# Composable Prompting Workspaces for Creative Writing: Exploration and Iteration Using Dynamic Widgets



Figure 1: User interface of PromptCanvas. (A) Canvas-like workspace where users can place and organize widgets to create a customized environment. (B) Widget panel. (b1) Example of widgets created through system suggestions. (b2) Button to get widget suggestions from the system. (b3) Field for entering prompts to create multiple widgets of a specific theme. (b4) Example of an empty widget created by double-clicking at empty space. (C) Text editor and output text generations from the prompt. (c1) Button to rephrase the text based on the widgets on the canvas (light blue). (c2) Field to provide prompts for generating text. (D) Example of an opened widget with suggested values for customization. In each widget, users can request more such suggestions and save current input for refinement and iteration. (E) Menu bar for creating, copying, or deleting a canvas.

# Abstract

Generative AI models offer many possibilities for text creation and transformation. Current graphical user interfaces (GUIs) for prompting them lack support for iterative exploration, as they

© 2025 Copyright held by the owner/author(s). ACM ISBN 979-8-4007-1395-8/25/04 https://doi.org/10.1145/3706599.3720243 do not represent prompts as actionable interface objects. We propose the concept of a composable prompting canvas for text exploration and iteration using dynamic widgets. Users generate widgets through system suggestions, prompting, or manually to capture task-relevant facets that affect the generated text. In a comparative study with a baseline (conversational UI), 18 participants worked on two writing tasks, creating diverse prompting environments with custom widgets and spatial layouts. They reported having more control over the generated text and preferred our system over the baseline. Our design significantly outperformed the baseline on the Creativity Support Index, and participants felt the results were worth the effort. This work highlights the need for GUIs that support user-driven customization and (re-)structuring to increase both the flexibility and efficiency of prompting.

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#### **CCS** Concepts

• Human-centered computing  $\rightarrow$  Interactive systems and tools; Graphical user interfaces.

# Keywords

Dynamic UI, Prompting, LLM, human-AI co-creation, creativity support

#### **ACM Reference Format:**

Rifat Mehreen Amin, Oliver Hans Kühle, Daniel Buschek, and Andreas Butz. 2025. Composable Prompting Workspaces for Creative Writing: Exploration and Iteration Using Dynamic Widgets. In *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '25), April* 26–May 01, 2025, Yokohama, Japan. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 11 pages. https://doi.org/10.1145/3706599.3720243

# 1 Introduction

Advancements in generative AI models have revolutionized text interaction, offering powerful tools for creating and exploring text [23, 24, 28]. These may enhance creative expression by providing users with novel ways of generating text and interacting with it. However, their potential is often constrained by the limitations of existing graphical user interfaces (GUIs). The primary limitation of current GUIs for prompting generative AI models lies in their inability to support iterative exploration and customization. These GUIs present prompts as static text fields, restricting users to a linear interaction paradigm [14, 16]. For writers, this approach can lead to what Kreminski [18] refers to as "dearth of the author" a condition in which users become disengaged from the creative process and produce text that lacks expressive intent. This lack of interactivity and flexibility hinders users' ability to leverage generative AI capabilities creatively. Users may find it challenging to achieve their desired outcomes without the ability to dynamically manipulate prompts, create personalized workflows, or easily explore a wide range of variations. Additionally, the metacognitive demands placed on users by generative AI tools further exacerbate these challenges [32].

To address these limitations, we introduce a novel approach to enhance prompting in creative writing, inspired by the concept of dynamic widgets, introduced by Vaithilingam et al. [34] for information visualization. We bring dynamic widgets to writing: Our system, PromptCanvas, empowers users to create custom GUIs tailored to their writing needs. Concretely, PromptCanvas transforms prompts into actionable and persistent interface objects by allowing users to dynamically arrange and customize widgets on a canvas. These widgets offer interactive elements based on the context of the prompt, providing flexibility and control over customizable, relevant aspects of the generated text. This allows users to create personalized prompting environments that reflect their unique workflows and creative styles, facilitating iterative refinement of their own draft or AI-generated text. Beyond customizability, dynamic widgets can support metacognition by assisting in task decomposition and promoting a more structured, iterative use of generative AI.

