

An Scéalaí – the intelligent-CALL platform

Neasa Ní Chiaráin, Madeleine Comtois, Harald Berthelsen, John Sloan, Neimhin Robinson Gunning, Oisín Nolan



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Trionóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



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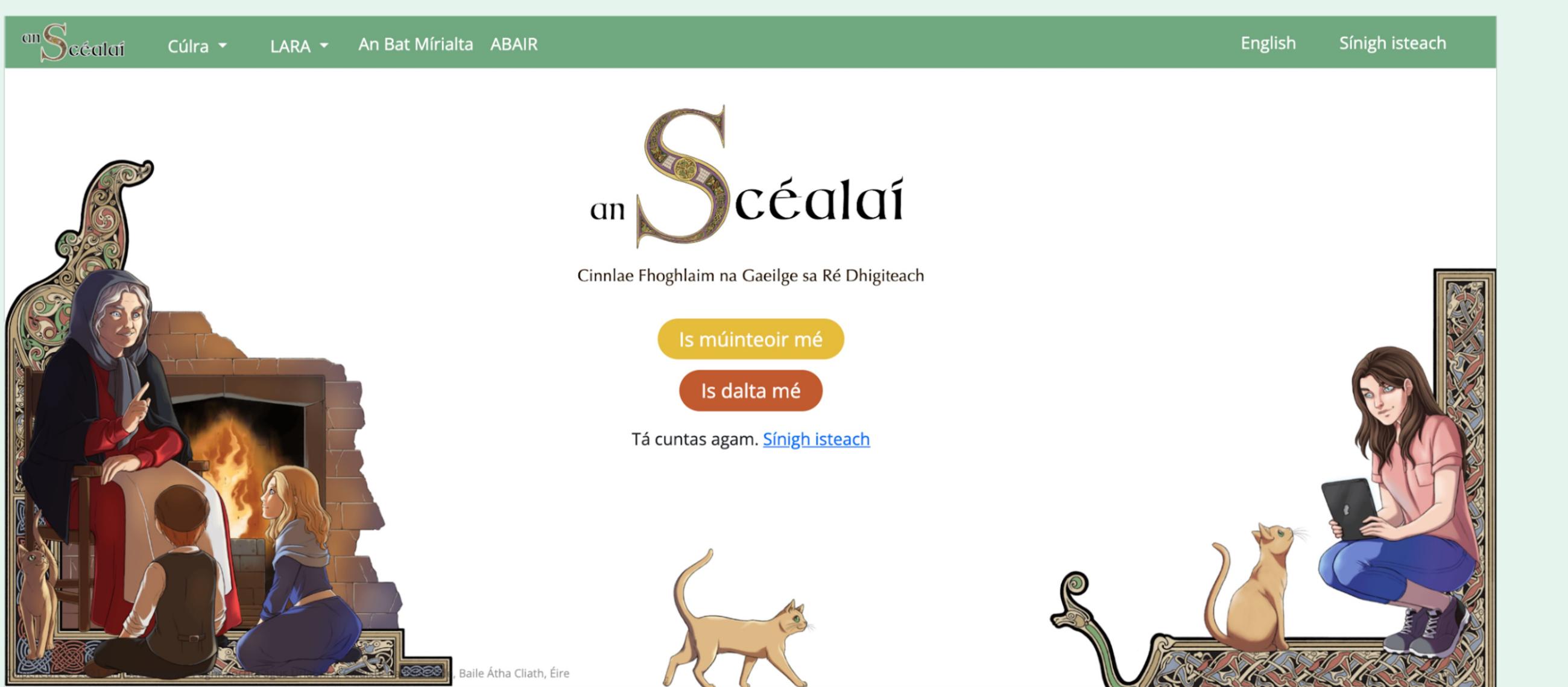
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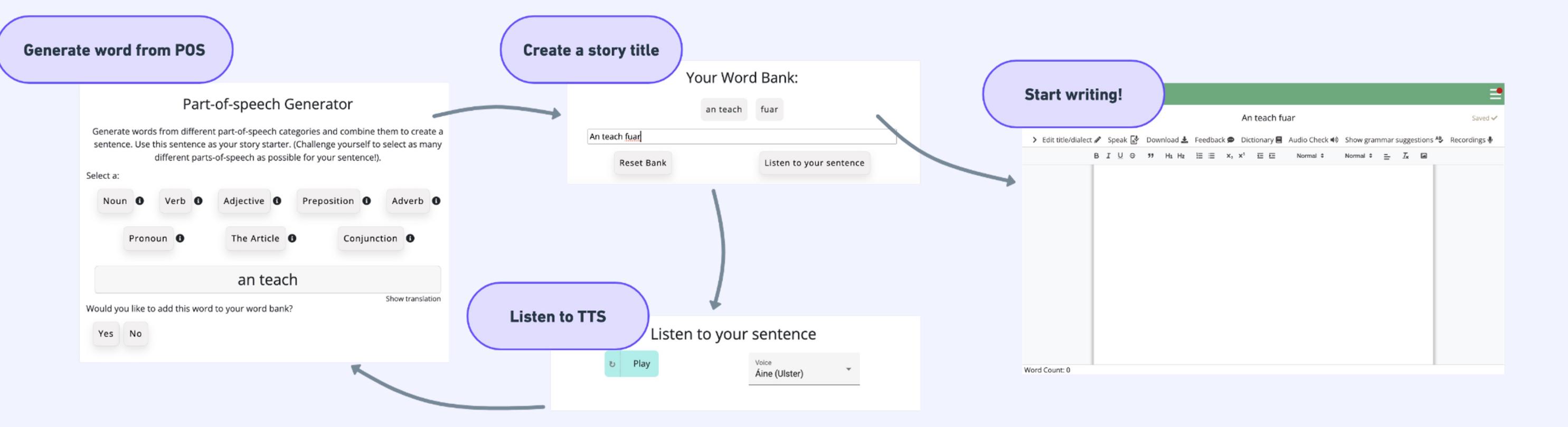
Goals

