

What Are **instructions** in the **Agent** Class?

In the OpenAI **Agents SDK**, the **instructions** field inside the **Agent** class defines the **system prompt** — i.e., the initial guide that tells the agent **how to behave**.

✓ Think of **instructions** as:

“What kind of assistant am I supposed to be?”

Example:

```
agent = Agent(  
    name="Friendly Helper",  
    instructions="You are a friendly assistant who helps users with  
technical topics.",  
    model="gpt-4"  
)
```

- This string is sent as the **system message** in the chat.
 - It shapes the agent's **tone, role, and response strategy**.
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Real-Life Analogy:

Imagine giving a waiter a **note** saying:

- "Be super polite, recommend vegetarian dishes, and speak softly."

That's like giving **instructions** to an AI agent:

- "Be helpful, creative, and avoid controversial topics."
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So Why Can **instructions** Also Be a Callable?

This is where the real power comes in.

✚ Sometimes, you don't want the same prompt every time.

You want the agent to:

- Customize its role **based on the user**
 - Adapt to **current context or memory**
 - Generate instructions **dynamically**
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✓ Example: Callable Instructions

```
from dataclasses import dataclass

@dataclass
class UserContext:
    name: str
    goal: str

def dynamic_instructions(context: UserContext) -> str:
    return f"You are a personal assistant for {context.name},\nhelping them achieve: {context.goal}."

agent = Agent[UserContext](
    name="Dynamic Agent",
    instructions=dynamic_instructions,
    model="gpt-4"
)






ctx = UserContext(name="Hafsa", goal="master generics in Python")
print(agent.instructions(ctx))
```

📄 Output:

```
You are a personal assistant for Hafsa, helping them achieve: master
generics in Python.
```

That's **context-aware prompting** using `instructions` as a callable ✓

Summary: Why Instructions Can Be a Callable

Reason	Explanation
 Dynamic Behavior	Adapts system message based on user/context/memory
 Personalization	Tailors the agent's role to the situation or person
 Flexibility	One agent class can serve many types of users
 Reusability	Reuse the agent logic while customizing only the prompt
 Type Safety	With generics like <code>TContext</code> , the callable is still type-checked