Our study reveals that dynamic widgets improve user experience by enhancing control over text generation, reducing cognitive load, enabling iterative exploration, and supporting diverse prompts. These findings highlight the value of customizable writing tools. By prioritizing flexible, user-driven customization with dynamic widgets, we advance human-AI interaction and promote more creative interaction with generative AI.

In summary, this research contributes to human-AI interaction in writing by investigating the following research questions:

- **RQ1** How can writing tools be designed with dynamic widgets to improve user interaction and creativity and provide greater control over the generated content?
- **RQ2** Do dynamic widgets for iterative and structured prompting improve creativity support compared to an existing conversational UI?
- **RQ3** Do dynamic widgets help in reducing cognitive load in creative writing tasks?

#### 2 Background and Related Work

# 2.1 Dynamic and Adaptive UIs in Creative Workflows

Early work by Ahlberg and Shneiderman [1] highlighted the benefits of tightly coupling user inputs with outputs, fostering engagement and immediate feedback. However, in hindsight these systems were limited by static UI elements. Recent developments, such as FrameKit [36], address this by creating adaptive UIs that adjust to user context and interaction patterns, enhancing user experience [12, 17, 33]. Moreover, the principles of reification, polymorphism, and reuse [5] introduced foundational concepts for efficient, user-centered interfaces, making abstract operations tangible, tools adaptive, and outputs reusable. Modern systems like Eviza [25], DynaVis [34], and Bolt [27] extend these ideas with natural language inputs and dynamic widgets for data visualization and modification. Widgets simplify complex tasks, as seen in Bespoke [35], which generates GUIs from command-line inputs, and ProvenanceWidgets [22], which tracks and visualizes user interactions. Collectively, these advances enable dynamic exploration, adjustment, and refinement, fostering creativity and enhancing user productivity.

# 2.2 Intelligent and Interactive UIs for Prompting

Recent advancements in generative AI have led to interactive systems that allow users to create content through natural language inputs (prompts). A recent line of work on such systems explores user agency via direct manipulation, such as in Spellburst [3], which uses a node-based interface for semantic programming and exploring variations, and DirectGPT [20], which allows users to modify generated content via graphical objects and direct controls. Lowcode LLM [8] enables prompt creation with drag-and-drop functionality, while Textoshop [19] adapts graphic-editing tools for intuitive text manipulation. Personalization is also advancing, as seen in Writer-Defined AI Personas [6], which lets users create custom AI personas for tailored feedback. Systems like Sensecape [30], Graphologue [16], and Luminate [29] provide interactive visualizations to structure and refine content, enabling deeper user comprehension. These systems represent a shift toward user-centered generative AI, empowering users to shape content through direct interaction, personalization, and accessible interfaces.

# 2.3 Human-AI Collaborative Writing and Content Creation

Integrating AI into creative processes has transformed writing and content creation by enhancing interaction and providing continuous feedback. Tools like those discussed by Dang et al. [10] support writing momentum, reducing creative block, while Gilburt [13] highlights how AI helps overcome writer's block by reigniting stalled ideas. Generative AI is applied across domains, including code generation [4], email auto-completion [7], comic creation [31], screenplay co-writing [21], argument drafting [37], and academic writing [2]. Professional perspectives on this transformation are captured by Ippolito et al. [15]. Challenges remain as AI becomes a co-creator. Research by Dang et al. [11] explores interaction with prompting during writing, while Tankelevitch et al. [32] examines the metacognitive demands and opportunities of generative AI tools. Critical assessments by Kreminski [18] and Mirowski et al. [21] address AI's reception in creative industries and areas for improvement. Overall, AI's integration in writing is transforming workflows, demanding new interfaces to support fruitful use.

# 3 System Design

The current design of PromptCanvas emerged through multiple iterations of planning and design sessions conducted by the authors for achieving specific design goals (DGs). These sessions involved brainstorming, prototyping, and refining the interface. This iterative process allowed us to explore different layouts and widget functionalities to ensure the interface supports creativity, flexibility, and ease of use. This process also implicitly answers RQ1.

