



Desafío
de Microcuentos
en Inglés

SPILL THE INK

Selección de ganadores, 2020
Programa Inglés Abre Puertas

**Desafío de Microcuentos
en Inglés**

**SPILL
THE
INK**

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DEG

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Educación
General**

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ES

El Programa Inglés Abre Puertas de la División General de Educación del Ministerio de Educación, felicita a todos los estudiantes que participaron de la primera versión del desafío de microcuentos en inglés: “Spill the Ink 2020”; y en especial, a los autores de los 16 microcuentos seleccionados para esta publicación.

El objetivo de este desafío es promover el desarrollo del pensamiento crítico e innovador a través de la escritura creativa, en la que estudiantes redactan sobre sus intereses y ponen en práctica lo aprendido en su trayectoria escolar para expresar ideas y conectar con sus emociones en el idioma inglés, objetivos relevados en el Curriculum Nacional.

Esperamos que este desafío se convierta en una celebración a la creatividad y pueda motivar a más estudiantes a poner en práctica el idioma inglés.

A continuación, te invitamos a conocer la selección de microcuentos ganadores...

EN

The English Opens Doors Program, an entity of the Division of General Education of the Ministry of Education, congratulates all students who participated in the first Short Story Challenge in English: “Spill the Ink 2020”, and especially the authors of the 16 short stories selected for this publication.

The objective of this challenge is to promote the development of critical thinking and creativity through creative writing, by having students write about their interests and apply their learning to express ideas and connect with their emotions in the English language, as mentioned in the National Curriculum.

We hope that this challenge will be a celebration of creativity and will motivate more students to put the English language into practice.

We are pleased to invite you to read this selection of the winning short stories...

Angélica del Pilar Maturana Bravo |
16 años |
Colegio Fundación Educacional
Fernández León |
Región de Valparaíso |

City stars

There was a girl in a small town that never liked big cities. Every night she looked up at the stars and wondered why most of the time, people's dreams were related to big cities when they can't see the stars there. When she went to a big city for the first time, she finally knew the answer to her question: "In big cities everyone is trying to be the star that they can't see. They're just trying to shine genuinely, like the stars." She understood that everyone is growing and learning to become the stars they're destined to be.



Felipe Araya Contreras |
16 años |
Liceo Bicentenario de Excelencia
Mixto Los Andes |
Región de Valparaíso |

The ABCs of perseverance

For Felipe, letters were very elusive during his childhood. The alphabet was a minefield of stress and sad evenings. Would they ever be a part of him? Consonants and vowels escaped him. No matter how hard he tried, they ran away!

Growing up meant capturing them. Some were very difficult to acquire. Can you imagine them together in another language? As a teenager he managed to catch every letter of the alphabet. Sometimes they wanted to escape, but he concentrated and made them return to their place. Now, they are right in front of you, in another language, telling you this story.



Ezequiel Araya Ascuy |
16 años |
Liceo Comercial de Los Andes |
Región de Valparaíso |

Slow down

Tommy found himself having to deal with a new world; confined indoors for what was supposed to be the best year. He never noticed how much he loved painting, the stripes his cat had on her tail, the little mole under his mouth, or how plants gave his room that beautiful sensation.

Those were details he'd been unconsciously avoiding because of his busy life. He used to run side to side, up and down, without knowing why and what for.

But now, he felt so relieved for the slow-paced rhythm his life took. He was, finally, enjoying it.



Diego Parga Meza |
16 años |
San Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer |
Región de Coquimbo |

Buried shiny stars

In a shiny world, there was a boy.
He'd heard of buried stars on the beach, so he went and
dug down passionately.
Each star gave him brilliance, power and great success.
He became radiant; full of shiny stars.
So, he went for more. And more.
His close ones, worried, asked him to stop. He didn't care.
Until one day he was sick of working.
He sought help from his parents; they had darkened.
He tried to find his friends; they were shining somewhere
else.
He had nothing but many little dying stars.
All he could do was sit sick and cry.



Antonella Callejas Wevar |
15 años |
Colegio Irma Salas Silva |
Región de Coquimbo |

The quarantine seen by a teenager

Homework exhausts me. Not seeing my friends and family hurts.

What am I supposed to do? I am bored of the routine. Being a teenager these days is not easy. Did I gain weight? Do I have acne?

Can't I go out? I heard my mom saying that there are two new cases.

What do I have to do? Should I run? I miss my grandparents. I know that everything will get better. One day, I will be able to walk without a mask, hug my relatives and go back to live as before... because we are stronger than the virus.



Jael Zúñiga Trincado |
17 años |
Liceo Jorge Alessandri Rodríguez |
Región de Coquimbo |

The petunia

My grandmother always said, “plants understand us.” I didn’t understand this until I had a plant. I took care of it, until one day it dried up. I called my grandmother and she said, “Do you remember? They understand us. You took good care of the petunia but this would happen anyway because it is a seasonal plant just like us. We do not know how long we, and people around us, will live. So we must take care of ourselves and others just like a petunia; from time to time, prune everything bad so that it will grow stronger and be reborn.”



