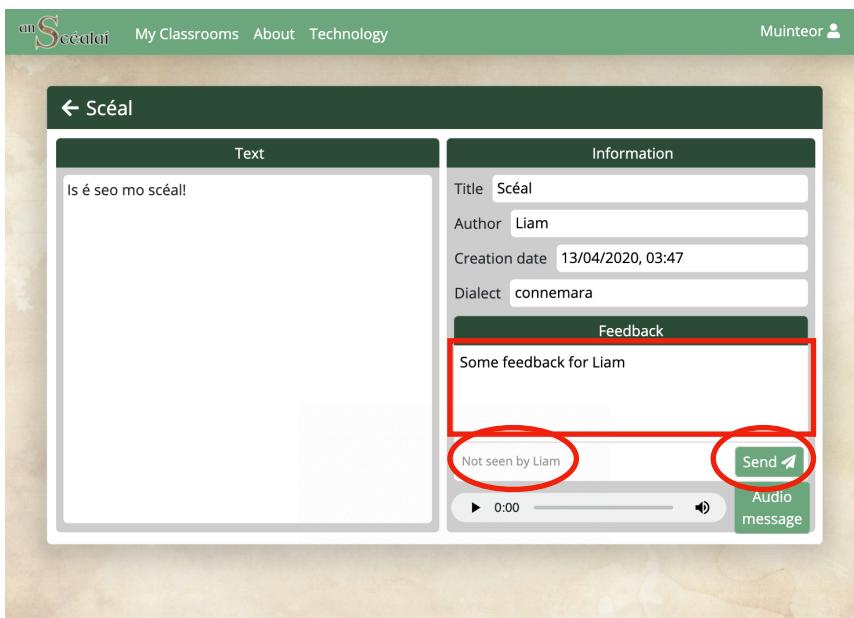
The Story Detail Page



Sending Feedback

To send your student text feedback, write your feedback in the *feedback* text area and click the *send* button. Your feedback will only be sent when you click this button. You will be able to see whether or not your student has seen your feedback based on the message at the bottom left of the feedback area.

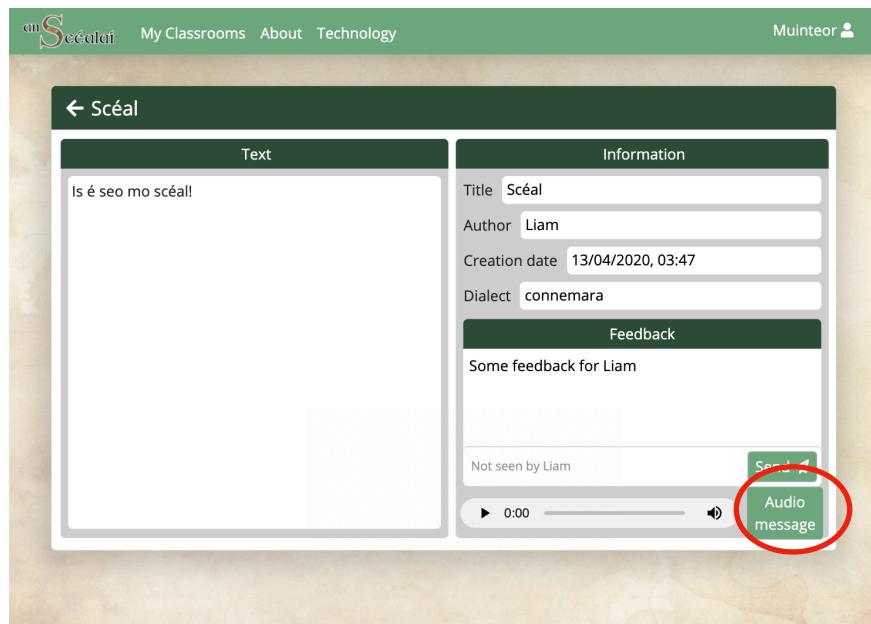
The feedback text area, send button, and feedback viewed section



To record audio feedback, click on the *Audio message* button on the bottom left of the screen. A pop-up will appear where you can click *Record audio* to begin recording your message. Once finished, click *Stop recording* to end your recording. You will then be presented the option to listen back over your audio before sending it. If needed, you can re-record the message. Your audio