### 3.1 Design Goals and Proposed Design Solutions

- DG1. Transform prompts into visible and actionable objects. Current interfaces treat prompts as static text fields, limiting user interaction to basic input-output cycles. Prompt-Canvas converts prompts into dynamic widgets that represent actionable components of the text. These widgets allow users to adjust attributes, such as tone, style, or content interactively, enabling more granular and intuitive control over text generation by providing all the benefits of direct manipulation interfaces [26].
- DG2. Facilitate structured exploration and refinement. Writing is an iterative process that requires the ability to experiment with and refine ideas systematically. PromptCanvas enables users to break down tasks into smaller components using widgets, supporting structured exploration and iterative improvement. This design ensures users can focus on individual aspects of their text while maintaining a cohesive workflow.
- DG3. Promote divergent thinking and creativity. To overcome creative blocks and encourage novel ideas, the system should support divergent thinking. Context-aware widget suggestions, parallel exploration options, and dynamic rephrasing tools help users explore multiple creative directions and ideas.
- DG4. Provide a customizable and adaptable workspace. Every user has a unique writing process, so the interface

must accommodate diverse workflows. PromptCanvas, therefore, offers a flexible, infinite canvas where users can create, organize, and rearrange widgets to suit their personal preferences. This customizability allows the workspace to evolve with the user's needs.

• DG5. Simplify navigation and reduce cognitive load. The open-ended nature of the infinite canvas can be overwhelming without proper navigation aids. PromptCanvas includes features like widget panels, drag-and-drop interactions, and clear visual hierarchies to help users locate and organize their ideas efficiently, to minimize cognitive strain.

# 3.2 Resulting Interface and Features

PromptCanvas is built around an infinite canvas, a zoomable digital workspace that users can navigate and organize freely, in order to improve flexibility in content creation and management. This canvas is complemented by three key components: the text editor, control widgets, and the widget panel (see Figure 1).

3.2.1 Infinite Canvas. The infinite canvas provides users with spatial freedom to create and organize content in a way that best suits their workflow, as shown in Figure 1-(A). Users can pan across the workspace and zoom in and out seamlessly, enabling transitions between broad overviews and detailed views of specific elements. This flexibility allows users to visually organize their ideas spatially by grouping related items, layering, or arranging them hierarchically, which promotes clarity and supports systematic exploration (DG2). Additionally, the open-ended layout ensures that users can customize their workspace, reflecting their unique processes and preferences (DG4).

3.2.2 Text Editor. The text editor serves as the centerpiece of the interface, allowing users to integrate their input with systemgenerated suggestions fluidly, as illustrated in Figure 1-(C). Users can refine their text iteratively by rephrasing it based on active control widgets or submitting prompts to create or modify content, making it easier to experiment with different ideas (DG2). The editor also supports incremental text generation, displaying content dynamically as it is produced, which helps users remain engaged with the evolving output. Additionally, the history feature enables users to revisit previous iterations, promoting iterative improvement and exploration of alternatives (DG3). These features are further complemented by real-time updates to word counts and visual indicators of changes, supporting clarity and focus during the writing process.

3.2.3 Control Widgets. Control widgets are dynamic, interactive tools that transform abstract text attributes into actionable and adjustable UI elements, as shown in Figure 1-(b1). Each widget provides context-aware suggestions tailored to the content in the text editor, helping users explore multiple creative directions and overcome writer's block (DG3). These widgets allow users to adjust text attributes like tone, style, or structure directly, offering control over the output and turning prompts into interactive objects (DG1). Their flexibility in resizing, repositioning, and customization ensures that the workspace adapts to user needs as tasks evolve (DG4). Additionally, their integration with the rephrasing

and text generation systems ensures a seamless workflow between ideation and implementation.

3.2.4 Widget Panel. The widget panel acts as the system's central hub for generating, managing, and organizing control widgets, as shown in Figure 1-(B). Users can create widgets dynamically based on text analysis or provide specific input for guided widget creation, making it easier to tailor tools for individual tasks (DG1). The panel highlights newly generated widgets with a yellow glow and allows users to evaluate, delete, or drag them onto the canvas, ensuring only relevant widgets influence text generation. Its visually distinct layout and dynamic updates simplify navigation and reduce cognitive load, helping users locate and manage ideas efficiently (DG5). The scrolling functionality and size adjustments aim to support projects with many widgets. An example scenario of how to use the system for writing a short story is provided in Appendix A.

