

Copilot Studio and Azure AI Workshop

Lab 2: Copilot studio Topics and Actions

Hands-on Lab Step-by-Step Guide

April 2025

Lab Overview and Pre-requisites

Learning Objectives

This lab is designed to enhance the Sales Buddy agent created in LAB 1, by adding **Actions** and **Topics**.

In Microsoft Copilot Studio, **Topics** define how an agent handles conversations. Each topic represents a specific subject or task, guiding the agent's responses to user inputs to ensure interactions are relevant and coherent.

Actions are integral components that enable your agent to perform specific tasks in response to user inputs or events.

Topics guide the conversation while **Actions** perform tasks. Topics can include actions as part of their conversation flow.

In this Lab, you will be creating an Action and Topic to perform 2 separate tasks

Lab 2a. Create new leads using a connector Action

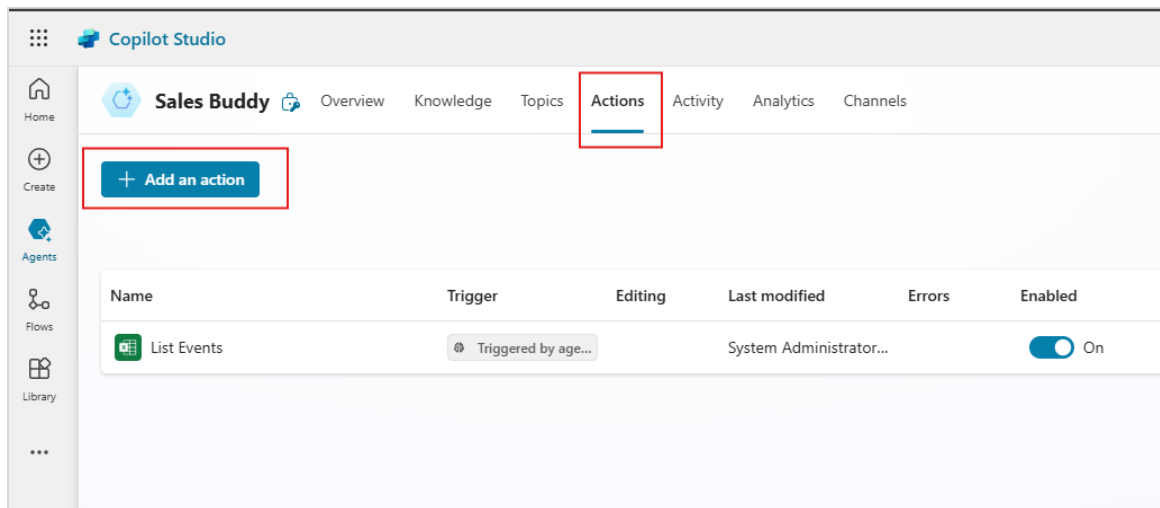
Lab 2b. Create new registration for customers/leads using a Topic + Action

Pre-requisites

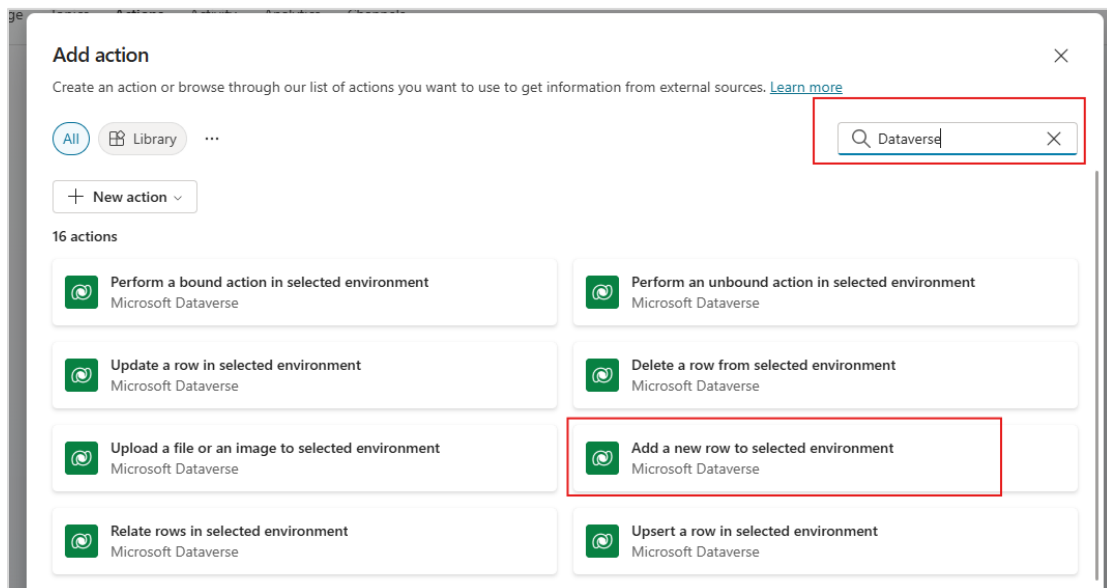
- You will need to have completed Lab 1 so you have the Sales Buddy agent created that we will be utilizing for this lab.

Lab 2a: Create new leads in CRM/Dataverse using a Connector Action

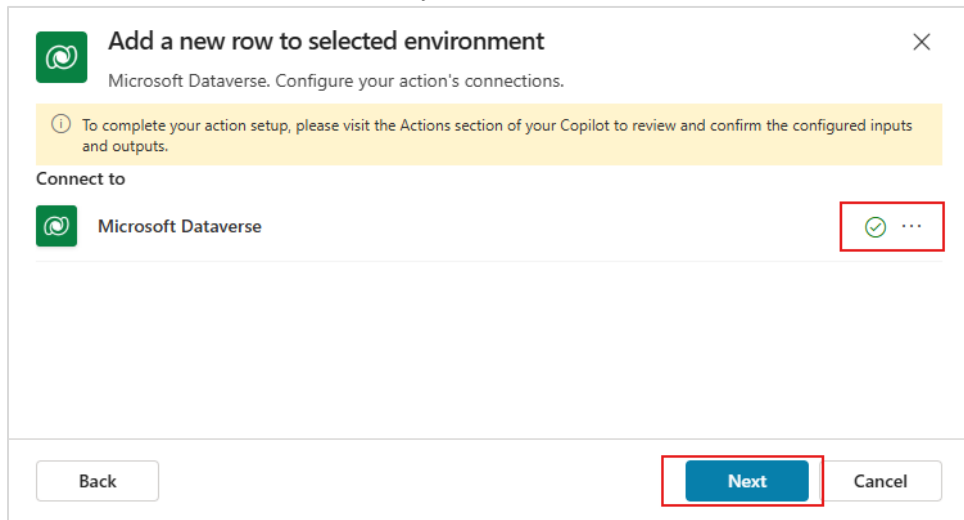
1. Open the Sales Buddy Agent created in Lab 1. Go to Actions Tab and click **+ Add an action**



2. Search for **Dataverse** connectors and select **Add a new row to selected environment**



3. Ensure the connection is already established and click **Next**



Add a new row to selected environment [Close]

Microsoft Dataverse. Configure your action's connections.