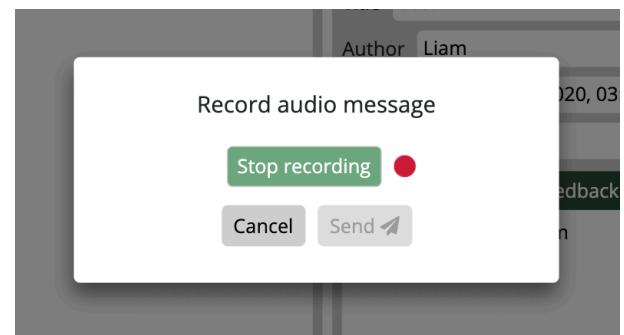
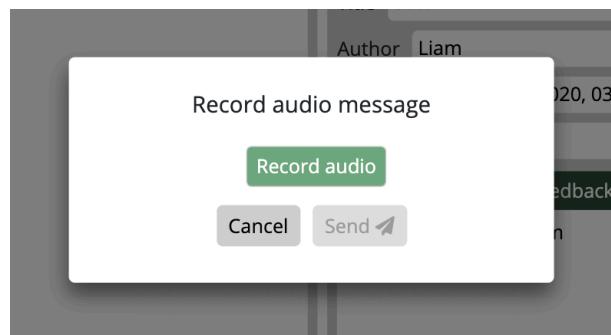
message will only be sent if you click the *send* button in the audio recording pop-up. If you click the *cancel* button, your audio will be deleted.

Click on the Audio Message button to make visible the Audio recording pop-up

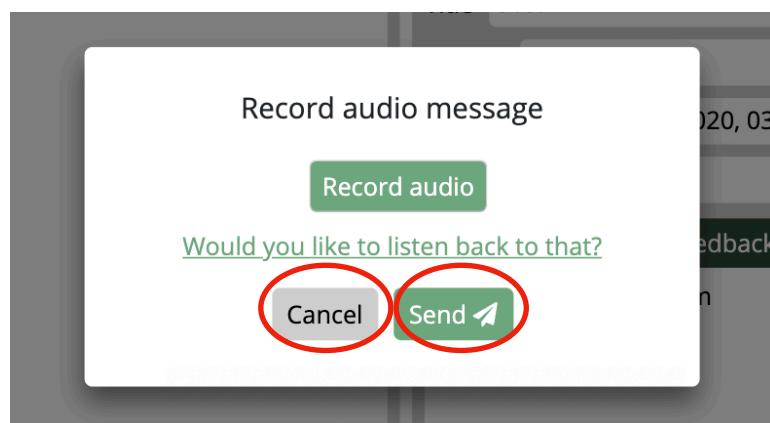


*The audio recording pop-up
(Not recording)*

(Recording)



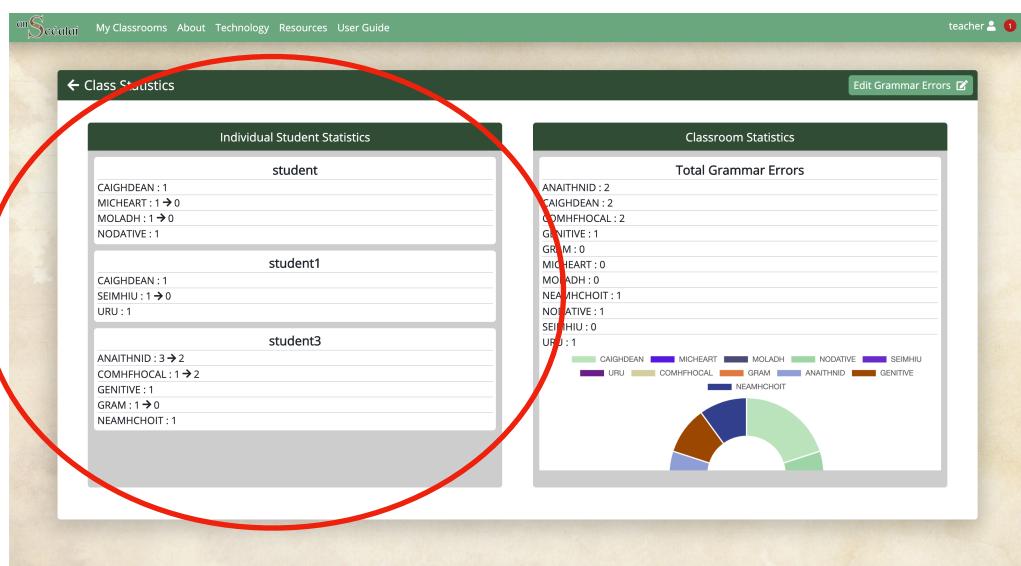
Click send to send your audio feedback or cancel to delete it