#### 4 User Study Design

To answer RQ2 and RQ3, we conducted a within-subjects lab study with 18 participants between the ages of 22 and 68 years (M =30.44, SD = 10.45). They had varied writing experience, including emails, letters, blogs, and stories, and used AI tools like ChatGPT, Quillbot, and Bard for writing tasks. Participants were compensated with 10€/hour.

We evaluated PromptCanvas ("dynamic UI") against a static conversational UI ("static UI", Figure 9), with approval from our institution's ethics board. Participants completed two tasks using each UI, which we selected to cover different types of writing: emails (5 minutes) and short stories (10 minutes) on predefined or user-selected topics (Appendix C.2).

Besides these writing tasks, we included a pre-study survey, an interface tutorial, and a post-study survey and semi-structured interviews for feedback. Screen and audio were recorded for analysis. Quantitative data, such as numbers and types of prompts and widgets used, along with Creativity Support Index (CSI) and NASA Task Load Index (NASA-TLX) metrics, were analyzed statistically (Shapiro-Wilk, paired t-test, Wilcoxon signed-rank test) to determine significance. More details regarding our user study are provided in Appendix C.

#### 5 Results

# 5.1 How Does PromptCanvas Support Creativity and Exploration? (RQ2)

PromptCanvas scored significantly higher than the baseline on all factors of the Creativity Support Index (CSI) (all p < 0.03, see Table 1). As our study did not involve collaboration, we omitted the collaboration factor following the practice from [9, 31] to avoid confusion.

Participants found PromptCanvas (M = 82.09, SD = 12.12) to support creativity significantly more (p = 0.005) compared to the conversational UI (M = 61.65, SD = 18.53). The *p*-values were adjusted using the Bonferroni-Holm correction to account for multiple comparisons. In the final survey, participants directly compared the creativity support between PromptCanvas and the conversational UI (Figure 2).

Table 1: Creativity Support Index (CSI) Results (N=18).

	Baseline		PromptCanvas		
Factor	М	SD	М	SD	p
Enjoyment	13.06	4.40	16.56	3.99	.02
Exploration	11.78	5.53	16.83	3.08	.02
Expressiveness	10.83	4.91	14.67	3.76	.02
Immersion	10.00	4.10	14.61	4.73	.01
<b>Results Worth Effort</b>	14.17	4.02	17.61	2.21	.005
Overall CSI Score	61.65	18.53	82.09	12.12	.005

67% of participants reported that they became so absorbed in the activity that they forgot about the tool they were using. 78% of participants chose PromptCanvas as the more expressive tool. 89% of participants found that they explored a wider range of ideas, options, designs, or outcomes using our system compared to using the baseline. Furthermore, 89% of participants reported a higher level of enjoyment with PromptCanvas than with the baseline. Using PromptCanvas made users feel their efforts were most worthwhile, with 67% feeling satisfied with what they produced relative to the effort expended.

# 5.2 How Does PromptCanvas Affect the Cognitive Load in Creative Writing? (RQ3)

Participants evaluated their perceived cognitive load using the NASA-TLX scale after using each UI. Significant differences were observed in two aspects of cognitive load: mental demand and frustration. For mental demand, participants reported a significantly (p = 0.02) lower mental demand when using the dynamic interface (M = 1.89, SD = 1.02, Med = 2), compared to the static interface (M = 3.06, SD = 1.51, Med = 3) (See Figure 3).

Frustration ratings also differed significantly (p = 0.03), with the dynamic interface showing lower frustration (M = 1.28, SD = 0.46, Med = 1) than the static interface (M = 2.17, SD = 1.42, Med = 2), indicating that PromptCanvas helped reduce feelings of insecurity, irritation, and stress. However, other cognitive load aspects showed no significant differences between the two interfaces. In the final survey, participants directly compared their perceived cognitive load between PromptCanvas and the conversational UI. Results are shown in Figure 4.