- Create an interactive, personalised language learning environment
- Make state-of-the-art speech and language technologies (TTS, ASR) accessible to Irish language learners by building a suite of engaging, easy-to-use tools
- Ensure holistic development of the 4 language skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening), with the spoken word integrated into every aspect of language learning
- A research tool - gather learner data to:
 - inform the development of Irish speech and language technologies
 - investigate language learning processes
- Engage collaboratively with the Irish language teaching and learning community in developing the platform
- Develop an enjoyable iCALL experience for the minority language context



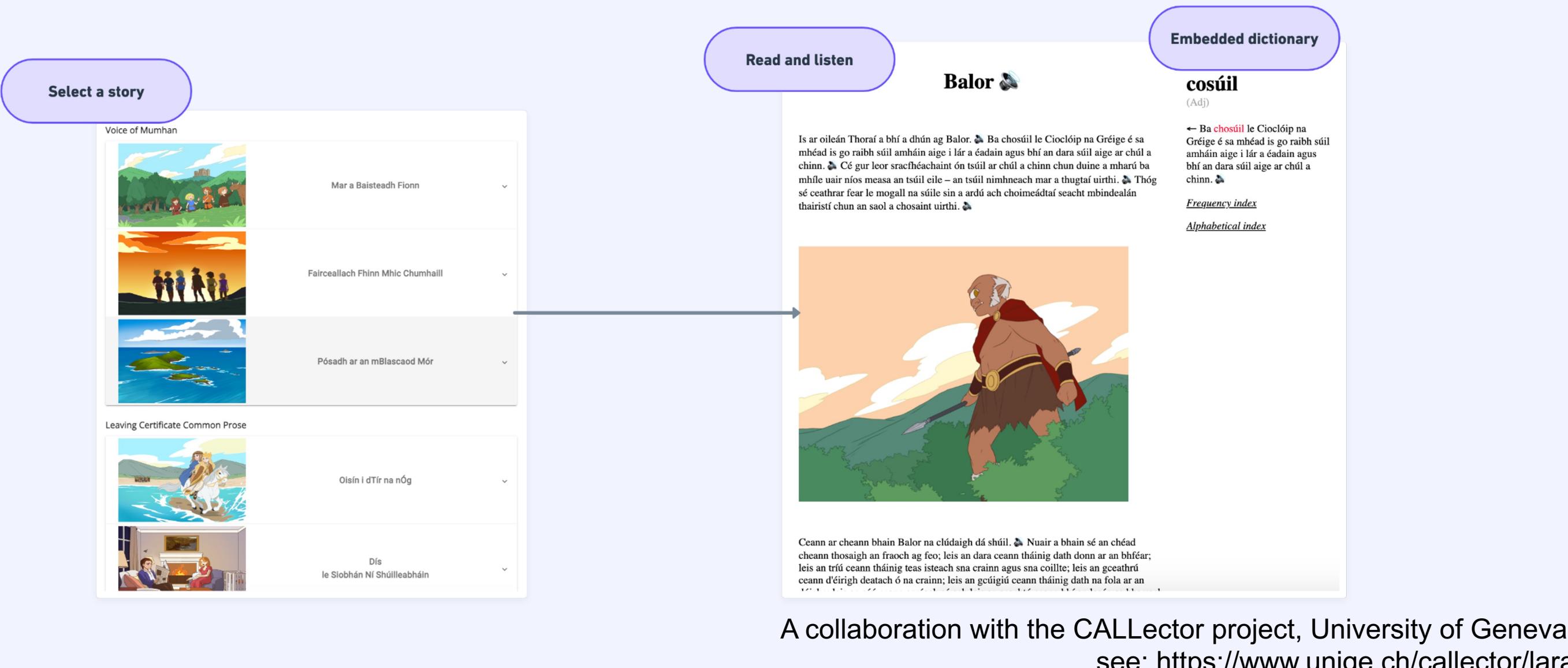
Cén Scéal?

