

Import the following flow into your NodeRED pallet by selecting Import from the clipboard from the flow editor menu.

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1 [{"id":"6f32262d.90cdd8","type":"debug","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"Output",
  "active":true,"console":"false","complete":"payload","x":950,"y":300,"wires":
  :[]},{id":"95059387.6afa7","type":"debug","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"2nd
  Output","active":true,"console":"false","complete":"payload","x":970,"y":380
  ,"wires":[]},{id":"97654ce1.689ab","type":"debug","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538",
  "name":"3rd Output","active":true,"console":"false","complete":"payload","x"
  :970,"y":460,"wires":[]},{id":"e8249c22.17db6","type":"function","z"
  :":d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"Array","func":"var msg1 = { payload:\\"first
  message\\" };\\nvar msg2 = { payload:\\"second message\\" };\\nvar msg3 = { payload
  :\\\"third message\\" };\\nvar msg4 = { payload:\\"fourth message\\" };\\nreturn
  [msg1, msg2, msg3, msg4];","outputs":1,"noerr":0,"x":450,"y":200,"wires"
  :[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"]]],{"id":"1f8a8903.e07577","type":"function","z"
  :":d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"Array in Array","func":"var msg1 = { payload
  :\\\"first message\\" };\\nvar msg2 = { payload:\\"second message\\" };\\nvar msg3 =
  { payload:\\"third message\\" };\\nvar msg4 = { payload:\\"fourth message\\" }
  };\\nreturn [msg1, msg2, msg3, msg4];","outputs":1,"noerr":0,"x":420,"y":240
  ,"wires":[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"]]],{"id":"2bf5496c.d40ab6","type":"function","z"
  :":d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"Multiple returns","func":"var msg1 = { payload
  :\\\"first message\\" };\\nvar msg2 = { payload:\\"second message\\" };\\nvar msg3 =
  { payload:\\"third message\\" };\\nvar msg4 = { payload:\\"fourth message\\" }
  };\\nreturn [msg1, msg2, msg3, msg4];\\n","outputs":3,"noerr":0,"x":420,"y":320
  ,"wires":[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"],["95059387.6afa7"],["97654ce1.689ab"]]],{"id"
  :":18539f43.e7ac61","type":"function","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"Multiple
  returns array in array","func":"var msg1 = { payload:\\"first message\\" };\\nvar
  msg2 = { payload:\\"second message\\" };\\nvar msg3 = { payload:\\"third message\\"
  };\\nvar msg4 = { payload:\\"fourth message\\" };\\nreturn [msg1, [msg2, msg3],
  msg4];\\n","outputs":3,"noerr":0,"x":380,"y":380,"wires":[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"]
  ,["95059387.6afa7"],["97654ce1.689ab"]]],{"id":"867e2ae4.7981d8","type"
  :":function","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"Create JSON Object","func":"msg
  .payload = {\\\"a\\\" : { \\\"b\\\" : \\\"test\\\"}};\\nreturn msg;","outputs":1,"noerr":0
  ,"x":400,"y":460,"wires":[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"],["324dc2f3.cdb23e"]]],{"id"
  :":989dc3f3.67624","type":"function","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"Create JSON
  String","func":"msg.payload = '{\\\"a\\\" : { \\\"b\\\" : \\\"test\\\"}}';\\nreturn msg;","
  outputs":1,"noerr":0,"x":410,"y":500,"wires":[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"],["324dc2f3
  .cdb23e"]]],{"id":"ca4a9a05.35b568","type":"function","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538",
  "name":"Create JSON String in msg.payload","func":"msg.payload = '{\\\"a\\\" : {
  \\\"b\\\" : \\\"test\\\"}}';\\nreturn msg;","outputs":1,"noerr":0,"x":360,"y":540
  ,"wires":[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"],["48150def.b7eaf4"]]],{"id":"6aa765b7.95589c",
  "type":"function","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"return string in object",
  "func":"return {\\\"payload\\\" : \\\"Hello Coursera\\\"};","outputs":1,"noerr":0,"x"
  :400,"y":100,"wires":[[["6f32262d.90cdd8"]]],{"id":"48150def.b7eaf4","type"
  :":json","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"","x":590,"y":540,"wires":[[["95059387
  .6afa7"],["324dc2f3.cdb23e"]]],{"id":"324dc2f3.cdb23e","type":"function","z"
  :":d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"retrieve data from Object","func":"msg.payload =