These results show that when using PromptCanvas, 39% of our participants felt less frustrated, while 50% did not feel frustrated with either UI. Additionally, 39% perceived less temporal demand with PromptCanvas, while 39% of participants did not feel hurried or rushed with either UI. Regarding the feeling of success, 61% of participants felt more successful in accomplishing tasks when using PromptCanvas, and lastly, 56% of participants reported needing less effort with PromptCanvas to accomplish their level of performance.

#### 6 Discussion and Future Work

# 6.1 Study Limitations

Our study has several limitations. The small sample size (N = 18) restricts generalizability. Future research could include a larger, more

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Figure 2: Self-reported creativity support scores and preferences comparing PromptCanvas and the Conversational UI (N=18).



Figure 3: Self-reported NASA-TLX scores and ease-of-use ratings from participants in our lab study (N=18).

varied sample and examine how professional writers use Prompt-Canvas. Future work could also incorporate qualitative studies with thematic analysis to better understand users' experiences and how PromptCanvas supports creative writing.

# 6.2 Widget Interdependence

Dynamic widgets in PromptCanvas operate as self-contained interface objects currently. Still, changes in one widget can semantically influence others (i.e., altering a story character, such as having a son instead of a daughter, might adjust related suggestions such as names). Future iterations could try to support such semantic interdependencies.

# 6.3 Supporting Creativity

PromptCanvas significantly enhances perceived creativity support compared to traditional conversational UI by providing an interactive environment where users can explore ideas and refine outputs through dynamic widgets. This approach supports creative writing, especially for non-professional writers, by offering tools that simplify tasks and encourage experimentation with different text elements. By reducing cognitive load and frustration, PromptCanvas empowers users to express their ideas more effectively. Participants felt less hurried and more successful in their tasks, requiring fewer prompts to achieve their goals, thanks to the structured workflows enabled by dynamic widgets.

### 6.4 Reducing Cognitive Load

The NASA-TLX ratings revealed statistically significant differences in mental demand and frustration between the UIs. Participants noted feeling less annoyed, more productive, and able to complete tasks with less effort, suggesting that the dynamic interface offers a more engaging and efficient creative process. By allowing users to manipulate widgets for contextual suggestions and seamless



Figure 4: Self-reported cognitive load and preference scores comparing PromptCanvas and the conversational UI (N=18).

exploration, PromptCanvas creates a supportive environment for managing creative writing tasks.

# 6.5 Extending the Concept to Other Domains

Inspired by previous research in visualization (*DynaVis* [34]) and systems like *Luminate* [29], PromptCanvas demonstrates its potential for broader applications. For instance, it could extend beyond text-based creative tasks to visual content generation, where dynamic widgets might allow users to iteratively refine and customize image outputs. This capability would enable users to explore artistic styles, integrate specific elements, and adjust parameters, showcasing the versatility of dynamic widgets in diverse creative domains. The canvas-based design of PromptCanvas also allows for a broad range of widget types. Future additions could include more standard HTML elements like date-pickers, sliders, and checkboxes, similar to those in *DynaVis* [34], or specialized tool sets from systems like *Textoshop* [19], to allow for more targeted customization and user control.

#### 7 Conclusion

In this work, we introduce PromptCanvas, using dynamic widgets as a novel solution to address the limitations of current UIs for generative AI in creative writing. Our study with 18 participants demonstrates that by incorporating customizable interactive elements, our system enhances user control, reduces cognitive load, and supports iterative exploration and the creation of a personalized design space. The findings reveal that dynamic widgets significantly improve user experience and facilitate more effective, user-centered interaction with AI. This research emphasizes the importance of user-driven customization and flexibility in unlocking the full creative potential of generative AI, leading to more meaningful and productive writing interactions.

# Acknowledgments

Funded by Elitenetzwerk Bayern and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) – 525037874.

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# Appendix

#### A Example Scenario: Writing a Short Story

Marina is an avid reader of fiction and loves to write during her free time. She maintains a blog where she writes short stories on various topics occasionally for her readers. It has been a while since Marina wrote something for her blog. She decided to write something on Survival in the Wilderness, but she is experiencing writer's block. She decided to seek AI's help to reignite her creativity and get a starting point to carry on from there. She decides to use PromptCanvas to assist her. Below, we explain her experience with PromptCanvas.