- Story starter tool: 6 prompt generators serve as inspiration for composition, e.g.
- General generator: learners select prompt at random from a large bank
- POS generator: learners generate random words from various parts-of-speech and use them to create their own prompt for story writing
- Supports autonomous learning (not depending on teacher to assign writing task)



Irish LARA

- Learning and Reading Assistant: open-source platform for language learning via integrated reading and listening
- A number of newly written Irish stories currently available, building a library

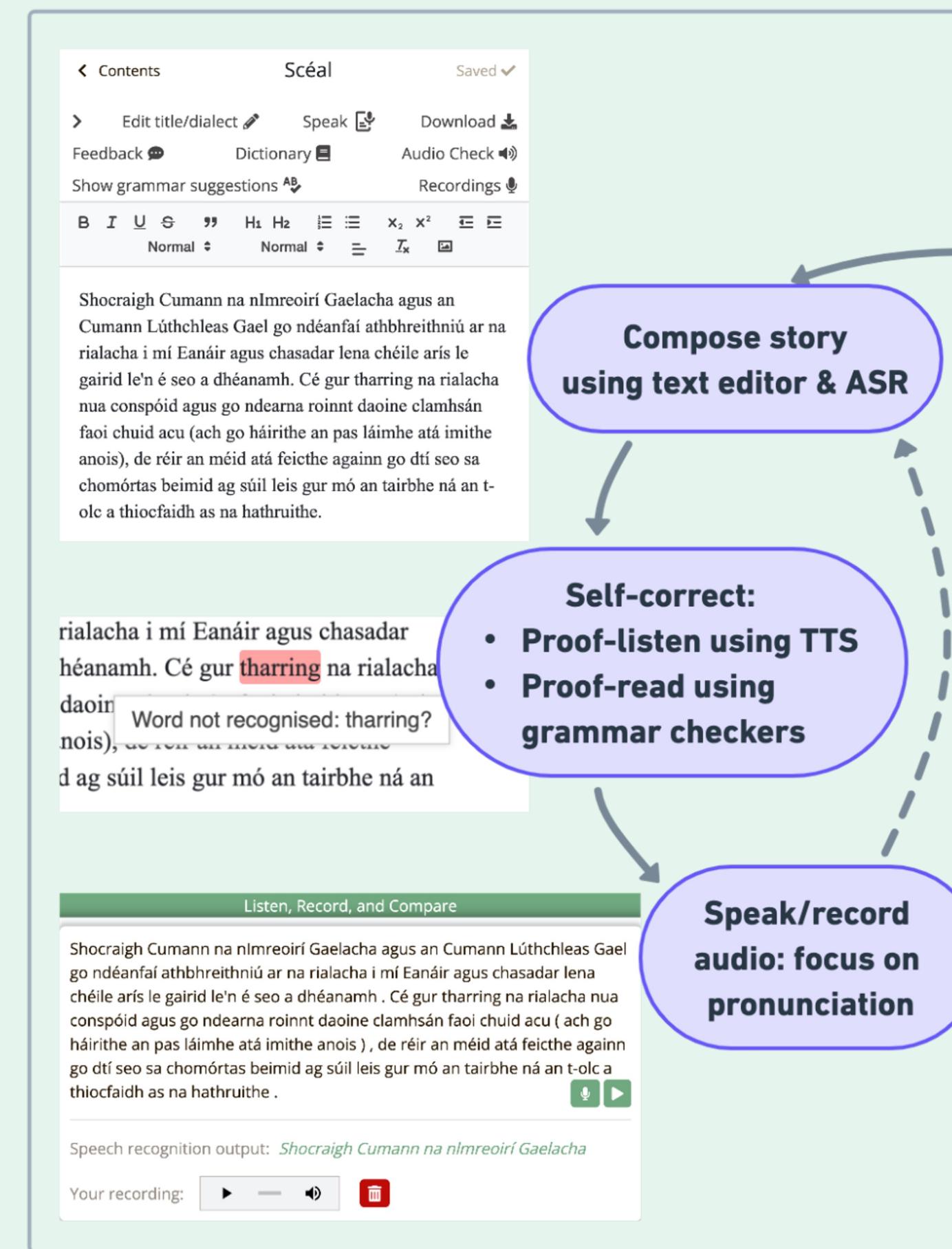


A collaboration with the CALLector project, University of Geneva,
see: <https://www.unige.ch/collector/lara>