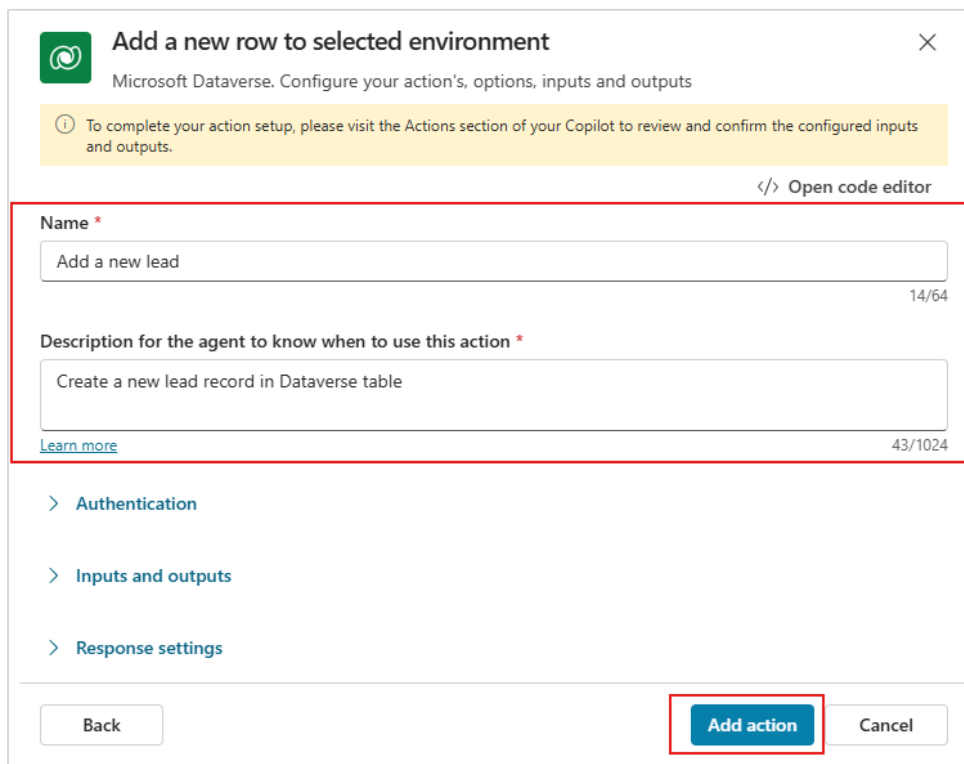
To complete your action setup, please visit the Actions section of your Copilot to review and confirm the configured inputs and outputs.

Connect to

Microsoft Dataverse [Green checkmark icon]

[Back] [Next] [Cancel]

4. Update the following
Name = Add a new lead,
Description = Create a new lead record in Dataverse table
and select **Add action**



Add a new row to selected environment [Close]

Microsoft Dataverse. Configure your action's, options, inputs and outputs

To complete your action setup, please visit the Actions section of your Copilot to review and confirm the configured inputs and outputs.

[Code icon] Open code editor

Name *

Add a new lead 14/64

Description for the agent to know when to use this action *

Create a new lead record in Dataverse table 43/1024

[Learn more](#)

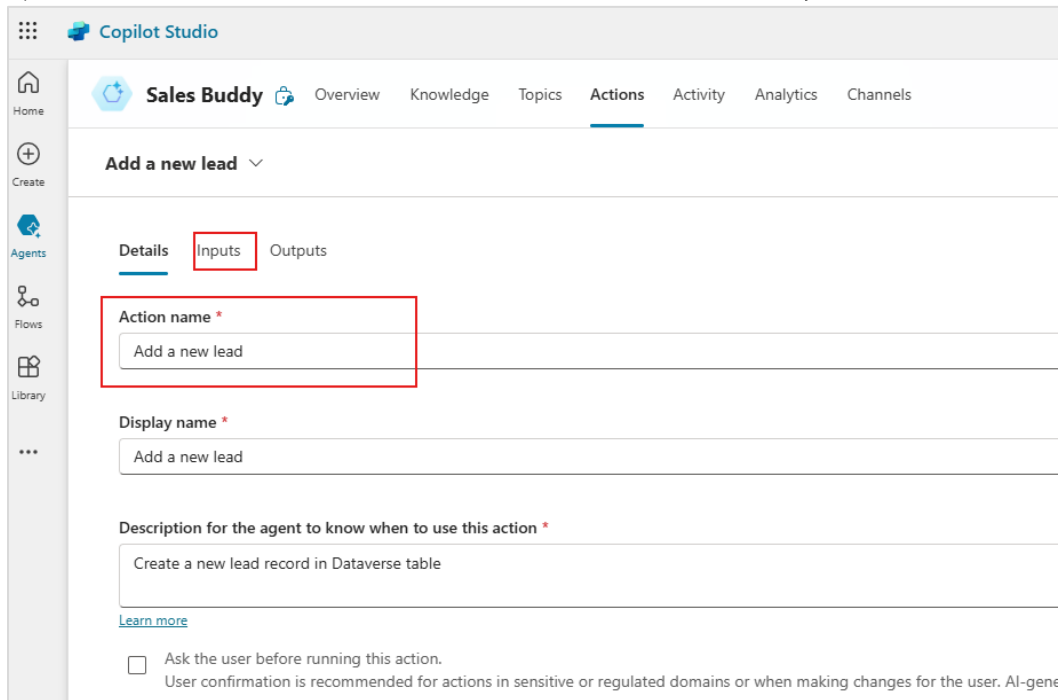
> Authentication

> Inputs and outputs

> Response settings

[Back] [Add action] [Cancel]

- You should find the newly added Action under the **Actions** tab. Open it again and update the **Action Name** = Add a new lead. Next click on **Inputs**:



Copilot Studio

Sales Buddy Overview Knowledge Topics **Actions** Activity Analytics Channels

Add a new lead ▾

Details **Inputs** Outputs

Action name *

Add a new lead

Display name *

Add a new lead

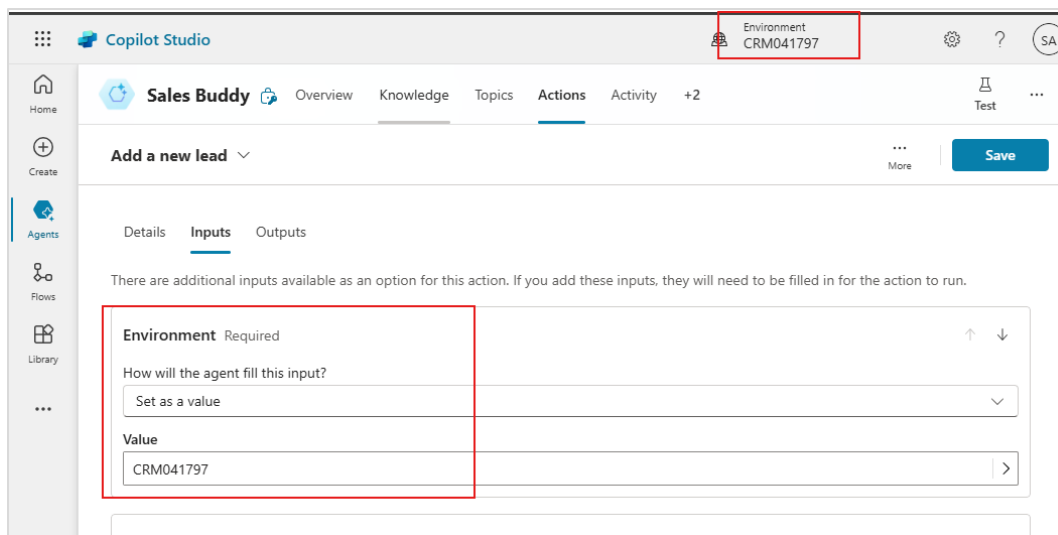
Description for the agent to know when to use this action *

Create a new lead record in Dataverse table

[Learn more](#)

☐ Ask the user before running this action.
User confirmation is recommended for actions in sensitive or regulated domains or when making changes for the user. AI-generated content may be used in this action.

- Under **Environment**, choose **Set as a value** and select your environment as **Value**



Copilot Studio

Sales Buddy Overview Knowledge Topics **Actions** Activity +2

Add a new lead ▾

Details **Inputs** Outputs

There are additional inputs available as an option for this action. If you add these inputs, they will need to be filled in for the action to run.

Environment Required

How will the agent fill this input?

Set as a value ▾

Value

CRM041797 >

Environment CRM041797

Save

- Under **Table Name**, choose **Set as a value** and select the **Value** as **Leads**

Table Name Required
How will the agent fill this input?
Set as a value
Value
Leads

- You will find 2 more required inputs for mandatory fields in Leads table below. For these 2 inputs, we will not set any value by default, but we'll describe how Agent can receive these values from the user.

