

# Installation

- Grab a USB key
- Install Eclipse
- Save the zip files to your disk
  - `host_workspace.zip`
  - `runtime_workspace.zip`

# Xtext

## for Beginners

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# Outline

- Example Application
- Build your DSL with Xtext
- Generate Code with Xtend
- Validate Models
- Introduce Cross-References
- Outlook

# Outline

- ◎ **Example Application**
- ◎ Build your DSL with Xtext
- ◎ Generate Code with Xtend
- ◎ Validate Models
- ◎ Introduce Cross-References
- ◎ Outlook

## Eclipse Community Survey 2013

[Evaluate](#)

What is the *primary* computer language you typically use to develop software?

- ☐ C/C++
- ☐ C
- ☐ Lua
- ☐ Groovy
- ☐ Java
- ☐ Java Script

# Demo

- ☐ Ruby
- ☐ Scala
- ☐ Visual Basic/Visual Basic .Net
- ☐ None - I don't use a computer language for software development
- ☐ Don't know
- ☒ Other (please specify)

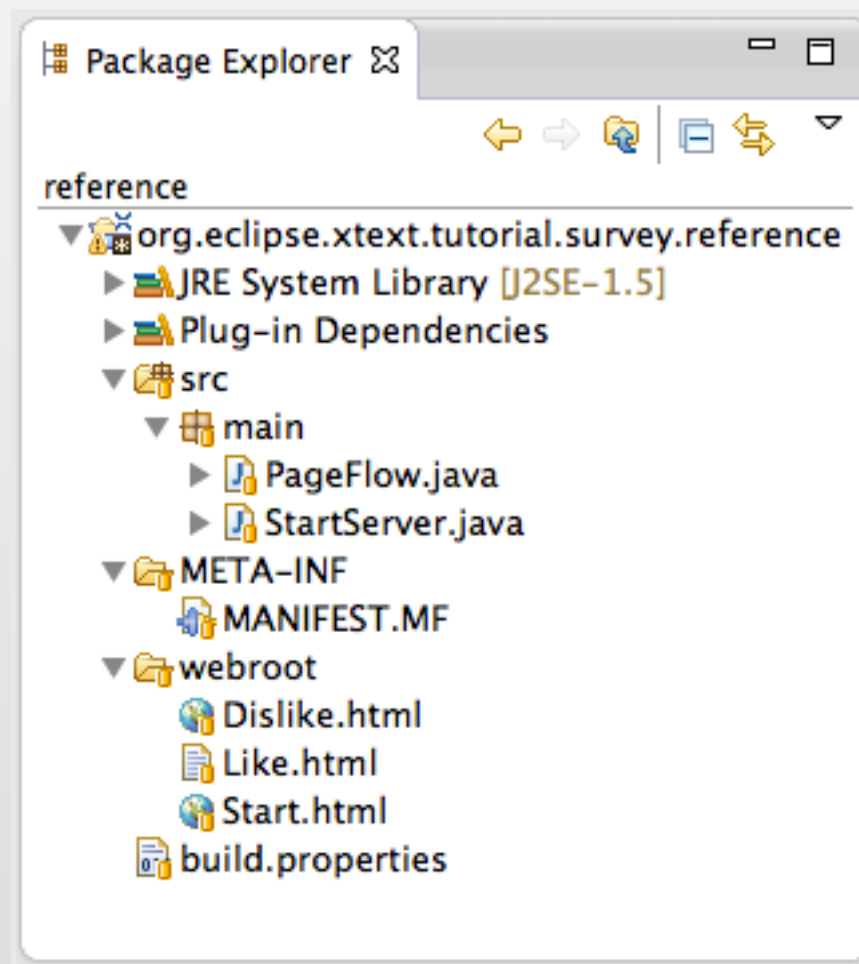
# Example: Surveys

- A Web-Based App for Surveys
  - Online Answering
  - Multiple Pages
  - Different Types of Questions
  - Online Evaluation

# Architecture

- HTML Forms
- Twitter Bootstrap CSS / JavaScript
- Jetty Server
- Simple Page-Flow Engine
- In-Memory Persistence

# API View





# Challenges

- A Heterogeneous Platform
  - Java, HTML, Database ...
- Difficult to Extend
  - More Questions, Other Surveys
  - Other Front-Ends (iOS, Android, PDF, ...)
- Hard to Maintain

# The Domain

- The application is about **Surveys**.
- A **Survey** consists of **Pages**.
- A **Page** holds **Questions**.
- **Questions** are answered with **FreeText** or predefined **Choices**.
  - Some **Choices** are **exclusive**.
- A **Page** defines its **FollowUp** pages
  - **FollowUps** may depend on given answers.