Anahis Gonzalez Vicuña |
16 años |
Ascensión Nicol |
Región Metropolitana |

Always me

Who is she? She is there to comfort me in my restless nights, dries my tears, and encourages me to get up in the mornings. She is also there in my successes, failures, joys, and sorrows. She is there to support me when I make mistakes. She is there to tell me that everything is going to be alright. She holds me so tightly that I don't want to let her go, but who is she? I finally asked her who she was, and she replied, "I'm you." Afterward, I began loving my eternal life partner even more: myself.



Romina Pérez Pinto |
17 años |
Liceo Polivalente Padre José Herde
Pohler de Canela |
Región de Coquimbo |

Broken compass

I close my eyes. I hold my breath. It's a day in the dark;
you're all alone again.

- Tell me what you think, dear past.
- I wanna be happier; break free from the voices in my head.
- I know that you're hesitating and I will not tell you such obvious things as "be strong."
- Maybe, I've lost my way.
- Find your compass.
- IT'S BROKEN!
- YOU gave me the best.
- What...?
- So you'll give yourself the best of you.
- Who are you? My angel?
- Your future.



Valentina Araya Lagos |
18 años |
Liceo Agrícola de Chillán |
Región de Ñuble |

Milka chronicles

Hi. I'm Milka, the cat of the Aliwen Huechucura family.
I want to tell you about my experience since humans invaded my house; something they call "quarantine."
At first, they were just watching TV so I thought the market had pulled out a new anti-flea solution.
Later, I noticed a strange behavior in them: they washed much more their human paws.
Then I realized it was a disease, and it's contagious!!!
I understood that we were going through difficult times, so I caught a couple of mice to help the family, turning these humans into my herd.



Cindy Patty Agudo |
14 años |
Colegio Río Loa |
Región de Antofagasta |

I saw the truth

One day, I began to see the truth.

I understood the difference between the princess fantasy life and real life; since things are not easily won, everything has an obstacle.

What is true and sincere are the days, as unique opportunities at the moment.

The COVID-19 pandemic that affected us worldwide has been the protagonist in me, where it has given me life lessons. I reflect on my situation and identify that when I am weaker, there will be an opportunity to recognize how strong I am by overcoming each obstacle; turning it into a benefit and not as something negative in life.



Giuliana Viacava Fuentes |
18 años |
Colegio San Rafael Arcángel |
Región del Biobío |

True story at the self-checkout

I was at the supermarket doing some shopping when I noticed a middle-aged man. It seemed he might need some help at the self-service checkout. I didn't pay too much attention, until he began to scream desperately to someone there.

He was saying out loud,
"Please young man, help me. I just don't get it! Are you alright?"

I approached and kindly told him,
"Oh Gosh! Sir, he's not a cashier, what you are talking to isn't a person, it's a poster. I'll help you out."
And so, I made a new friend!