Under **Last Name**, update the **description** as – Ask for Lead's last name

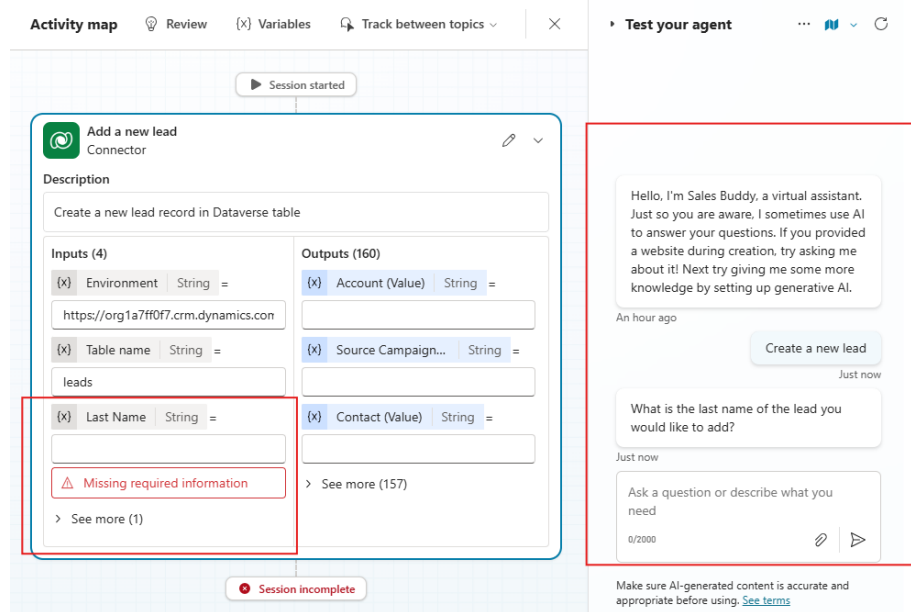
Last Name Required
How will the agent fill this input?
Dynamically fill with best option (default)
Display name
Last Name
Identify as
User's entire response
Description
Ask for Lead's last name

Similarly, under **Topic**, update the **description** as – Ask for Lead Topic

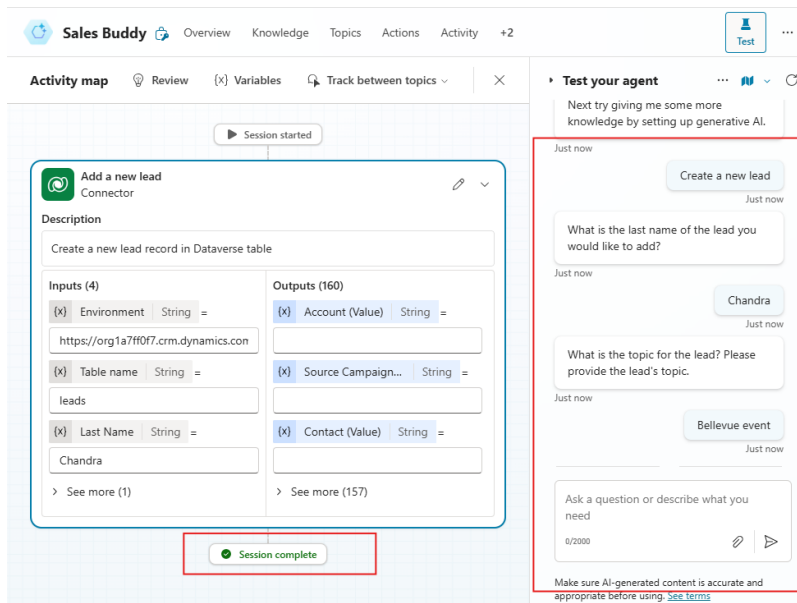
Topic Required
How will the agent fill this input?
Dynamically fill with best option (default)
Display name
Topic
Identify as
User's entire response
Description
Ask for Lead Topic

9. Click on **Save** to save the Action.
10. Now that our Action is configured with the required inputs, let's test this out. Open the **Test** window and send the following message:
 - **Create a new lead**

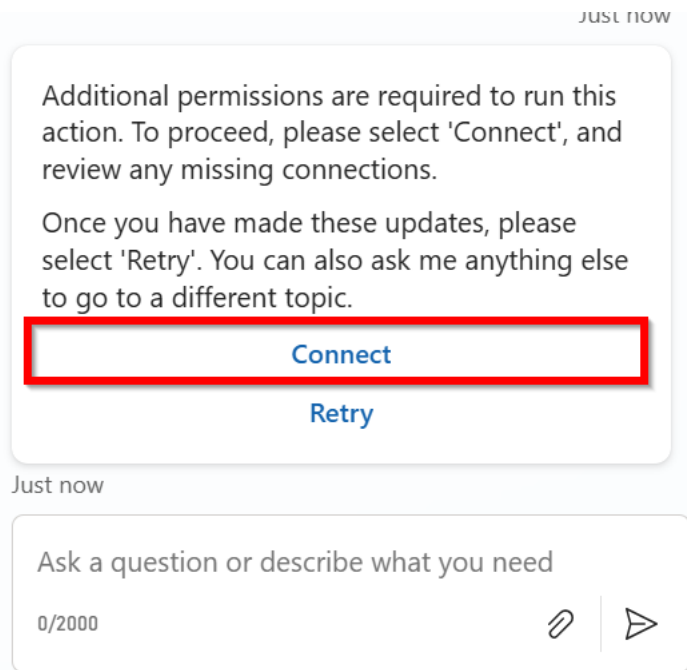
You can find that Agent requests for missing information (Last Name and Topic) from the end user



11. Respond to the Agent query by providing the last name and Topic. Once it is complete, the new Lead record will be created in the Dataverse table.

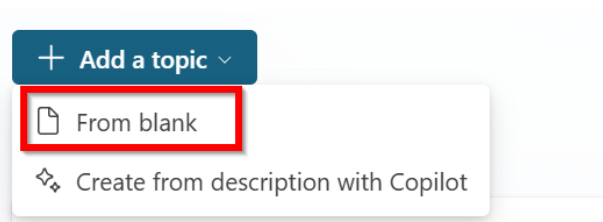


- (Optional) You might need to create a connection for the first time. Click on Connect to follow the steps. Use the credentials from your demo tenant.

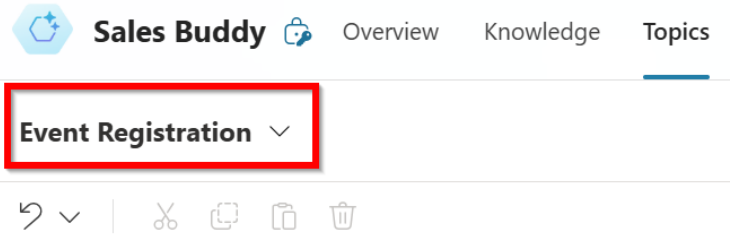


Lab 2b: Create New Event Registration using Topic

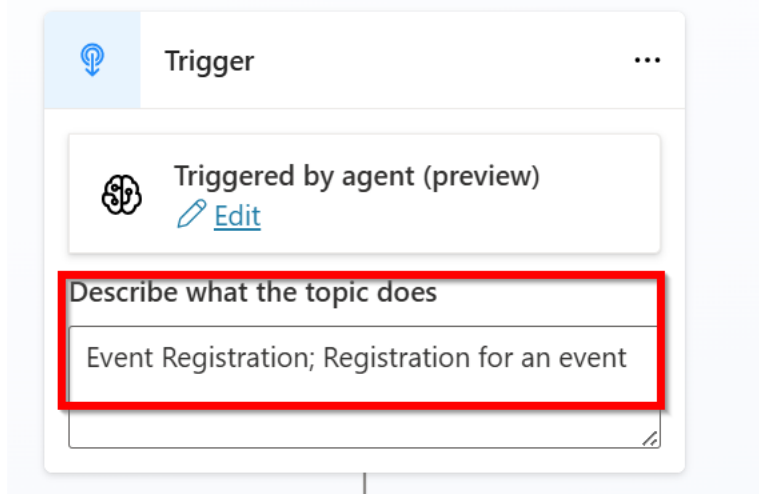
- Go to the Topics Tab to **add a topic From Blank**.