**Initial prompt/text**. Marina has two options to start with. She can either write directly in the text editor or generate text by writing a prompt. Opting for the latter, she initiates the process with the prompt, *"Write a short story about survival in the wilderness"*, see Figure 5-(1). The system generates the story in the editor, but Marina wants to reiterate the story and explore more. For this, she can use the widgets. PromptCanvas provides her with three options for generating widgets: suggestions by the system, prompting to create widgets on a theme, and double-clicking on the canvas to create empty widgets.

Widgets generated by the system. Marina wants to start with the widget suggestions by the system. Therefore, she clicks on "Get widget suggestions" and receives four suggestions from the system, illustrated in Figure 5-(2). From there, she finds two widgets



Figure 5: (1) Marina writes a prompt for the short story generation. (2) PromptCanvas generates widgets for her. (3) She chooses two widgets from the widget panel and drags them onto the canvas.

(*Survival Challenge* and *Setting Description*) very interesting for her story. She then drags them onto the canvas as shown in Figure 5-(3). She sees the colors of the widgets changing to light blue implying that the widgets are now active.

**Prompting to get widgets**. As shown in Figure 6-(1), Marina now wants to modify some settings of the character, and to do that, she chooses to generate multiple widgets, so she decides to prompt in the widget panel "*Create widgets related to the character*". She now gets three new widgets, *Character's Connection with Nature, Character Survival Skills*, and *Character Emotional State* on the widget panel related to the character but with different aspects to focus on.

**Creating empty widgets**. Next, she aims to modify the protagonist's name and maintain the flexibility to change it as needed in the future. To ensure the generated text incorporates the name wherever necessary, she proceeds to create an empty widget on the canvas. She then edits the widget's header to *Protagonist's Name* and updates the input to **Sierra Brook**, illustrated in Figure 6-(2).

**Suggestions within the widgets**. Marina does not like the current *Setting Description*, so she clicks on "Get suggestions" inside the widget *Setting Description*, Figure 7-(1). As shown in Figure 7-(2), PromptCanvas suggests her two new setting descriptions. After comparing the new ones with the previous suggestions, she decides to go with the *Dense rainforest*, see Figure 7-(3).

**Rephrasing text based on widgets**. As depicted in Figure 8-(1), Marina now has three widgets on the canvas: *Setting Description*, *Survival Challenge, and Protagonist's Name*. She applies the widgets to the text by clicking on "Rephrase the text based on your widgets" and gets a rephrased text in the editor based on the widgets.

**Interaction with the canvas**. After getting the rephrased text, Marina feels like she wants to try out a different storyline and, therefore, creates a new canvas by clicking on the + button on the menu bar, illustrated in Figure 8-(2).

The workflow above allows Marina to experiment with different ideas. It highlights the dynamic interaction between creativity and structure which empowers Marina to overcome her writer's block and shape her story effectively. This approach, however, showcases only one of the many diverse possibilities of how a user can use PromptCanvas.

#### **B** Apparatus

Our user study included two conditions. The baseline condition used a conversational user interface as illustrated in Figure 9, while the experimental condition used PromptCanvas. The baseline system was designed according to the design and interaction principles of ChatGPT. We provided a solid user experience without introducing untested features that could have affected the study. To generate the responses, we used the same OpenAI model (gpt-4o-2024-08-06) in both conditions. On the left side of the UI is a sidebar in which all

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Figure 6: (1) Marina prompts in the widget panel to get more widgets. (2) She creates an empty widget on the canvas.



### Figure 7: Marina gets more suggestions within the widget for Setting Description.

chat instances are listed to be selected or deleted, and buttons for creating a new or duplicating the currently selected chat. Selected chats are displayed chronologically in the main component by listing all user and assistant messages. Below the chat messages is a text input for entering new user messages. Responses are received in a stream and displayed as received, with words and sentences gradually appearing as if they were typed. While hovering over a message, a small icon appears below for easily copying the message's content. There is also an edit icon for user messages to alter the message and reset the chat to that point.