# DSL Approach

- Create a Domain-Specific Language
  - Describes the Data Formally
- Generate Code from DSL files

## Survey

### Page

**TextQuestion**

**ChoiceQuestion (single)**

**Choice**

**Choice**

**FollowUp**

**FollowUp**

```
survey tutorial "EclipseCon 2013 Tutorial Survey"
```

```
page Start (  
  text name 'Your name'  
  single choice like "Do you like the tutorial?" (  
    yes "Yes"  
    no "No"  
    wat "Which tutorial? I'm waiting for the bus!"  
  )  
  if like=yes -> Like  
  if like=no -> Dislike  
)
```

### Page

**ChoiceQuestion**

**Choice**

**Choice**

**Choice**

```
page Like (  
  choice particular "What do you like in particular?" (  
    xtext 'Xtext is awesome'  
    excercises 'The funny exercises'  
    tutors 'The handsome tutors'  
  )  
)
```

### Page

**ChoiceQuestion**

**Choice**

**Choice**

**Choice**

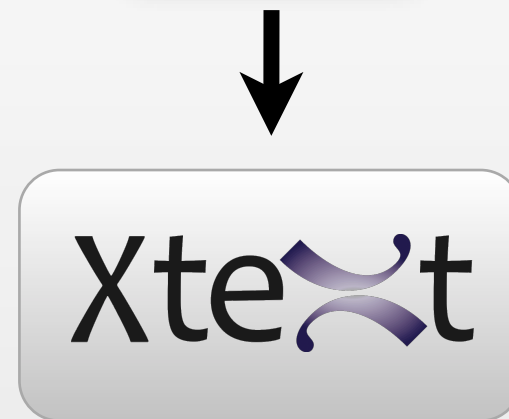
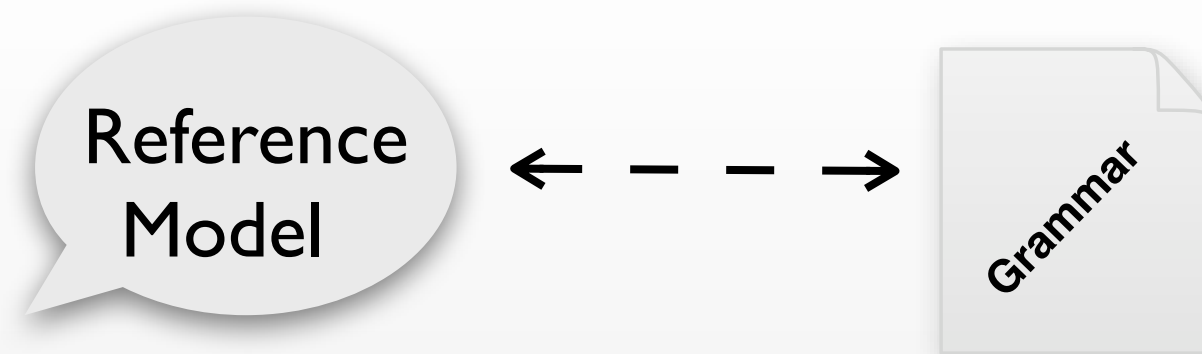
```
page Dislike (  
  choice particular "What do you hate in particular?" (  
    xtext 'Xtext sucks'  
    excercises 'The boring exercises'  
    tutors 'The tutors stink'  
  )  
)
```

# Advantages

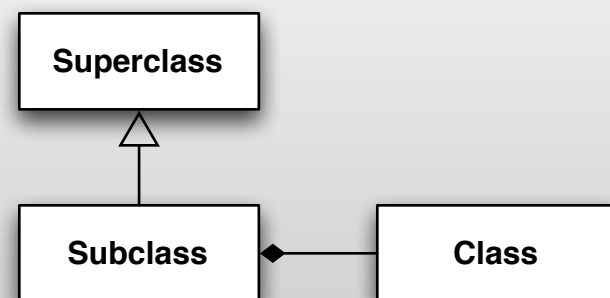
- © Addresses Heterogeneity
- © Easy Design of Surveys
- © Easy to Add New Front-Ends
- © Separation of Roles During Development
- © Speed-up for Development
- © Improved Maintainability

# Outline

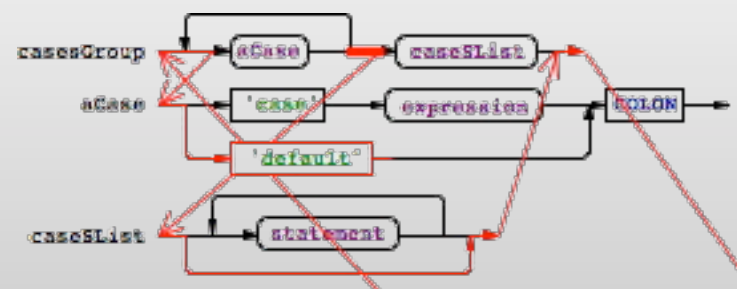
- © Example Application
- © **Build your DSL with Xtext**
- © Generate Code with Xtend
- © Validate Models
- © Introduce Cross-References
- © Outlook