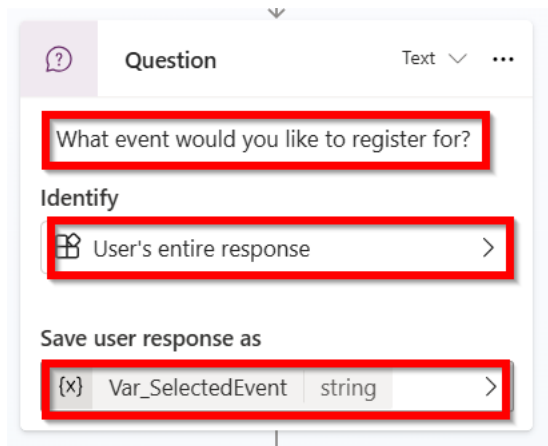
- Rename** the topic to "Event Registration"



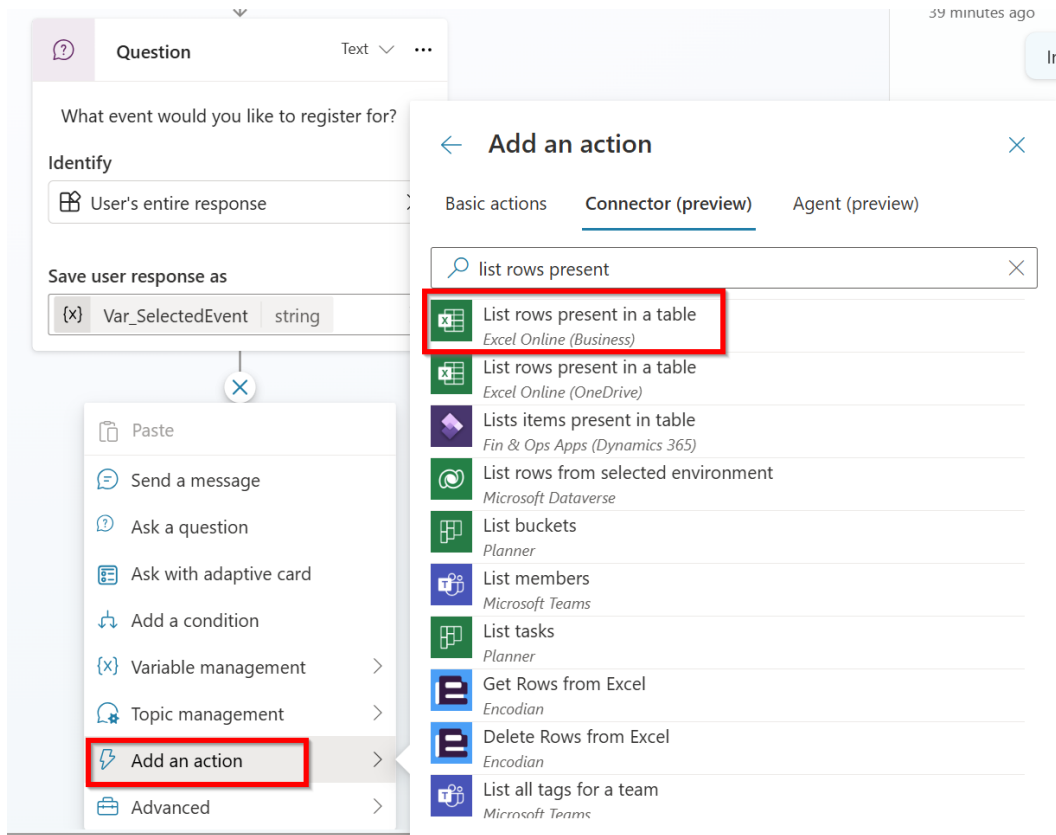
3. Enter trigger description "Event Registration; Register for an event"



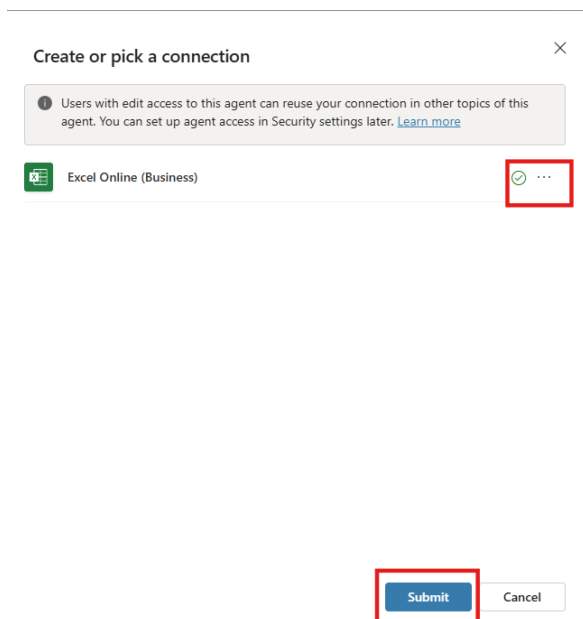
4. Add a node to **ask a question**. In the text field, enter "Which event would you like to register for?". In the Identify field, pick "User's entire response". In the Save user response as field, create a new variable renamed to Var_SelectedEvent.



5. Add an action, go to **Connector (preview)** tab, and search for "list rows present in a table" connector.



6. Create or pick a connection. Confirm you have the correct connection and click **Submit**.



7. Fill out the input parameters. **Location** field is the SharePoint site root url in the format of <https://yourenvironmentname.sharepoint.com/sites/SalesTeam/>. **Document Library** field is Documents. **File** name field is contoso_customer_events.xlsx. **Table** field is Table1.

Connector action

Inputs (4)

- * {x} Location (String) =
- * {x} Document Library (String) =
- * {x} File (String) =
- * {x} Table (String) =

8. Fill out advanced settings **Filter Query** field. Enter the formula as "EventName eq '' & Topic.Var_SelectedEvent & ''" then click **Insert**.

Advanced inputs (6)

- {x} Filter Query (String) =
- {x} Order By (String) =
- {x} Top Count (Number) =
- {x} Skip Count (Number) =

Enter formula

Custom System Environment **Formula**

fx "EventName eq '' & Topic.
Var_SelectedEvent & ''" ⓘ

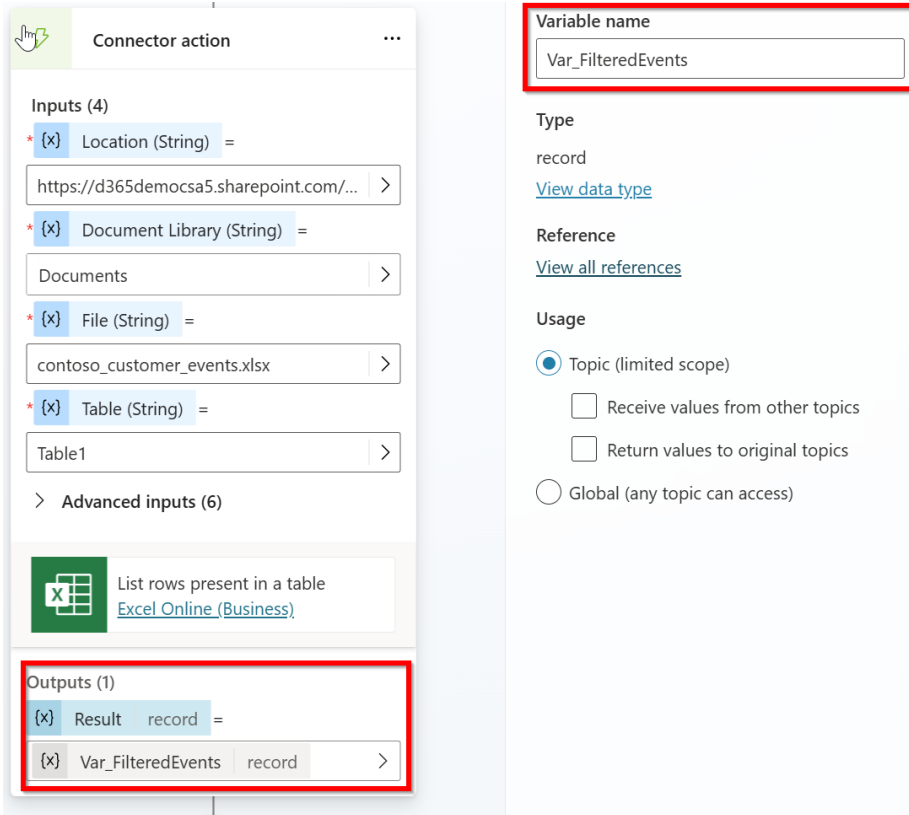
Press CTRL + M to disable / enable Tab character