Statistics

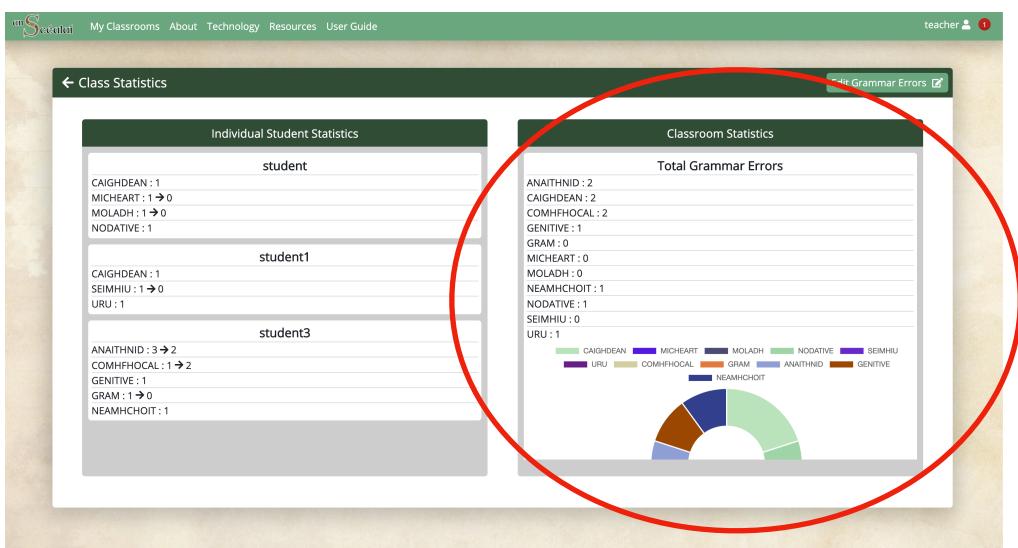
The statistics page allows you to view the types of grammar errors that your students make in their stories. To access this feature, click on the *Stats* button from the *View Classroom* page. On the left side of the statistics page is a list of all the students in the classroom. Under each student's name is a list of the grammar errors they have made in their stories. Each time the student runs the grammar checker (for any story) the number of errors is updated. This creates a list of numbers for each type of error and shows how many of that error the student has made. Hover over the numbers with your mouse to see when the student made that error. The statistics are not updated if the student runs the grammar checker and gets the same errors as before.

View students' grammar errors



On the right side of the page is a list of errors that all the students have made as a class, along with the average number of these errors. A pie chart at the bottom of the screen gives a visual representation of these errors.

View average classroom errors



Teachers can modify which errors the grammar checker uses when checking students' stories. Click on the *Edit Grammar Errors* button on the top right of the screen to open the list of grammar errors. Each error is listed along with the description that students see from the checker when they make that error. Here you can select the errors that you want the grammar checker to look for, then click the *save* button at the bottom.

