

Miguel de Cervantes

1547–1616

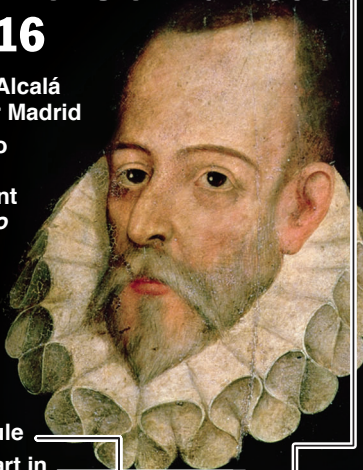
■ 1547: Born in Alcalá de Henares, near Madrid

■ 1569: Moves to Rome, works as chamber assistant to *Cardinal Giulio Acquaviva*

■ 1570: Enlists as soldier in Spanish infantry regiment in Naples – then under Spanish rule

■ 1571: Takes part in *Battle of Lepanto* between Catholic states and Ottomans for control of Mediterranean

Cervantes suffers three gunshot wounds, one of which permanently cripples his left hand



Miguel de Cervantes
Laureado

■ 1575: Cervantes sets sail for Spain but is captured by Barbary pirates and taken to Algiers



Port of Algiers

■ 1580: Ransomed by relatives and Trinitarian friars after five years of slavery

■ 1581-84: After returning to Spain, Cervantes has only child with married woman, before marrying *Catalina de Salazar*, 18 years his junior

■ 1585: Publishes first novel, *La Galatea*, and writes number of plays

■ 1587: Works as purchasing agent for *Spanish Armada* – later as tax collector for government

■ 1597-98: Discrepancies in his accounts land him in Crown Jail of Seville

■ 1605: Publishes first part of *The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha*

■ 1607-16: Based in Madrid, works published include *Exemplary Novels*, *Journey to Parnassus* and second part of *Don Quixote*

■ 1616: Dies aged 68. Final composition, *The Labours of Persiles and Sigismunda*, published posthumously in 1617

Don Quixote and Sancho Panza by Gustave Doré



1570

1580

1590

1600

1610