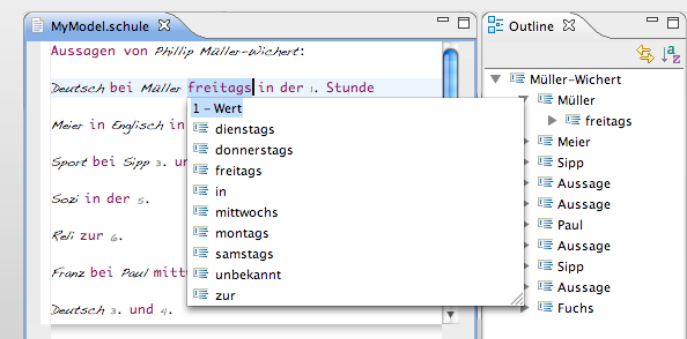
# Xtext Runtime



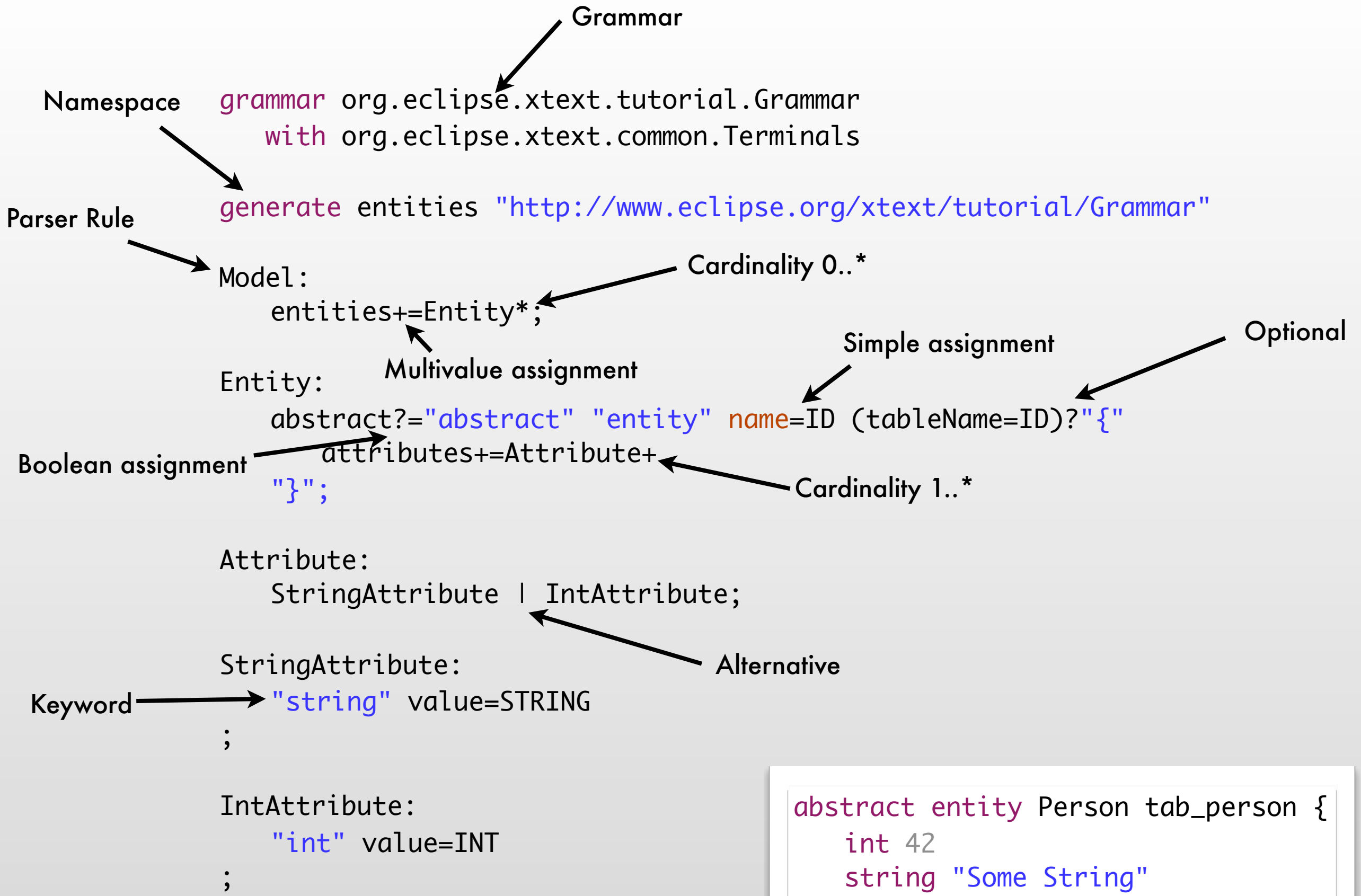
Ecore Package



Parser



Editor



```
abstract entity Person tab_person {
  int 42
  string "Some String"
}
```