Type

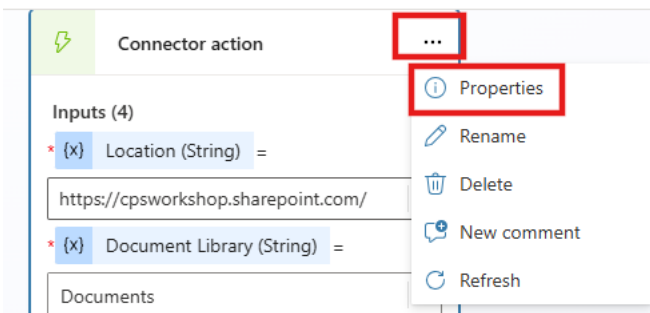
Output ☒ "EventName eq '' & Topic.

Insert **Cancel**

9. Rename the output parameter GetItems to "Var_FilteredEvents"



10. Add a latency message. Best practice when calling an action that may take some time is to set a latency message so the users knows the agent is working in the background. In the Connector action, click the (...).



11. Scroll down to **Latency Message** and click the **Send a message** box. Add the following message - **Just a minute while I grab your event options**. Then close the Properties box.

Connection reference

admin@CPSWorkshop.onmicrosoft.com

Request timeout (milliseconds)

30000

Error handling
Determine what happens when an error occurs.

Raise an error

Latency Message
In text conversations this message will be sent once.
In voice conversations, this message will loop until the operation is complete.

☒ Send a message

Message Text

+ Add **B** *I* **≡** **≡** {x} f_x

Just a minute while I grab your event options.

12. Add a variable management node , pick set a variable value. In the Set variable dropdown, create a new variable named "Var_FilteredEventText". In the To value dropdown, pick the existing variable "Var_FilteredEvents.value" that is the table.

Outputs (1)

{x} Result record =

{x} Var_FilteredEvents record

Set variable value

Set variable

Select a variable

To value

Enter or select a value

Select a variable

Custom System

Search variables

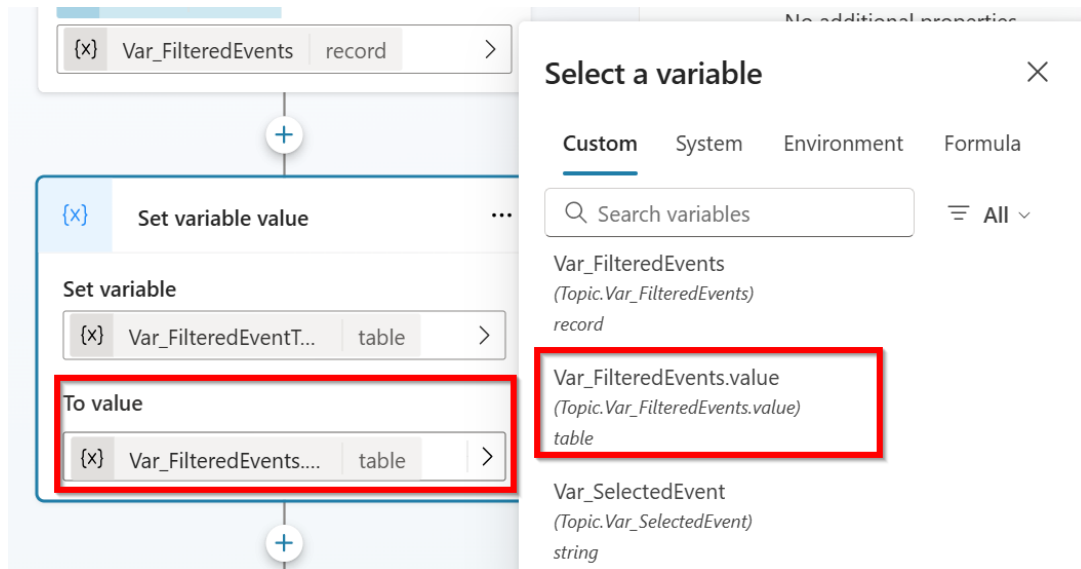
All

☒ Create a new variable

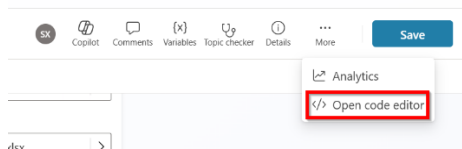
Var_FilteredEvents
(Topic.Var_FilteredEvents)
record

Var_FilteredEvents.value
(Topic.Var_FilteredEvents.value)
table

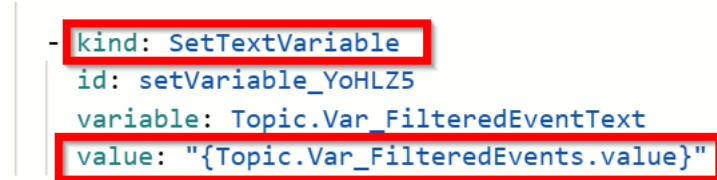
Var_SelectedEvent
(Topic.Var_SelectedEvent)
string



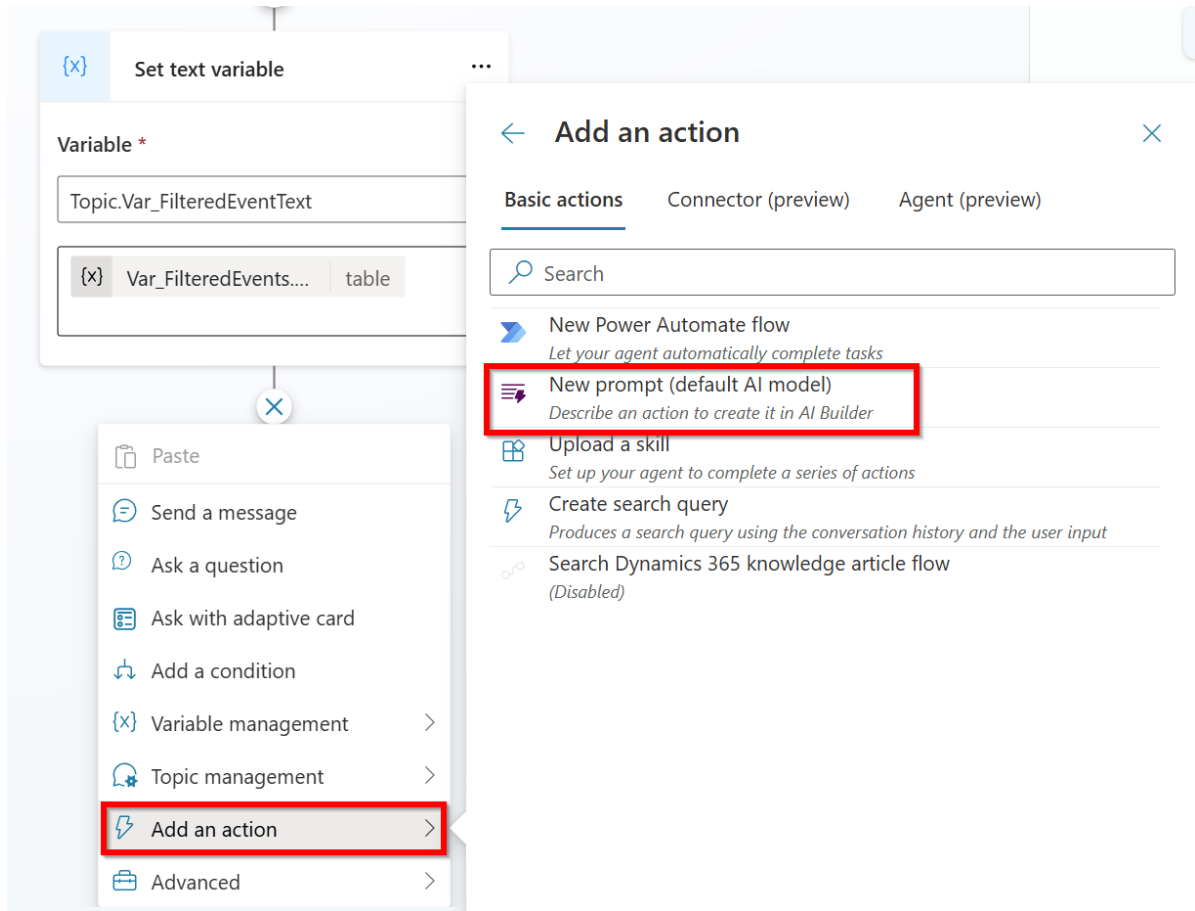
13. Change the variable `Var_FilteredEvents.value` type from `table` to `text` by using code editor. In the upper ribbon, click on **More** and select **Open Code editor**.



