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YAML with Spring & Java Q&As

Posted on [October 23, 2015](#) by [Arulkumaran Kumaraswamipillai](#)

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Q1. What is YAML?

A1. **YAML** Ain't Markup Language. It is a human friendly data serialization standard for all programming languages. A YAML file has an extension of **".yaml"**.

Q2. What are the 3 rules of YAML?

A2.

Rule 1: Indentation YAML uses a fixed indentation scheme to represent relationships between data layers (i.e. 2 spaces). Never use a tab.

```
1
2 ---
3 YAML: YAML Ain't Markup Language
4
5 What It Is: YAML is a human friendly data serial
```

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```

6  standard for all programming languages.
7
8  Projects:
9  - PyYaml          # YAML 1.1, pure python and li
10 - PySyck          # YAML 1.0, syck binding
11  Java:
12 - JvYaml          # Java port of RbYaml
13 - SnakeYAML       # Java 5 / YAML 1.1
14 - YamlBeans       # To/from JavaBeans
15 - JYaml           # Original Java Implementation
16
17

```

Rule 2: Colons & case sensitive All keys/properties are case-sensitive. ("Hello", is not the same as "hello") and key value pairs are separated by ":" followed by a space.

```

1
2  YAML: YAML is case sensitive
3

```

Keys can be nested.

```

1
2  first_level_dict_key:
3    second_level_dict_key: value_in_second_level_di
4

```

Rule 3: Dashes To represent lists of items, a single dash followed by a space is used. Multiple items are a part of the same list as a function of their having the same level of indentation.

```

1
2  Java:
3  - JvYaml          # Java port of RbYaml
4  - SnakeYAML       # Java 5 / YAML 1.1
5  - YamlBeans       # To/from JavaBeans
6  - JYaml           # Original Java Implementation
7

```

Q3. Where will you use YAML in Java application?

A3.

1) Configuring applications: Java developers mostly deal with property (.properties), XML, and JSON files for configuring applications. YAML file can be used to configure

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Java applications without being too verbose as XML and being more expressive than .properties and JSON formats.

All you need is the YAML library

```

1
2 <dependency>
3   <groupid>org.yaml</groupid>
4   <artifactid>snakeyaml</artifactid>
5   <version>1.11</version>
6 </dependency>
7

```

Java application.yml file example

```

1
2 #Configure a DataSource
3
4 spring:
5
6   datasource:
7     driver-class-name: com.sybase.jdbc4.jdbc.Syb
8     url: jdbc:sybase:Tds:mydb-host:5700/mydb
9     username: user
10    password: password
11

```

The properties can be accessed via Spring configs as

```

1
2 @Configuration
3 @EnableTransactionManagement
4 public class AppConfig {
5
6     @Autowired
7     private Environment environment;
8
9     @Bean
10    public DriverManagerDataSource datasource()
11        DriverManagerDataSource ds = new DriverM
12        ds.setDriverClassName(environment.getReq
13        ds.setUrl(environment.getRequiredPropert
14        ds.setUsername(environment.getRequiredPr
15        ds.setPassword(environment.getRequiredPr
16        return ds;
17    }
18 }

```

Can you spot the expressive nature of the YAML file?

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2) Serialize & Deserialize Java objects: YamlBeans

makes it easy to serialize and deserialize Java object graphs.

YAML is a human-friendly data format. Replace XML and properties files with YAML for more **expressive power**.

3) Spring boot supports YAML E.g.application.yml file.

More application configuration examples

Logging

```
1
2 logging:
3   path: ./logs/
4   file: myapp
5   level.com.mytutorial: DEBUG
6   level.: INFO
7
8
```

Messaging

```
1
2 env:
3
4   mq:
5     hostname: my-mq-host
6     channel: mychannel
7     port: 3500
8     queue.manager: JKGHJK
9     environment: EN7
10
```

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