

## Interface | Langchain

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[Expression LanguageInterface](#)On this pageInterfaceIn an effort to make it as easy as possible to create custom chains, we've implemented a "Runnable" protocol that most components implement.

This is a standard interface with a few different methods, which make it easy to define custom chains as well as making it possible to invoke them in a standard way. The standard interface exposed includes:  
`stream`: stream back chunks of the response  
`invoke`: call the chain on an input  
`batch`: call the chain on a list of inputs  
The input type varies by component :  
`ComponentInput`  
`TypePromptObjectRetriever`Single stringLLM, ChatModelSingle string, list of chat messages or

PromptValueToolSingle string, or object, depending on the toolOutputParserThe output of an LLM or ChatModelThe output type also varies by component :ComponentOutput TypeLLMStringChatModelChatMessagePromptPromptValueRetrieverList of

documentsToolDepends on the toolOutputParserDepends on the parserYou can combine runnables (and runnable-like objects such as functions and objects whose values are all functions) into sequences in two ways:Call the .pipe instance method, which takes another runnable-like as an argumentUse the RunnableSequence.from([]) static method with an array of runnable-likes, which will run in sequence when invokedSee below for examples of how this looks.

```
Streamimport { PromptTemplate } from "langchain/prompts";import { ChatOpenAI } from "langchain/chat_models/openai";const model = new ChatOpenAI({});const promptTemplate = PromptTemplate.fromTemplate( "Tell me a joke about {topic}");const chain = promptTemplate.pipe(model);const stream = await chain.stream({ topic: "bears" });// Each chunk has the same interface as a chat messagefor await (const chunk of stream) { console.log(chunk?.content);}/*Why don't bears wear shoes?Because they have bear feet!*/API
```

Reference:PromptTemplate from langchain/promptsChatOpenAI from langchain/chat\_models/openaiInvokeimport { PromptTemplate } from "langchain/prompts";import { ChatOpenAI } from "langchain/chat\_models/openai";import { RunnableSequence } from "langchain/schema/runnable";const model = new ChatOpenAI({});const promptTemplate = PromptTemplate.fromTemplate( "Tell me a joke about {topic}");// You can also create a chain using an array of runnablesconst chain = RunnableSequence.from([promptTemplate, model]);const result = await chain.invoke({ topic: "bears" });console.log(result);/\* AIMessage { content: "Why don't bears wear shoes?\n\nBecause they have bear feet!", \*/API Reference:PromptTemplate from langchain/promptsChatOpenAI from langchain/chat\_models/openaiRunnableSequence from langchain/schema/runnableBatchimport { PromptTemplate } from "langchain/prompts";import { ChatOpenAI } from "langchain/chat\_models/openai";const model = new ChatOpenAI({});const

```

promptTemplate = PromptTemplate.fromTemplate( "Tell me a joke about {topic}");const chain
= promptTemplate.pipe(model);const result = await chain.batch([ { topic: "bears" }, { topic:
"cats" } ]);console.log(result);/* [ AIMessage { content: "Why don't bears wear
shoes?\n\nBecause they have bear feet!", }, AIMessage { content: "Why don't cats play
poker in the wild?\n\nToo many cheetahs!" } ]*/API Reference:PromptTemplate from
langchain/promptsChatOpenAI from langchain/chat_models/openaiYou can also pass a
batchOptions argument to the call. There are options to set maximum concurrency
and whether or not to return exceptions instead of throwing them (useful for gracefully handling
failures!):import { PromptTemplate } from "langchain/prompts";import { ChatOpenAI } from
"langchain/chat_models/openai";const model = new ChatOpenAI({ modelName:
"badmodel",});const promptTemplate = PromptTemplate.fromTemplate( "Tell me a joke about
{topic}");const chain = promptTemplate.pipe(model);const result = await chain.batch( [{ topic:
"bears" }, { topic: "cats" } ], {}, { returnExceptions: true, maxConcurrency: 1
});console.log(result);/* [ NotFoundError: The model `badmodel` does not exist at
Function.generate (/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node_modules/openai/src/error.ts:71:6)
at OpenAI.makeStatusError
(/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node_modules/openai/src/core.ts:381:13) at
OpenAI.makeRequest
(/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node_modules/openai/src/core.ts:442:15) at
process.processTicksAndRejections (node:internal/process/task_queues:95:5) at async
file:///Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/langchain/dist/chat_models/openai.js:514:29 at
RetryOperation._fn (/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node_modules/p-retry/index.js:50:12) {
  status: 404, NotFoundError: The model `badmodel` does not exist at Function.generate
(/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node_modules/openai/src/error.ts:71:6) at
OpenAI.makeStatusError
(/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node_modules/openai/src/core.ts:381:13) at

```

OpenAI.makeRequest

(/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node\_modules/openai/src/core.ts:442:15) at

process.processTicksAndRejections (node:internal/process/task\_queues:95:5) at async

file:///Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/langchain/dist/chat\_models/openai.js:514:29 at

RetryOperation.\_fn (/Users/jacoblee/langchain/langchainjs/node\_modules/p-retry/index.js:50:12) {

status: 404, ]\*/API Reference:PromptTemplate from langchain/promptsChatOpenAI from  
langchain/chat\_models/openaiPreviousLangChain Expression Language (LCEL)NextRoute between  
multiple

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