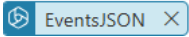
14. Scroll to the bottom of the code editor, change `kind` to `SetTextVariable`, change `value` to `"{Topic.Var_FilteredEvents.value}"`. **Save** and **close** the code editor



15. Add an action, pick New prompt (default AI model)

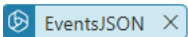


16. Name the prompt “**Extract event info**”. In the Prompt, enter the following and Save.

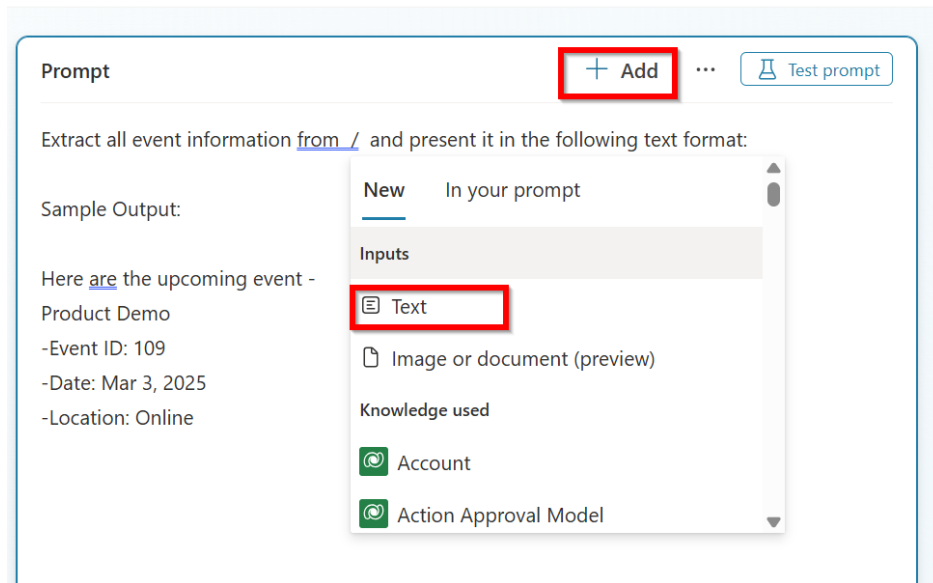
Extract all event information from  and present it in the following text format:

Sample Output:

*Here are the upcoming events –
Product Demo
-Event ID: 109
-Date: Mar 3, 2025
-Location: Online*

 is added by clicking on **+Add** button, pick **Text** under the **Inputs**. Enter the Name as “EventsJSON”

Extract event info



Prompt + Add ... Test prompt

Extract all event information from from / and present it in the following text format:

Sample Output:

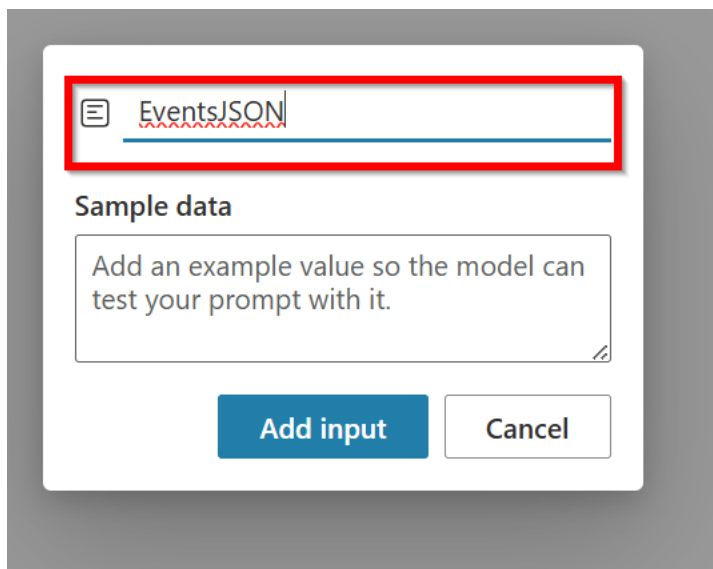
Here are the upcoming event -
Product Demo
-Event ID: 109
-Date: Mar 3, 2025
-Location: Online

Inputs

- ☒ Text
- ☐ Image or document (preview)

