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# Getting started tutorial

Last Updated: 2019-09-07

This tutorial walks you through the commands to translate text from English to Spanish, and to identify the languag a text sample.

### Before you begin @

- Copy the credentials to authenticate to your service instance:
  - On the Manage page, click Show to view your credentials.
  - Copy the API Key and URL values.
- Make sure that you have the curl command:
  - The examples use curl command to call methods of the HTTP interface. Install the version for you operating system from curl.haxx.se . Install the version that supports the Secure Sockets Layer (SS protocol. Make sure to include the installed binary file on your PATH environment variable.

**Tip:** This tutorial uses an API key to authenticate. For production uses, make sure that you review the API key best practices.

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Use the following example to identify the language of text.

```
$ curl -X POST -u "apikey:{apikey}" --header "Content-Type: text/plain" --data "La
```

### Step 3: Translate a document (Beta) @

Language Translator allows you to translate documents, such as PDFs and Microsoft Office files, while retaining the original formatting. For a tutorial, check out Translating documents (Beta).

## Next steps @

- Learn how to customize Language Translator to work for your use case
- View the API reference
- Explore sample applications
- View language support information:
  - Translation models
  - Identifiable languages

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