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»xtend

# Xtend: Templates

```
def example(List<String> elements) '''  
    Usually a template consists mainly of text spanning  
    multiple lines.  
    If you want to evaluate an expression you have to write it  
    in french quotes «7*3*2». Code assist inserts a pair of  
    these.  
    You can also iterate a collection with FOR  
    «FOR element: elements»  
        Found another element: «element»  
    «ENDFOR»  
    For decisions there is the IF statement  
    «IF elements.isEmpty»  
        no elements.  
    «ENDIF»  
'''
```

# Xtend: Dispatch Methods

```
// Xtend code
def dispatch area(Circle c) {
    c.radius * c.radius * Math.PI
}
def dispatch area(Rectangle r) {
    r.width * r.height
}

def someCalculation(Object o) {
    area(o) // polymorphic call
}
```

```
// generated Java code (dispatcher)
public double area(final Object c) {
    if (c instanceof Circle) {
        return _area((Circle)c);
    } else if (c instanceof Rectangle) {
        return _area((Rectangle)c);
    } else {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException();
    }
}
```

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# Validator

```
class SurveyValidator extends AbstractSurveyValidator {  
  @Check  
  def textMustNotBeEmpty(Question question) {  
    if(question.getText().isEmpty()) {  
      error("Empty question is illegal",  
            question,  
            QUESTION__TEXT)  
    }  
  }  
}
```

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# Cross References

```
page Start (  
  single choice like "Do you like the tutorial?" (  
    yes "Yes"  
    no  "No"  
  )  
  if like=yes -> Like  
)  
  
page Like (  
  choice particular "What do you like in particular?" (  
    xtext 'Xtext is awesome'  
    excercises 'The funny exercises'  
    tutors 'The handsome tutors'  
  )  
)
```

```
graph TD
    Start["page Start (")
    Choice["single choice like \"Do you like the tutorial?\" ("]
    Yes["yes \"Yes\""]
    No["no \"No\""]
    If["if like=yes -> Like"]
    Like["page Like ("]
    Particular["choice particular \"What do you like in particular?\" ("]
    Xtext["xtext 'Xtext is awesome'"]
    Excercises["excercises 'The funny exercises'"]
    Tutors["tutors 'The handsome tutors'"]

    Start --- Choice
    Choice --- Yes
    Choice --- No
    Choice --- If
    If --> Like
    Like --- Particular
    Particular --- Xtext
    Particular --- Excercises
    Particular --- Tutors
```



# Grammar

Page:

```
'page' name=ID '('  
    // questions  
    '->' next=[Page | ID]  
)';
```

# Scoping

```
page Start (  
  text name 'Your name'  
  single choice like '...' (  
    yes 'Yes'  
    no 'No'  
  )  
  if like=yes -> Like  
)
```

```
page Like (  
  choice particular '...' (  
    xtext '...'  
    excercises '...'  
    tutors '...'  
  )  
  ...
```

Questions (Default Scoping)	
Globally Known as	Locally Known as
Start.name	name
Start.like	like
Like.particular	

Choices
Customized
yes
no

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- © **Outlook**

# Outlook

- Enhance generator
- Customize IDE
  - Outline, Formatter, Labels, ...
- Add more expressions

# More on Xtext/Xtend at EclipseCon Europe 2013

- What You Get For Free with Xtext
- Rapid Android Development with Xtend
- Code Generation with Active Annotations
- Eclipse Diagram Editors: An Endangered Species
- Turn Ideas into Code Faster (Lightning talk)
- STEM 2.0: Helping save the world with EMF, GEF, and Xtext
- The prospering Eclipse Era in Automotive Industry
- Integrate your tools to help integrate your stakeholders
- Eclipse Smart Home
- Xcore meets IncQuery - How the New Generation of DSLs are Made
- Add some spice to your application! (using EMF Parsley in your UI)
- Beyond the box: How we built a JavaScript IDE with Xtext.
- Sirius: Changing the Game of Systems Architecture

# Thank You

... and don't forget the evaluation survey!