

Prompt Templates:

We want to respond in a certain format.

Instead of prompt strings, Langchain4J uses parameterized prompt strings.

Applications for templates:

Teachers creating lesson plans or curricula

Automated customer service or support

Document summarization for a given audience

Blog posts (generate a basic blog for a website where only certain information changes)

Marketing content

```
String myTemplate = "Please explain {{topic}} to a {{student_type}} using a clear, succinct paragraph";
```

```
PromptTemplate promptTemplate = PromptTemplate.from(myTemplate);
```

Dynamically we assign values to PromptTemplate

Advantages of PromptTemplates:

Development efficiency because we use predefined prompt structures

Consistent structure reduces typos and errors

Scalability improves as prompt templates keep structure clear and consistent with low complexity

Testability, you can test prompt templates more easily by changing the parameter values. It makes testing easier

Prompt templates can reduce bias with standardization, which is a repeating deviation from an expected response from an LLM

Disadvantages of PromptTemplates:

Prompt injection (bad actors can inject additional nefarious text into prompt)

Systems breach: details of systems infrastructure in prompt and this information can be revealed to wrong audience

Privacy breach: prompt may contain private information

Adversarial attack: confuses the LLMs to cause harm

Additional processing: more complexity, context size issues. String management can be costly.

Especially in chatbot conversation, we got to monitor the growing size of the prompt.

Tips for prompt templates

Keep prompt templates concise and clear

Use parameters only for dynamic content

Store prompt templates separately in a template repo for maintenance purposes

Version templates for maintainability

Monitor prompt templates for regular refinement

Encrypt prompt strings before sending into any network public or private

