The X Course: Android

Session 2

Agenda

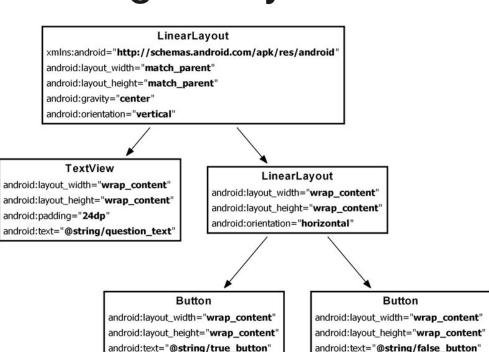
- Create our First app: GeoQuiz.
- More on Layouts.
- The Activity Lifecycle.

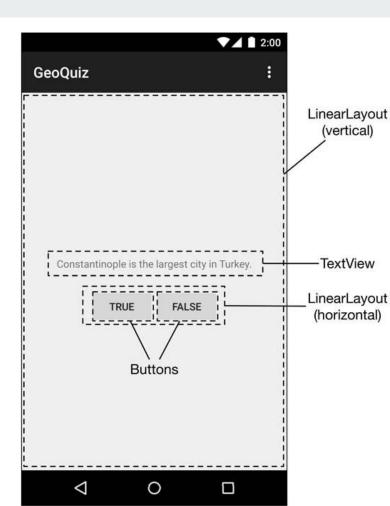
GeoQuiz: Description

The user presses True or False to answer the question on screen, and GeoQuiz provides instant feedback.



Building the Layout!





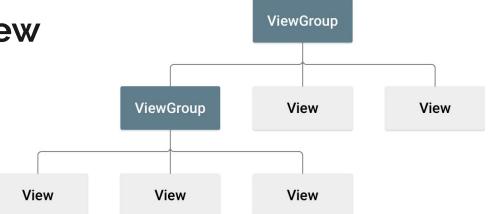
Coding the way through the App!

- Need to assign on Clicklisteners on our two buttons.
- Add appropriate code for our listeners. (Show Pop-ups for now)



More on Layouts: Overview

- Layout simply defines UI of screen.
- Layouts is Tree Hierarchical.
- View is a single element on screen.
- Viewgroup is an invisible container for elements



More on Layouts: Some Rules

- Each layout file must contain exactly one root element (View or ViewGroup).
- You should load the layout resource from your app code like this.

```
public void onCreate(savedInstanceState: Bundle) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.main_layout);
}
```

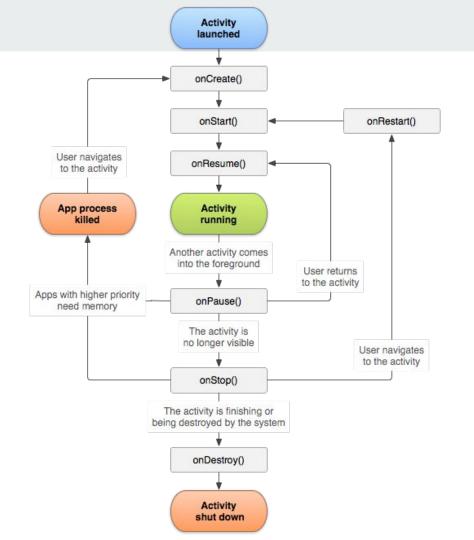
More on Layouts: Attributes

- Every element supports their own variety of XML attributes.
- Attribute "ID" is used to get elements in code and you will use it very often!

More on Layouts: Further Readings

- https://developer.android.com/guide/topics/ui/declaring-layout#java
- https://medium.com/androiddevelopers/layouts-attributes-and-you-9e5a4b4fe32c
- https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/how-to-make-sense-of-the-many-android-layou ts-693b262706e0/

The Activity Lifecycle



States and Callbacks

- Callbacks allow the activity to know that a state has changed: that the system is creating, stopping, or resuming an activity, or destroying the process in which the activity resides.
- Within the lifecycle callback methods, you can declare how your activity behaves.

onCreate()

- Must implement this callback.
- Fires when the system first creates the activity.
- Perform basic application startup logic that should happen only once.

onStart()

- Activity visible to the user, as the app prepares for the activity to enter the foreground and become interactive.
- Where the app initializes the code that maintains the UI.
- Completes very quickly.

onResume()

- Activity comes to the foreground.
- The app stays in this state until something happens to take focus away from the app.
- When an interruptive event occurs, the activity enters the *Paused* state.
- Initialize components that you release during onPause().

onPause()

- First indication that the user is leaving your activity. (no longer in the foreground)
- Use it to pause or adjust operations that should not continue whole not in foreground.
- onPause() execution is very brief, and does not necessarily afford enough time to perform save operations. DO NOT USE FOR INTENSIVE SHUT DOWN OPERATIONS!

onStop()

- When your activity is no longer visible to the user.
- In the onStop() method, the app should release or adjust resources that are not needed while the app is not visible to the user.
- You should also use onStop() to perform relatively CPU-intensive shutdown operations.

onDestroy()

- The system invokes this callback either because the activity is finishing or the system is temporarily destroying the activity due to a configuration change. (isFinishing() method)
- If the activity is finishing, onDestroy() is the final lifecycle callback the activity receives.
- If onDestroy() is called as the result of a configuration change, the system immediately creates a new activity instance and then calls onCreate() on that new instance in the new configuration.

The Activity Lifecycle: Further Readings

- https://developer.android.com/guide/components/activities/activity-lifecycle
- http://blog.dancrisan.com/a-tiny-intro-to-android-activities-lifecycle
- https://blog.mindorks.com/android-activity-lifecycle