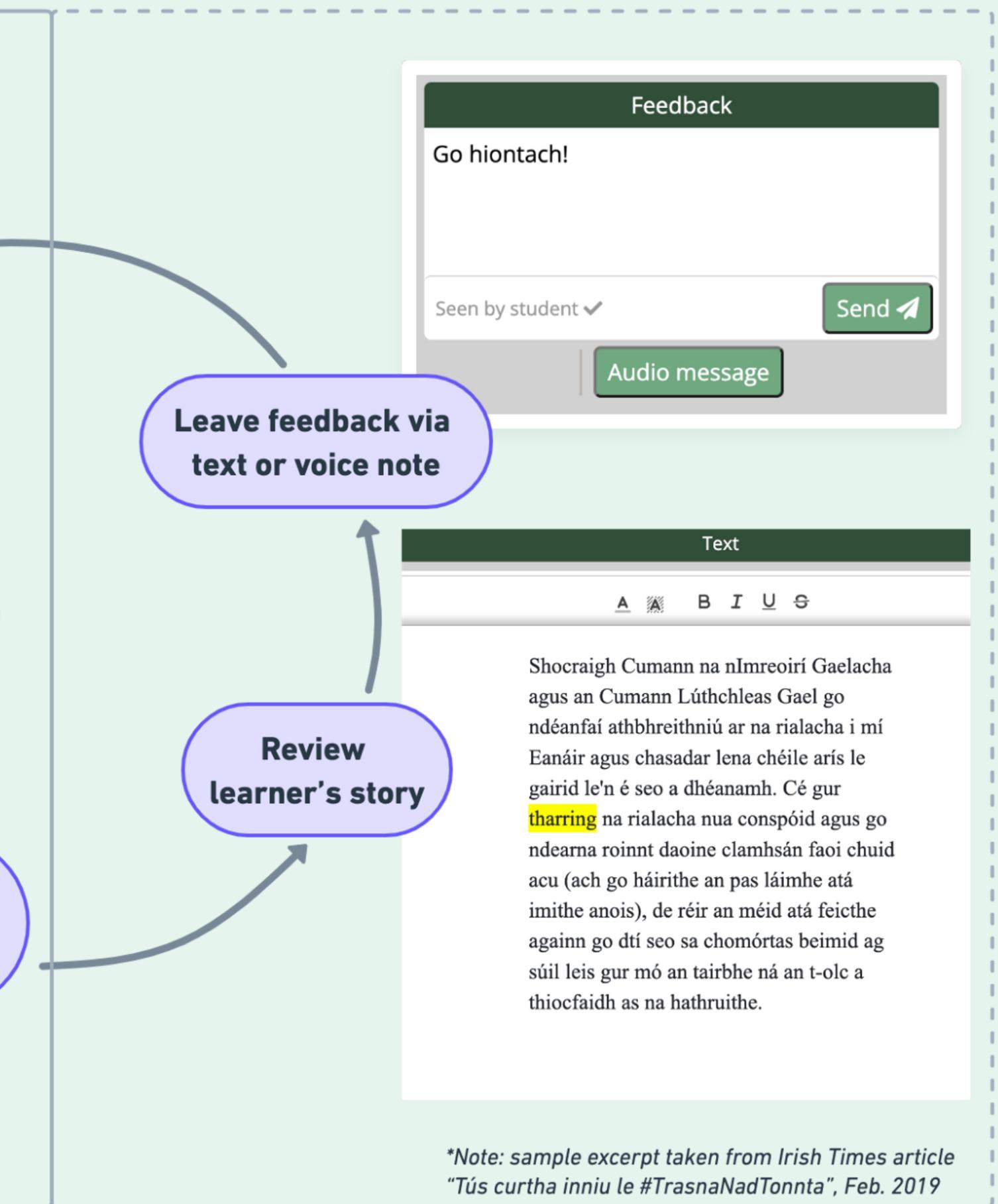
The core An Scéalaí platform

- Students can use the platform for autonomous language learning (inner loop) or as part of a classroom, in which teachers can read and provide feedback on their stories
- Speech technology employed in each learning activity

Student Flow



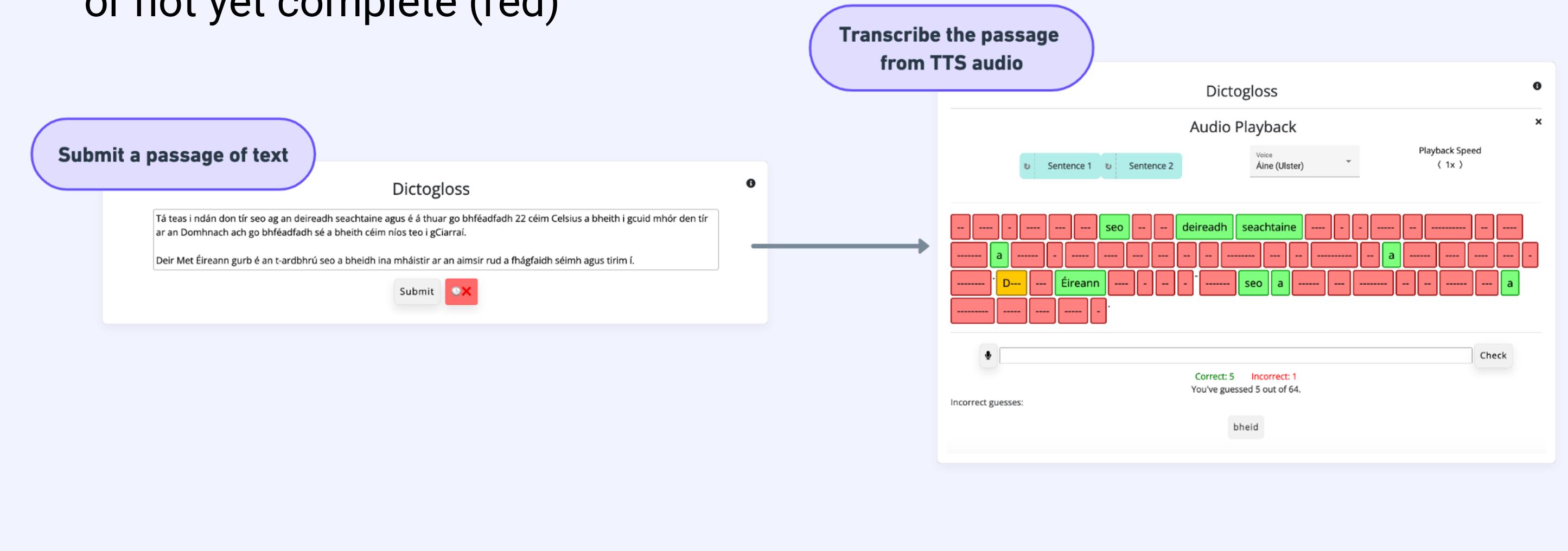
Teacher Flow



*Note: sample excerpt taken from Irish Times article
"Tús curtha inniu le #TrasnaNadTonnta", Feb. 2019

Dictogloss

- Text reconstruction exercise - practice aural skills using TTS
- Learners must listen to the text being read aloud and transcribe the text - colour coding is used to indicate if correct (green), a hint is given (orange), or not yet complete (red)



An Bat Mírialta (the Irregular Verb Bot)

- Master the 11 irregular verbs of Irish: (Verb × Tense × Form) = bank of >2,400 hand-crafted prompts
- Rote learning → boredom, frustration and failure
 - An Bat Mírialta, designed for mobile, is an effort to provide learners with a means to acquire the irregular verbs in a more enjoyable, engaging way, without rote learning

