

# Speech-to-Text API: Qwik Start

GSP119



- Speech-to-Text API integrates Google's advanced speech recognition directly into developer applications for seamless audio transcription.
- Send audio files to the service and receive accurate text transcriptions in response.
- This lab teaches creating an API key to authenticate Speech-to-Text API requests securely.
- You'll construct and format a proper Speech-to-Text API request with audio data.
- Finally, execute the API call to generate text transcriptions from uploaded audio files.

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00:44:28

⌚ Time limit

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Username

student-04-cc2224040b85i

📄

Password

W1T1wK40yJU1

📄

Project ID

qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8i

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## Task 1. Create an API key

Since you'll be using `curl` to send a request to the Speech-to-Text API, you need to generate an API key to pass in our request URL.

- To create an API key, click **Navigation menu** > **APIs & services** > **Credentials**.
- Then click **Create credentials**.
- In the drop down menu, select **API key**.
- Copy the key you just generated and click **Close**.

Click **Check my progress** to verify the objective.

○

Create an API Key

Check my progress

Now that you have an API key, save it as an environment variable to avoid having to insert the value of your API key in each request

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Project info

Project name  
qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8a1df0

Project number  
15780319728

Project ID  
qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8a1df0

Add people to this project

Go to project settings

Compute Engine

CPU (%)

100%

80%

60%

40%

20%

0

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8:15

8:30

8:45

instance/cpu/utilization: 0.27%

The data might not be complete due to potential unavailability of certain regions. Visit Cloud Hub for more accurate data.

Go to Compute Engine

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All services normal

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Estimated charges  
For the billing period Dec 1 – 28, 2025

USD \$0.00

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API APIs & Services ☆

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🔐 OAuth consent screen

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Credentials

+ Create credentials ▾

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↶ Restore deleted credentials

Create credentials to access your enabled APIs. [Learn more](#) 🔗

⚠️ Remember to configure the OAuth consent screen with information about your application.

Configure consent screen

API Keys

☐ ● Name

☐ ⚠️ [API key 1](#)

AlzaSyBBLhqvrICAL-2kgsyvIT1p7BJEcPjQps4

Ⓜ️

⚠️ This key is unrestricted. To prevent unauthorized use, we recommend restricting where and for which APIs it can be used. [Edit API key](#) to add restrictions. [Learn more](#) 🔗

Close

OAuth 2.0 Client IDs

☐ Name

No OAuth clients to display

Service Accounts

☐ Email

☐ [15780319728-compute@developer.gserviceaccount.com](#)

☐ [qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8a1df0@qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8a1df0.iam.gserviceaccount.com](#)

Name ↑

Compute Engine default service account

Qwiklabs User Service Account

Actions

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[Manage service accounts](#)

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Password

W1T1wK40yJU1

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Project ID

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Assessment Completed!

Now that you have an API key, save it as an environment variable to avoid having to insert the value of your API key in each request.

To perform the next steps, connect using SSH to the instance provisioned for you.

1. In the **Navigation menu**, select **Compute Engine**. You should see a `linux-instance` listed in the **VM instances** window.

2. Click on the **SSH** button in line with the `linux-instance`. You will be brought to an interactive shell.

3. In the command line, enter in the following, replacing `<YOUR_API_KEY>` with the API key you copied from previously generated:

export API\_KEY=<YOUR\_API\_KEY>

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You remain in this SSH session for the rest of the lab.

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OAuth consent screen with information about your application. 

Configure consent screen

Creation date ↓	Restrictions	Actions
Dec 28, 2025	—	Show key ⋮

Creation date ↓	Type	Client ID	Actions
-----------------	------	-----------	---------

[Manage service accounts](#)

Name ↑	Actions
<a href="#">developer.gserviceaccount.com</a> Compute Engine default service account	✎ 🗑
<a href="#">df0@qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8a1df0.iam.gserviceaccount.com</a> Qwiklabs User Service Account	✎ 🗑

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<input type="checkbox"/>	✔️	<a href="#">linux-instance</a>	us-central1-c			10.128.0.2 (nic0)	34.27.40.137 (nic0)	SSH ▾ ⋮

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SSH-in-browser

UPLOAD FILE

DOWNLOAD FILE

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⚙

Linux linux-instance 5.10.0-36-cloud-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 5.10.244-1 (2025-09-29) x86\_64

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;  
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the  
individual files in /usr/share/doc/\*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent  
permitted by applicable law.