Knowledge used

- ☒ Account
- ☒ Action Approval Model



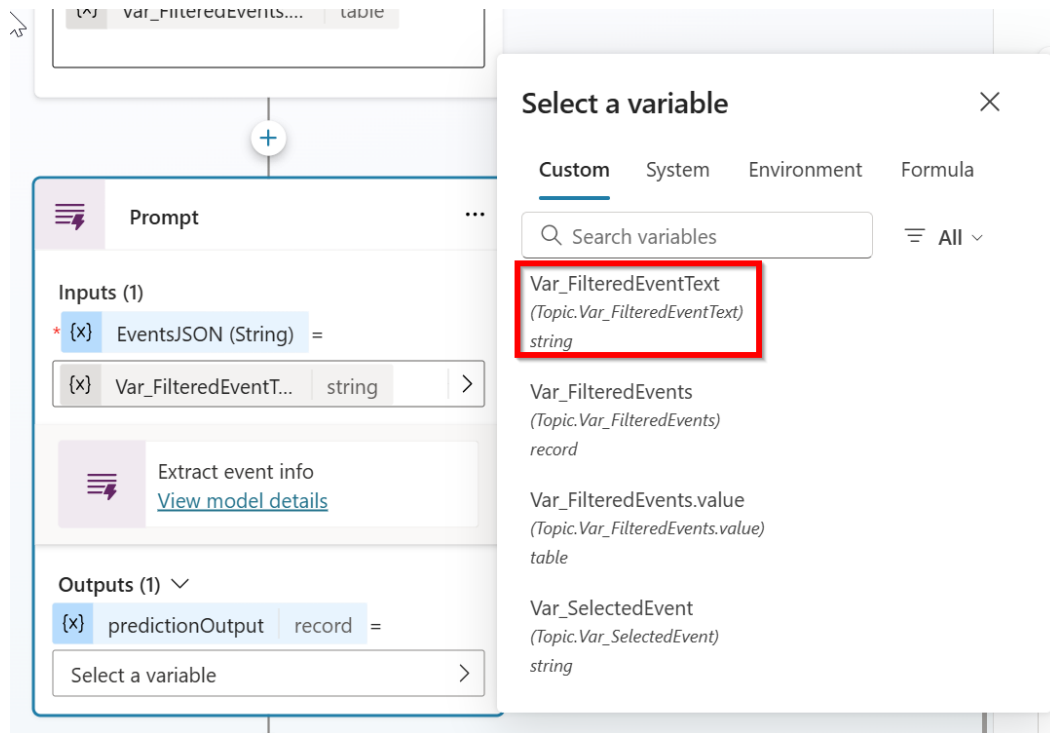
☒ EventsJSON

Sample data

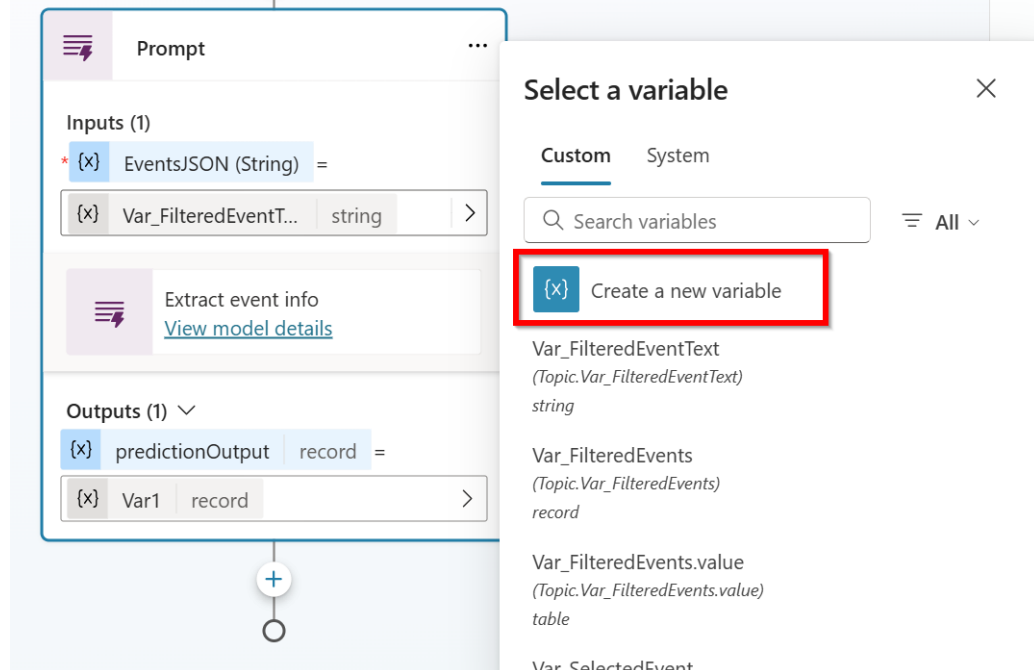
Add an example value so the model can test your prompt with it.

Add input **Cancel**

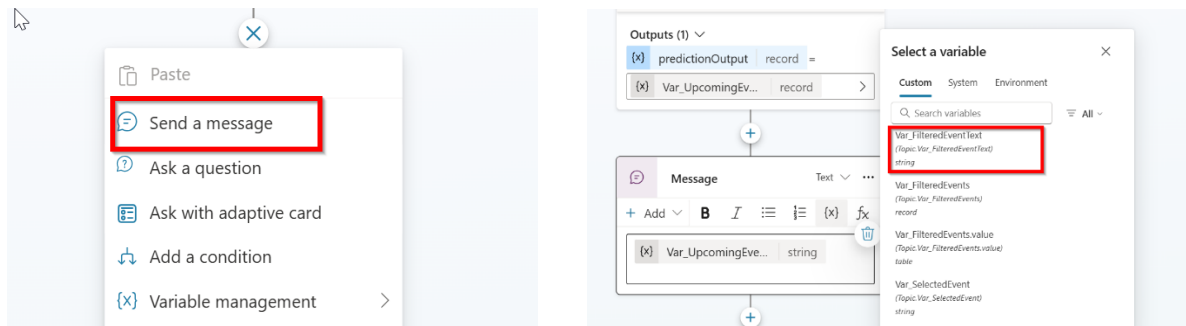
17. Fill out the **input parameter** EventsJSON to be variable Var_FilteredEventText



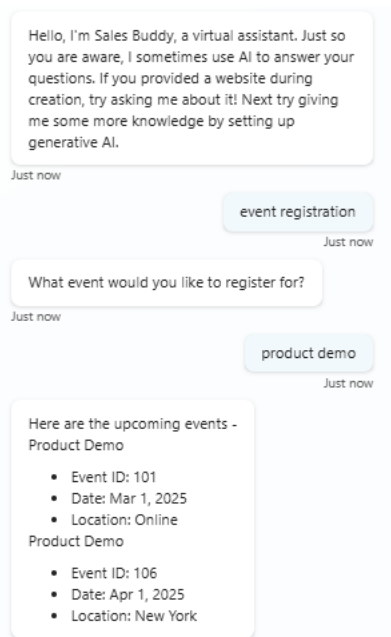
18. Create a new variable for **Output parameter**, named Var_UpcomingEvents.



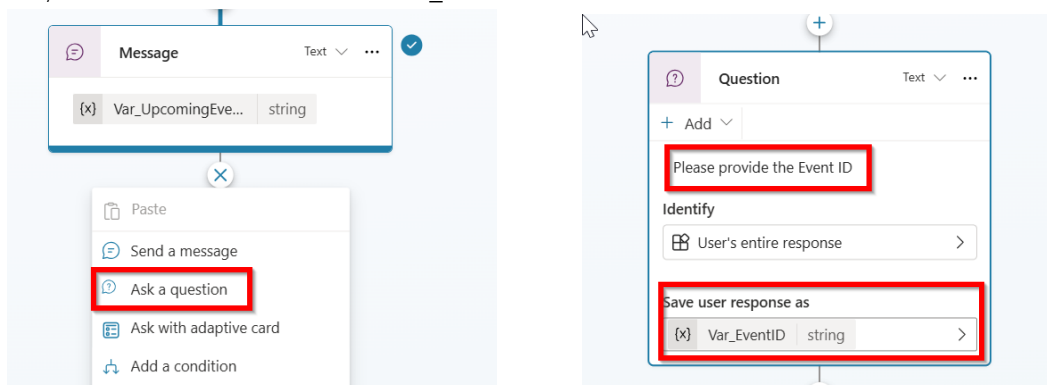
19. Add a new node to send a message. Pick Var_FilteredEventText from the variable list.



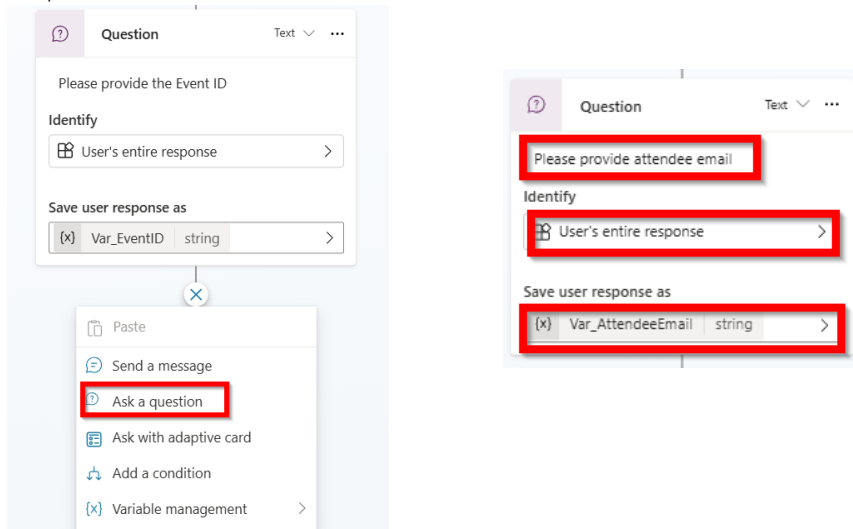
20. Save the agent and test it. You should see the conversation flow as following:



21. **Add a question node** to capture EventID. In the text field, enter "Please provide the Event ID". In the Identify field, pick User's entire response. In the Save user response as field, rename the variable to "Var_EventID".