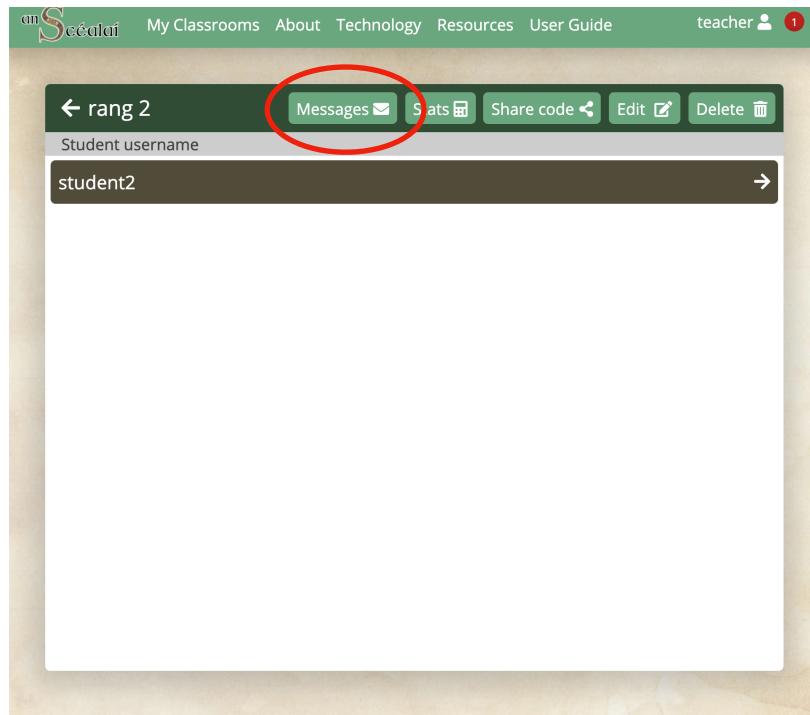
Edit grammar errors

The screenshot shows the 'Edit grammar errors' page. At the top, there are two sections: 'Individual Student Statistics' and 'Classroom Statistics'. The 'Individual Student Statistics' section lists errors for three students: student, student1, and student3. The 'Classroom Statistics' section shows a pie chart of total grammar errors across various categories. A red circle highlights the 'Edit Grammar Errors' button in the top right corner of the main content area. Below this, a modal window displays a list of grammar errors with checkboxes next to them. The errors listed include: AIDIOLRA -- Adjective in plural needed; BADART -- Unnecessary use of the definite article; BREISCHEIM -- Comparative adjective required; CASE -- Case disagreement; CUPLA -- Unusual combination of words; DUBALTE -- Repeated word; GENDER -- Gender disagreement; GENITIVE -- The genitive case is required here; IOLRA -- The plural form is required here; NEAMHCHOIT -- Valid word but extremely rare in actual usage. Is this the word you want?; NEEDART -- Definite article required; NOGENITIVE -- Unnecessary use of the genitive case; NOSUBJ -- It seems unlikely that you intended to use the subjunctive here; NUMBER -- Number disagreement; ONEART -- No need for the first definite article; PRESENT -- You should use the present tense here; and UATHA -- The singular form is required here. There is also a 'Word Choice' button at the bottom of the modal.

Messages

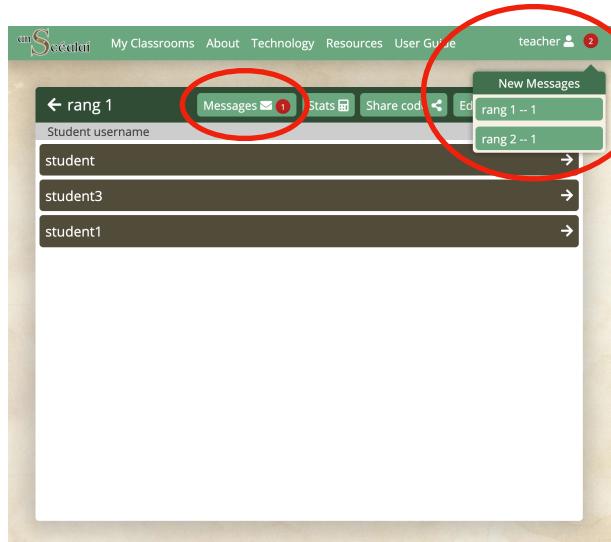
Once you have created a classroom and students have joined (*see page 13*), you will be able to send and receive messages with your students. You can access your messages by clicking on the *Messages* button from the *View Classroom* page.

Go to Messages



A red notification symbol will appear beside your name in the top right of the screen any time a student sends you a message. When you click on the notification symbol, a list of any messages you have received will appear. The messages are grouped by classroom, showing the classroom name and the number of new messages for the classroom. You can click on a message in this list to go to that classroom's inbox, from where you can view all of your messages for that classroom. A new message notification will also appear next to the *Messages* button on the *View Classroom* page.

Notification symbols



After clicking on the *Messages* button, you will be brought to your inbox. Here you can view your messages by clicking on one from the list. A green dot appears next to a message that you have not

yet opened. You can refresh and delete your messages using the corresponding buttons at the top of the inbox. To send a new message, click on the *New Message* button at the top right of the inbox.

Select a message to view

Create a new message

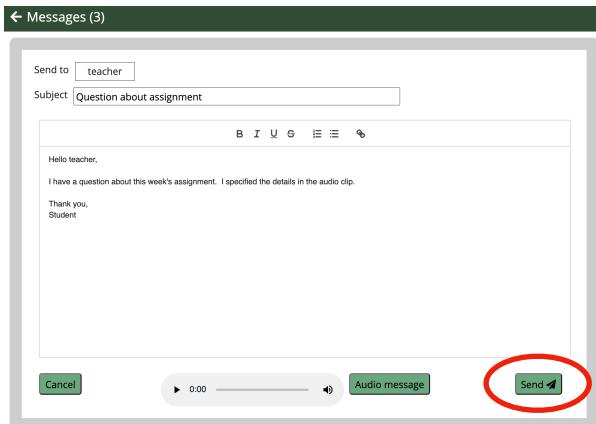
Teachers have the ability to send a message to either a student in the classroom or to all the students in the classroom. Simply select the student's name or the *all class members* option from the drop down menu to designate the receiver. In addition to selecting a receiver, both the subject and the content fields need to be filled as well. You can use the tools at the top of the content field to add bold, italics, and other styles to your message content. If you want to record an audio message, click on the *Audio Message* button at the bottom of the screen. Here you will be able to record, listen back, and re-record if necessary. This is similar to giving audio feedback for stories (see page 16). Clicking on the *cancel* button will delete the recording, and it will not be added to your message.

Fill in the new message

Record an audio message

Once you are ready to send your message, click on the *send* button at the bottom right of the screen. If you have recorded an audio message, it will be sent along with the textual message. If you want to delete your message, click on the *cancel* button at the bottom left of the screen. This will delete the message (and audio if added) and bring you back to your inbox.

Send message (with audio added)



Delete new message