Creating directory '/home/student-04-cc2224040b85'.

student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~\$ export API\_KEY=AiZaSyBBLhqvr1CAL-2kgsyvIT1p7BJEcPjQps4

student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~\$

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SSH

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Open Google Cloud console

Username

student-04-cc2224040b85i

📋

Password

W1T1wK40yJU1

📋

Project ID

qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8i

📋

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Task 2. Create your Speech-to-Text API request

Note: You will use a pre-recorded file that's available on Cloud Storage: [gs://cloud-samples-tests/speech/brooklyn.flac](#). [Listen to the audio file before sending it to the Speech-to-Text API.](#)

1. Create request.json in the SSH command line. You'll use this to build your request to the Speech-to-Text API:

touch request.json

2. Open the request.json:

nano request.json

Note: You can use your preferred command line editor (nano, vim, emacs) or

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W1T1wK40yJU1

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Project ID

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2. Open the request.json:

nano request.json

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Note: You can use your preferred command line editor (nano, vim, emacs) or gcloud. This lab will provide instructions for nano.

3. Add the following to your request.json file, using the uri value of the sample raw audio file:

```
{  "config": {    "encoding": "FLAC",    "languageCode": "en-US"  },  "audio": {    "uri": "gs://cloud-samples-tests/speech/brooklyn.flac"  }}
```

📄

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4. Press `control + x` and then `y` to save and click `Enter` to close the `request.json` file.

The request body has a `config` and `audio` object.

In `config`, you tell the Speech-to-Text API how to process the request. The `encoding` parameter tells the API which type of audio encoding you're using while the file is being sent to the API. `FLAC` is the encoding type for `.raw` files. Learn more about encoding types in the [RecognitionConfig Guide](#).

There are other parameters you can add to your `config` object, but `encoding` is the only required one.

In the `audio` object, you pass the API the uri of the audio file in Cloud Storage.

Click **Check my progress** to verify the objective.

✔️

Create your Speech-to-Text API request

Check my progress

Assessment Completed!

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ssh.cloud.google.com/v2/ssh/projects/qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8a1df0/zones/us-central1-c/instances/linux-instance?authuser=0&hl=en\_US&projectNumber=15780319728&useAdminProxy=true

SSH-in-browser

UPLOAD FILE

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GNU nano 5.4

request.json \*

```
{
  "config": {
    "encoding": "FLAC",
    "languageCode": "en-US"
  },
  "audio": {
    "uri": "gs://cloud-samples-tests/speech/brooklyn.flac"
  }
}
```

Help

Exit

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Password

W1T1wK40yJU1

📄

Project ID

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Task 3. Call the Speech-to-Text API

1. Pass your request body, along with the API key environment variable, to the Speech-to-Text API with the following `curl` command (all in one single command line):

```
curl -s -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" --data-binary @request.json \
"https://speech.googleapis.com/v1/speech:recognize?
key=${API_KEY}"
```

📄

Your response should look something like this:

```
{
  "results": [
    {
      "alternatives": [
        {
          "transcript": "how old is the Brooklyn Bridge",
          "confidence": 0.98267895
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

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```
Linux linux-instance 5.10.0-36-cloud-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 5.10.244-1 (2025-09-29) x86_64
```

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software; the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the individual files in `/usr/share/doc/*/copyright`.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by applicable law.

```
Creating directory '/home/student-04-cc2224040b85'.
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ export API_KEY=AizaSyBBLhgvr1CAL-2kgsyvIT1p7BJEcPjQps4
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ touch request.json
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ nano request.json
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ curl -s -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" --data-binary @request.json \
"https://speech.googleapis.com/v1/speech:recognize?key=${API_KEY}"
```

```
{
  "results": [
    {
      "alternatives": [
        {
          "transcript": "how old is the Brooklyn Bridge",
          "confidence": 0.93105143
        }
      ],
      "resultEndTime": "1.770s",
      "languageCode": "en-us"
    }
  ]
}
```

```
1,
"totalBilledTime": "2s",
"requestId": "8883247549823555872"
}
```

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
```



ssh.cloud.google.com/v2/ssh/projects/qwiklabs-gcp-04-ea298c8a1df0/zones/us-central1-c/instances/linux-instance?authuser=0&hl=en\_US&projectNumber=15780319728&useAdminProxy=true

SSH-in-browser

UPLOAD FILE

DOWNLOAD FILE

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Creating directory '/home/student-04-cc2224040b85'.

```
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ export API_KEY=AIzaSyBBLhqvr1CAL-2kgsyvIT1p7BJEcPjQps4
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ touch request.json
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ nano request.json
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ curl -s -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" --data-binary @request.json \
"https://speech.googleapis.com/v1/speech:recognize?key=${API_KEY}"
{
  "results": [
    {
      "alternatives": [
        {
          "transcript": "how old is the Brooklyn Bridge",
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        }
      ],
      "resultEndTime": "1.770s",
      "languageCode": "en-us"
    }
  ],
  "totalBilledTime": "2s",
  "requestId": "8883247549823555872"
}
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$ curl -s -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" --data-binary @request.json \
"https://speech.googleapis.com/v1/speech:recognize?key=${API_KEY}" > result.json
student-04-cc2224040b85@linux-instance:~$
```

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11°C

Mostly clear

Search

ENG

IN

08:55 PM

28-12-2025