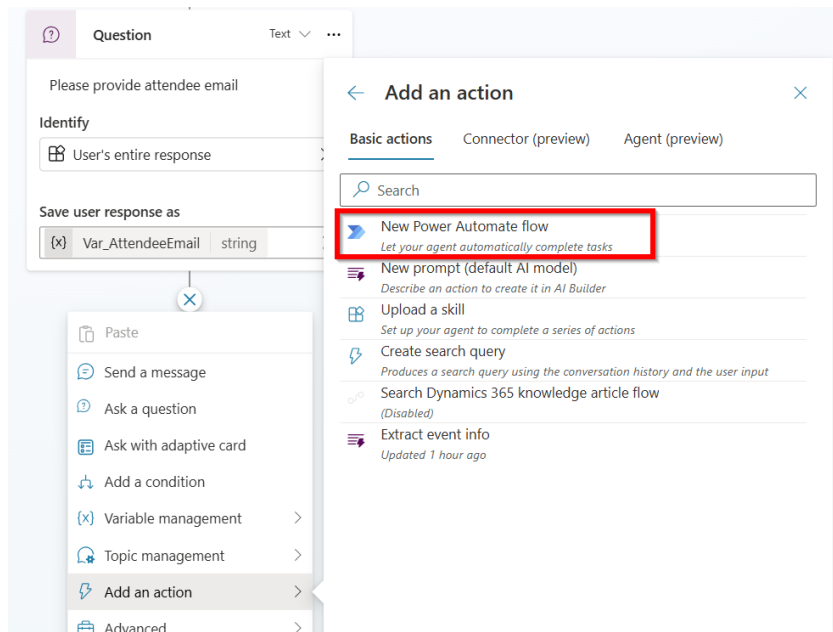



22. Add a new node to capture attendee email. In the text field, enter "Please provide attendee email". In the Identify field, pick User's entire response. In the Save user response as field, rename the variable to Var_AttendeeEmail



23. Now, we need to create a **power automate flow** to log attendee email and event id registration to the Excel sheet.

- a. Add an action node and pick New Power Automate flow in the Basic actions tab.



- b. It will take you to the **Flow Designer page**. Switch to the old designer view by clicking on the toggle button on the top right. **New designer** 
- c. Clicking on the first Skill tile. **Add two input variables:** EventID and AttendeeEmail

Skills

EventID Please enter your input

AttendeeEmail Please enter your input

+ Add an input

- d. Add an excel action to add a row into a table. Update the fields as follows.

Add a row into a table

* Location SharePoint Site - Sales Team

* Document Library Documents

* File /contoso_customer_events.xlsx

* Table Table2

EventID EventID

Attendee AttendeeEmail

Show advanced options

- e. Add an outlook action to send emails. Update the fields as follows.

Send an email (V2)

* To AttendeeEmail

* Subject Event Registration Complete

* Body

Event Registration Complete for Event ID - EventID

Show advanced options

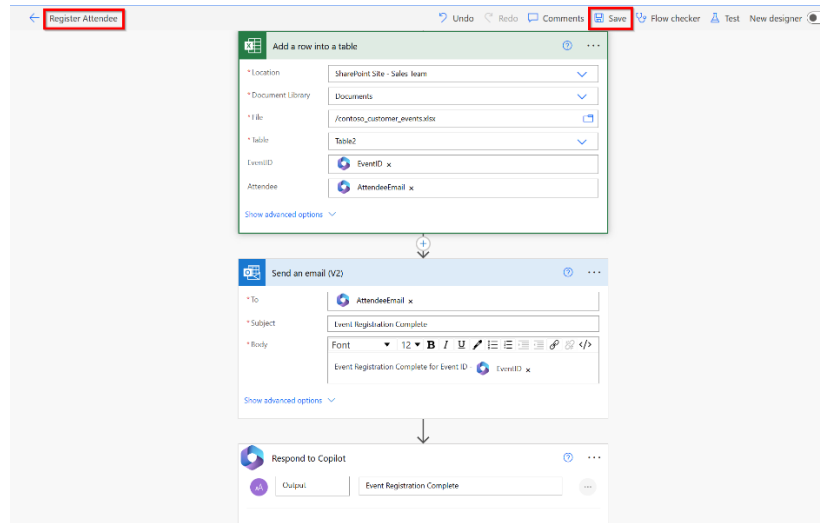
- f. In the respond action, add an output parameter. Set the value to "Event Registration Complete."

Respond to Copilot

Output Event Registration Complete

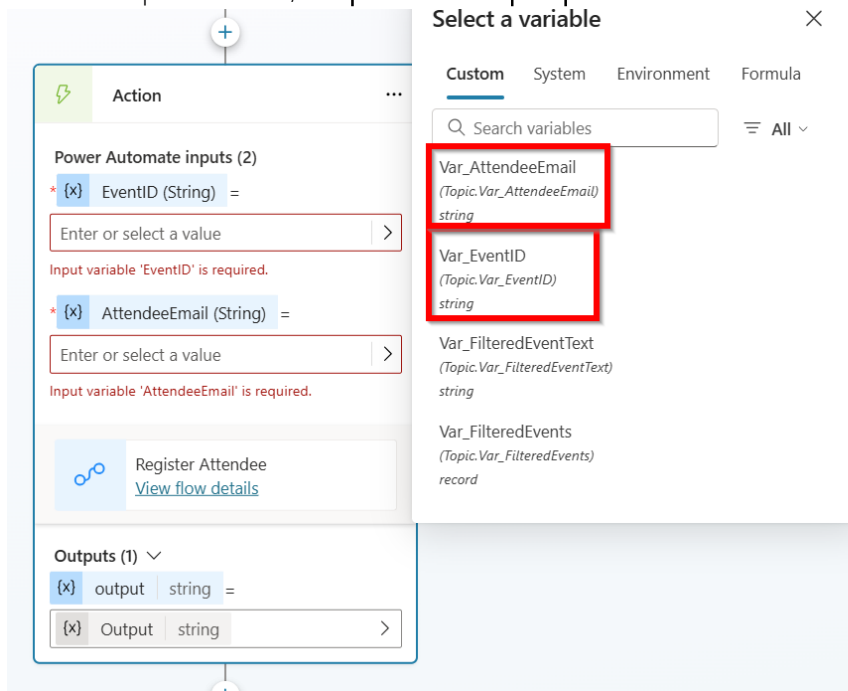
+ Add an output

- g. Finally, rename the flow to Register Attendee.

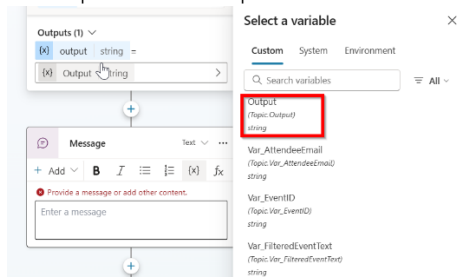


h. Save the flow in the old designer. Save and Publish if you are using the new designer.

24. Back in copilot studio, map the two input parameters to variables as follows:



25. Add a node to send confirmation message. In the text field, pick the Output variable from previous step.



26. **Test the agent.** See an example below. You might need to create a connection for the 1st time. Click on Connect and follow the steps.

product demo
2 minutes ago

Here are the upcoming events -
Product Demo

- Event ID: 101
- Date: Mar 1, 2025
- Location: Online

Product Demo

- Event ID: 106
- Date: Apr 1, 2025
- Location: New York

Please provide the Event ID
2 minutes ago

101
2 minutes ago

Please provide attendee email
2 minutes ago

test2@test.com
2 minutes ago

Additional permissions are required to run this action. To proceed, please select 'Connect', and review any missing connections.

Once you have made these updates, please select 'Retry'. You can also ask me anything else to go to a different topic.

Connect
Retry

Event Registration Complete
A minute ago

27. Open Excel and go to the 2nd tab. Verify that the attendee registration is logged properly.

	A	B
1	EventID	Attendee
2	101	sshashi@microsoft.com
3	101	barb@microsoft.com
4	101	test@test.com
5	106	suvi@gmail.com
6	106	suvidha@gmail.com
7	101	test2@test.com
8		

Congratulations! You have successfully completed Lab 2. You can now proceed to Lab 3.