

# Replace Variables in Text Messages

## Intro

When users write to a chatbot, they might leave some interesting data like their name, age, birth place or favourite color. This information can be stored in an object that is connected to the users. A bot builder could use the object to personalize the messages a bot sends:

The screenshot shows a web interface for editing a bot message. At the top, there's a header 'Edit bot message' with a menu icon. Below it are three tabs: 'Settings', 'NLP', and 'Bot message' (which is highlighted). The main area is divided into two sections: 'Text' and 'Buttons'. The 'Text' section contains a 'Text Message' box with the text 'Hi! I'm Choo Choo, but your name is way cooler, isn't it, {firstname}'. A character count '330' is shown at the bottom right of the box. Below the text box is an 'Add random' button with the text 'firstname' inside it. The 'Buttons' section is currently empty.

Given an array:

```
[  
  "firstname" => "John"  
]
```

The bot will fill in the variable in the text message, resulting in the message:

Hi! I'm Choo Choo, but your name is way cooler, isn't it, John

If the variable does not exist within the session, the template will be replaced with an empty string.

## Exercise

Write a function `interpolate` that replaces the declared variables inside of a string, enclosed within a left and right delimiter, with their respective values from the session object. The function receives three variables:

- a string value, which is the value to be processed,
- the array to retrieve variables from for replacement,
- an options array, that takes
  - leftDelimiter: the delimiter on the left side of the variable
  - rightDelimiter: the delimiter on the right side of the variable

It returns the interpolated string.

Example output:

```
interpolate(  
  "Hi! I'm Choo Choo, but your name is way cooler, isn't it, {firstname}?",  
  [ 'firstname' => 'John' ],  
  [ 'leftDelimiter' => '{', 'rightDelimiter' => '}' ]  
);  
  
// Result:  "Hi! I'm Choo Choo, but your name is way cooler, isn't it, John?"
```

Send us your implementation via email