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+ <b>D</b> × She then creates a new workspace clicking on the + button as she was to experiment with a new storyline	by	Widget count:
		Moves quietly like the forest
Marina now has three widgets on the canvas. She click	Character Survival Skills	
based on your widgets" button and receives the rephrased	d text in the text editor	Fishing with twine, building a shelter
Word count: 103	Protagonist's Name	Character Emotional State
Sierra Brook woke to rustling leaves and the distant call of an eagle in the dense rainforest, where every morning meant surviving anew. The plane crash had left her the sole survivor. Her boots now muddy, she foraged through the forest for food, careful with which berries to	Sierra Brook	Resilient and determined
eat. Learning to make fire was a hard-won triumph, with its warmth beating back the		Character Adaptation ×
	Survival Challenge ×	moving quietly like the resilient forest
A hill by the lake became her lookout, each day bringing challenges she met with ingenuity— fishing with twine building a shelter from leaves. Her body adjusted to the wild moving	make fire	around her
quietly like the resilient forest around her.		Daily Routine Activity ×
	Setting Description ×	fishing with twine and building a shelter
≡, Rephrase the text based on your widgets	Dense rainforest	from leaves
or edit the text with a prompt		♦ <sup>+</sup> Get widget suggestions
		or ask for specific widgets
		or double-click the capyas

Figure 8: (1) Marina applies the widgets and receives the rephrased text. (2) She creates a new workspace using the menubar.

Chats	
	Write a short letter of appreciation to a friend
Chat #2 🔟	
	[Your Name]
Chat #1 🏾 🔟	[Your Address]
	[City, State, ZIP Code]
	[Email Address]
	[Date]
	Dear [Friend's Name],
	I hope this letter finds you in great spirits. I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation for
	having you in my life. Your friendship means more to me than words can adequately convey.
	Through all the ups and downs, your unwavering support and kindness have been a true blessing. Whether it's
	been sharing moments of joy or offering comfort during tougher times, you've always been there with a listening
	ear and a generous heart. I feel incredibly lucky to have someone as genuine and caring as you in my corner.
	Thank you for being such a wonderful friend. I cherish our memories and look forward to making many more
	together. Please know that I am always here for you, just as you have been for me.
Create new chat	
Duplicate chat	Type your prompt here

Figure 9: The baseline conversational UI.

# C User Study Details

# C.1 Participants

All participants had previous experience with (creative) writing. Specifically, 15 had experience in writing emails, 13 in writing letters, 9 in writing articles, 7 in writing stories, 6 in writing blogs, 5 in writing poems, 4 in writing how-to guides, 3 in writing product reviews, 2 in copywriting, 1 in song composition, 1 in character development, and 1 in writing travel guides.

Participants also used AI tools for various writing tasks. 12 participants used these tools for editing and proofreading, followed by 9 who used them for idea generation and 8 for content expansion. 6

participants used AI tools for descriptive writing, and another 6 for creating different versions of their writing. Additionally, 3 participants used AI tools for creative writing, while only one used them for translation and another for coding. Apart from 2 participants who had never used AI tools for any writing task, everyone else had experience using them for various writing purposes.

Regarding concrete AI tools, 15 participants used ChatGPT, 6 Quillbot, 5 Bard (known as Gemini now), and 3 Claude. Additionally, 3 participants had never used any tools, 2 used DALL-E, 1 Perplexity AI, 1 Stable Diffusion, and 1 Grammarly.

Regarding the frequency of AI writing tool usage, 7 participants used them daily, 5 weekly, 2 monthly, 2 rarely, and 2 had never used them. For the study, 12 participants used a laptop, and 6 used a big screen (e.g., an external monitor). 11 participants used a touchpad, while 7 used a mouse.

# C.2 Writing Tasks

#### Table 2: Topics for the writing tasks in the user study.

Writing Tasks	Topic	
Email or Letter	Professional • Resignation letter	
	<ul> <li>Motivation letter for job application</li> <li>Recommondation letter</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li>Request for promotion</li></ul>	
	Personal	
	Condolences	
	<ul> <li>Updates on Life</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Friendship and Appreciation</li> </ul>	
	Celebrations and Milestones	
Short story	Survival in the Wilderness	
	AI robots	
	Time travel	
	Life after Death	
	Family Secrets	
	Utopia / Dystopia	
	Fable	