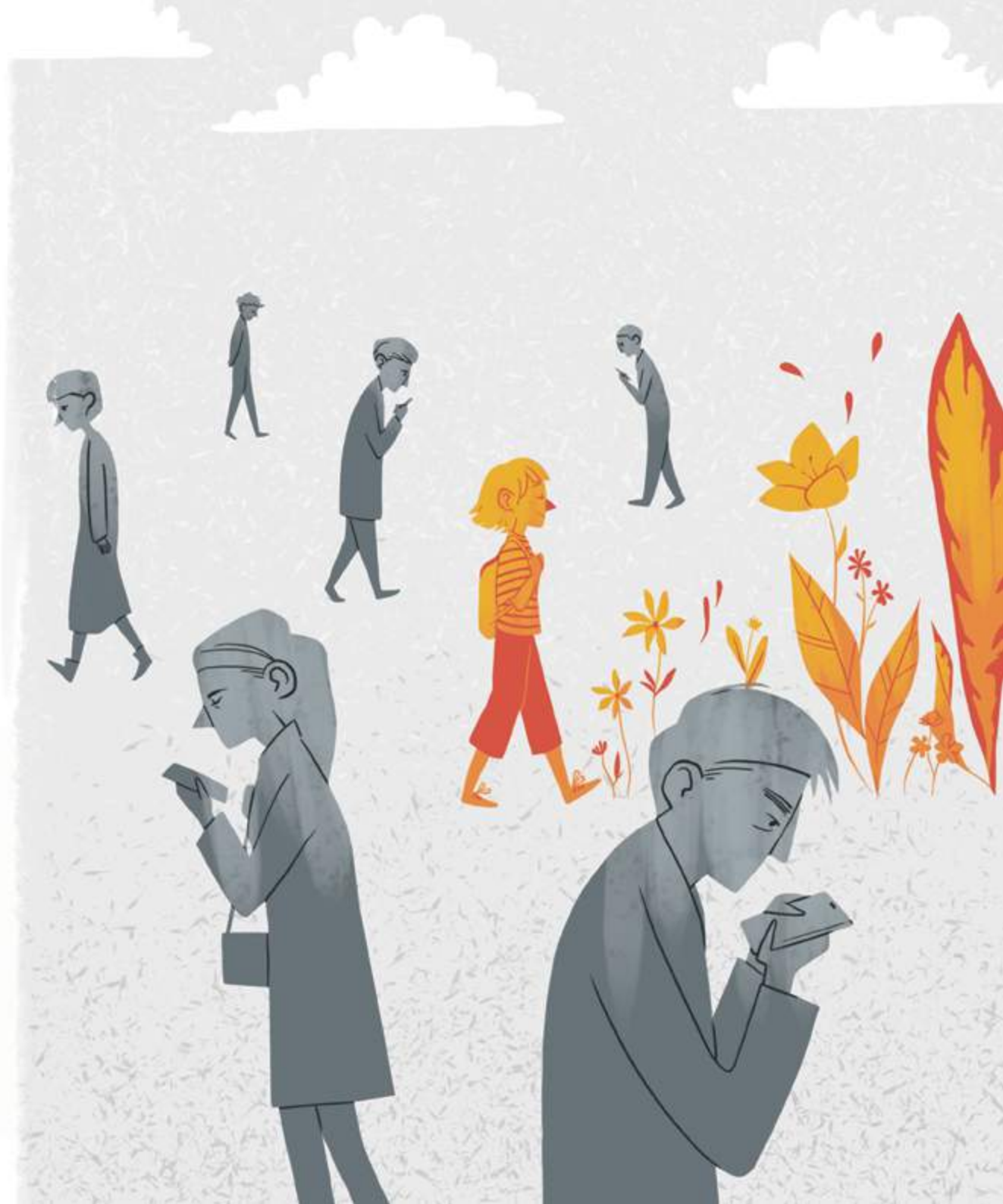


Yanara González Varela |
15 años |
Instituto Politécnico María Auxiliadora
de Puerto Montt |
Región de Los Lagos |

Bloom

When I am walking back home, I usually see people with eyes full of fatigue in the middle of the street, yawning and mingling around with no expression on their faces. I told myself, “No one deserves to be alone that way.”

Suddenly, I portray myself walking into a garden with different types of exquisite and defenseless flowers just like people seem to me. Afraid of being forgotten and ending up withered when the next summer arrives. Self-care needs the same delicacy as a rose or a daisy; no matter how long it takes, one day everybody will shine brightly.



Juan Zambrano Nava |
18 años |
Liceo Industrial de Santiago |
Región Metropolitana |

My challenge

The day starts. I thank God, I take a deep breath, and I have a snack of delicious fruits.

I am ready for what is coming!

Minutes later, I am immersed in my dreams. Fighting the cold, I get stronger as I advance. I feel better and better, more connected to my goals. My heart beats and adrenaline rises with each movement; I reach my maximum and begin to decrease intensity.

Finally, I get out of the water and I feel great, because I broke my last record.

My training was a success. What a fantastic feeling!

Never give up!



Zaira Brito del Río |
17 años |
Ascensión Nicol |
Región Metropolitana |

Sunflower

He came every day to see me. His name I don't know, but that's not important to me. His hair was brown, and his hands were a little rough to the touch, but always gentle with me. He used to say I was beautiful. He played his guitar every morning; his voice was all I needed to feel alive. I loved him, and I thought he loved me too until one day he plucked me and tied me with a yellow ribbon. The last thing that I heard was a woman saying, "Oh, what a beautiful sunflower you've picked."



Marena Nilo Muñoz |
18 años |
Instituto Politécnico María Auxiliadora |
Región de Los Lagos |

Everlasting sunflowers

Three years ago, on April 12th, I stopped seeing her forever. She unexpectedly decided to end her life. For months, a deep sorrow invaded my soul. I missed her so much. I just wanted to see her and tell her how much I loved her. I got exhausted... I felt poisoned; my family decided that I should see a specialist to support me. She supported me too. I never could step onto the cemetery until today. November 12th; in my hands, I carry the vivid sunflowers that we both loved, and my best smile for her and for me.



Lony Vargas Paredes |
15 años |
Instituto Politécnico María Auxiliadora
de Puerto Montt |
Región de Los Lagos |

Not everything is how it looks

Lili is a happy girl with many friends, a family that loves her, and perfect grades. When she is in her room alone, she thinks everything is alright, but she still feels alone; “something is missing.” Something that would make her feel that spark inside again.

Christmas has arrived, and this time, she did not ask for anything special, only that her loved ones are fine. Unexpectedly that night, she would receive the greatest news: a pet; a dog which she would call “Milo.” After that, she would realize that her new friend was everything she wanted in life.





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