



# Introduction

You can use XML-like tags in Label Studio to configure the labeling interface. Label Studio uses three different types of tags to manage labeling:

- **Object** tags for data types, used to display elements in a task that can be labeled such as [audio](#), [HTML](#), [images](#), [paragraphs](#), [text](#), and more.
- **Control** tags that you can use to annotate the objects. For example, use [labels](#) for semantic and named entity tasks, [choices](#) for classification tasks, [textarea](#) for transcription tasks, and more.
- **Visual** tags to modify the visual aspects of the labeling interface, such as by controlling the [view](#) of specific labeling options, or adding a [header](#).

## Create a custom labeling configuration

When you [set up your labeling interface](#), you can choose to use tags to create a custom labeling interface. When you create a custom labeling interface, you must pay attention to the structure of your task data and set up the configuration accordingly.

## Connecting elements

All control and object tags require a **name** parameter. Every control tag also requires a **toName** parameter that matches the **name** parameter of the object tag in the configuration.

For example, if you want to apply labels to text for a named entity recognition task, you might use the following labeling configuration:

```
<View>
  <Labels name="lbl" toName="txt">
    <Label value="Label 1"></Label>
    <Label value="Label 2"></Label>
  </Labels>
  <Text name="txt" value="$value"></Text>
</View>
```

In this example, the Label tags are used with the Text tag to label text. You can combine multiple control and object tags in the same configuration and use names to connect them.

## Variables

All object tags and some control and visual tags support variables inside their parameters. You can use a variable to set up a labeling configuration once and manage what displays on the labeling interface with the data in a specific task.

To use a variable, use it with the `value` parameter of a tag and specify it using the `$` sign and the name of the field that you want to reference. For example, for a sample task containing the following partial JSON:

json

```
{
  "header": "This is a different header for each task",
  "textlabel": "This is the text that needs to be labeled"
}
```

Use the following labeling configuration to reference the data fields:

xml

```
<View>
  <Header value="$header"></Header>
  <Text name="text" value="$textlabel"></Text>
  <Choices name="sentiment" toName="text" choice="single" showInLine="true"
    <Choice value="Positive"/>
    <Choice value="Negative"/>
    <Choice value="Neutral"/>
  </Choices>
</View>
```



Then your labeling interface looks like the following:

# This is a different header for each task

This is the text that needs to be labeled

☐ Positive<sup>[1]</sup>    ☐ Negative<sup>[2]</sup>    ☐ Neutral<sup>[3]</sup>

## Styles

You can style the labeling interface using the [Style](#) tag, but you can also add styles to the [View](#) tag.

For example, you can style the `view` tag to create a two-column labeling interface with multiple control and object tags such as in the following labeling configuration:

xml

```
<view style="display: flex;">
  <view style="flex: 50%">
    <Header value="Choose:"></Header>
    <Text name="txt-1" value="$value"></Text>
    <Choices name="chc" toName="txt-1">
      <Choice value="Choice 1"></Choice>
      <Choice value="Choice 2"></Choice>
    </Choices>
  </View>
  <view style="flex: 50%; margin-left: 1em">
    <Header value="Enter your question and rate text:"></Header>
    <Text name="txt-2" value="$value"></Text>
    <Rating name="rating" toName="txt-2"></Rating>
    <TextArea name="question"></TextArea>
  </View>
</View>
```

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