  msg.payload.a.b;\\nreturn msg;","outputs":1,"noerr":0,"x":750,"y":450,"wires"
  :[[["97654ce1.689ab"]]],{"id":"199f701e.e6609","type":"inject","z":"d23ac9e3
  .2dc538","name":"","topic":"","payload":"","payloadType":"none","repeat":"","
  "crontab":"","once":false,"x":110,"y":200,"wires":[[["e8249c22.17db6"]]],{"id"
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  "payload":"","payloadType":"none","repeat":"","crontab":"","once":false,"x"
  :110,"y":240,"wires":[[["1f8a8903.e07577"]]],{"id":"184455e6.e7bbaa","type"
  :":inject","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"","topic":"","payload":"","
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  ,"wires":[[["2bf5496c.d40ab6"]]],{"id":"bedfe3a7.41202","type":"inject","z"
  :":d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"","topic":"","payload":"","payloadType":"str",
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  .e7ac61"]]],{"id":"b816de9.f47e92","type":"inject","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538",
  "name":"","topic":"","payload":"","payloadType":"none","repeat":"","crontab"
  :":","once":false,"x":110,"y":460,"wires":[[["867e2ae4.7981d8"]]],{"id"
  :":a1442874.5ebbd8","type":"inject","z":"d23ac9e3.2dc538","name":"","topic":""}]
```

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, "payload": "", "payloadType": "none", "repeat": "", "crontab": "", "once": false, "x": 110, "y": 500, "wires": [[["989dc3f3.67624"]]], {"id": "fd13e6ab.02ec18", "type": "inject", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "", "topic": "", "payload": "", "payloadType": "str", "repeat": "", "crontab": "", "once": false, "x": 110, "y": 540, "wires": [[["ca4a9a05.35b568"]]], {"id": "b85f2925.47a0d8", "type": "inject", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "", "topic": "", "payload": "", "payloadType": "none", "repeat": "", "crontab": "", "once": false, "x": 110, "y": 100, "wires": [[["6aa765b7.95589c"]]], {"id": "9e4aa39b.61b56", "type": "function", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "Status and logging functions", "func": "node.status({text:\\\"started\\\"});\\n\\nsetTimeout(function() {\\n    node.status({fill:\\\"red\\\", shape:\\\"ring\\\", text:\\\"stage 1\\\"});\\n    \\n    setTimeout(function() {\\n        node.status({fill:\\\"green\\\", shape:\\\"dot\\\", text:\\\"stage 2\\\"});\\n        node.error(\\\"This is an error\\\", {\\\"payload\\\" : \\\"Caught error\\\"});\\n        \\n        setTimeout(function() {\\n            node.error(\\\"Second error\\\"});\\n            node.status({});\\n            node.send({\\\"payload\\\" : \\\"Completed\\\"});\\n            }, 1000);\\n            \\n    }, 1000);\\n    \\n}, 1000);\\n\\nnode.warn(\\\"Exiting node\\\");\\nreturn;\", \"outputs\": 1, \"noerr\": 0, \"x\": 380, \"y\": 600, \"wires\": [[["6f32262d.90cdd8"]]], {"id": "c0816f04.3f7e9", "type": "inject", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "", "topic": "", "payload": "", "payloadType": "str", "repeat": "", "crontab": "", "once": false, "x": 110, "y": 600, "wires": [[["9e4aa39b.61b56"]]], {"id": "4c6c003f.b394", "type": "catch", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "Catch node", "scope": ["9e4aa39b.61b56"], "x": 430, "y": 640, "wires": [[["2aada32c.d5525c"]]], {"id": "2a128c69.d5ed74", "type": "function", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "return string", "func": "return 'This is a string';\", \"outputs\": 1, \"noerr\": 0, \"x\": 430, \"y\": 60, \"wires\": [[["6f32262d.90cdd8"]]], {"id": "e04ef678.1fb108", "type": "inject", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "", "topic": "", "payload": "", "payloadType": "str", "repeat": "", "crontab": "", "once": false, "x": 110, "y": 60, \"wires\": [[["2a128c69.d5ed74"]]], {"id": "2aada32c.d5525c", "type": "debug", "z": "d23ac9e3.2dc538", "name": "entire msg", "active": true, "console": "false", "complete": "true", \"x\": 970, \"y\": 540, \"wires\": []]}
```

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Go through each path through the sample flows and ensure you understand how the function node handles arrays and objects and how you can control the output from a function node by using multiple outputs and also splitting arrays over multiple output messages.