GPT API Tutorial

TRA / ICANN Hackathon
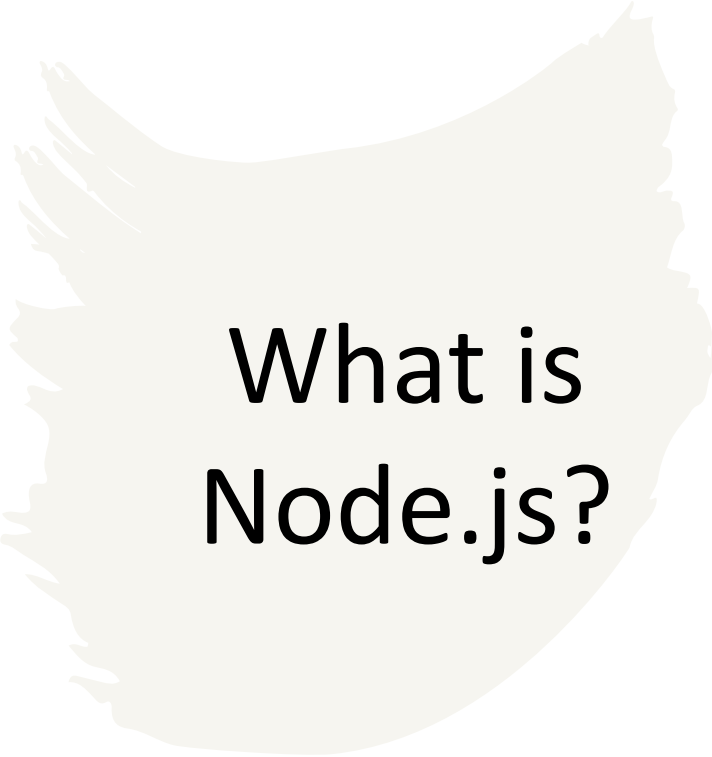
Introduction

Learn to use the GPT API in a hands-on session

You'll receive API keys for the hackathon

We'll use Node.js for backend development

What is Node.js?

A tool to run JavaScript outside the browser

Think of it like Python, but using JavaScript

Helps build backend/server-side applications

Installing Node.js

1

Download from nodejs.org/en/download

2

Windows: Install directly or use FNM

3

macOS/Linux: Use NVM for easy version management

Setup Project

Create a project folder

Run: npm init -y

Install: npm i openai dotenv express cors

Dependencies Explained

openai - Access GPT models

dotenv - Manage secret API keys

express - Create a web server

cors - Handle cross-origin requests

Running the App

1 Run server: node server.mjs

2 Open index.html in browser

3 Test the chat functionality

Instruction Prompting

Set model behavior using developer instructions

Example: Answer in Shakespearean English

Helps guide tone, format, and style

Optimal Instructure Structure

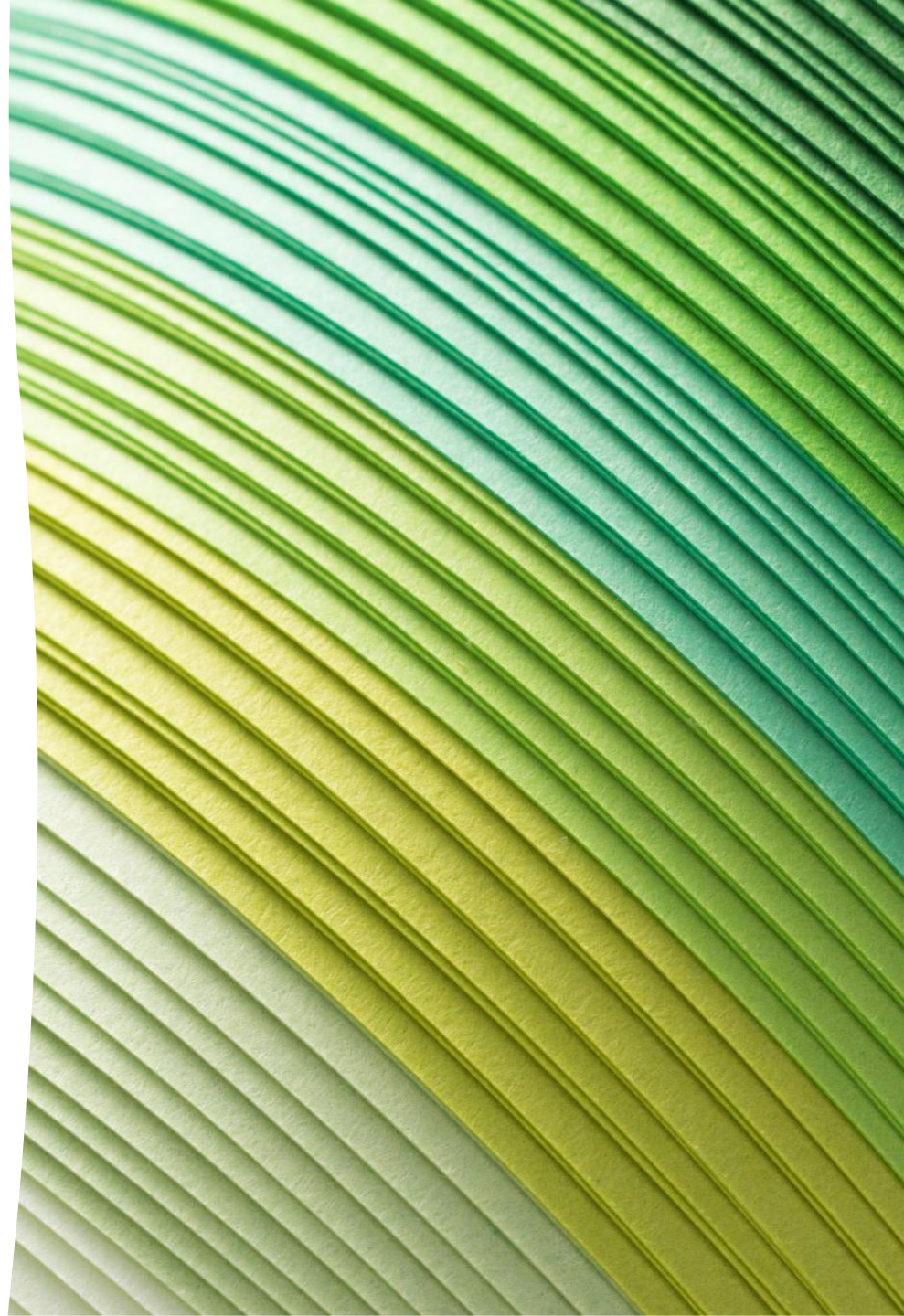**Identity – Who the assistant is and what its role is**

Instructions – How it should act or speak

Examples – Optional: show how inputs should be answered

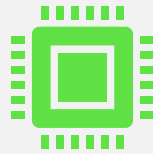**Context – External documents, data, or constraints to reference**

CHATGPT INSTRUCTION PROMPT USED BY OPENAI

Helpful Resources

API Docs:
platform.openai.com/docs

Code Demo:
github.com/JosephYAA/gpt-api-demo

API Reference:
platform.openai.com/docs/api-reference