

Case Study:

A company would like to setup a messaging system that automatically broadcasts to all new employees **in a specific order**.

The order of the messages is:

1. Welcome to Company XYZ!
2. Please remember to collect your laptop from the mobile clinic!
3. ANNOUNCEMENT: Stay safe and wash your hands.

Create a Kafka environment that simulates the following: Kafka Broker = Messaging System

Consumers = Employees

All new employees to the company should receive the announcement messages in the specified order above. **Whenever there is a new message, employees should only receive messages that they have never received before.**

Answer:

Below is the details and key step taken:

1. On WSL, I ensured below dependencies has been installed:

- Java for Kafka: `sudo apt install default-jdk -y`
- confluent-kafka for Python: `pip install confluent-kafka`

2. Kafka version I used:

- https://archive.apache.org/dist/kafka/3.5.0/kafka_2.13-3.5.0.tgz

3. Start Kafka Services:

- Start Zookeeper:
`./kafka/bin/zookeeper-server-start.sh ./kafka/config/zookeeper.properties`
- Start Kafka broker:
`./kafka/bin/kafka-server-start.sh ./kafka/config/server.properties`

4. Create Topics:

- General messages topic (for new employees):
`./kafka/bin/kafka-topics.sh --create --topic general_messages --bootstrap-server localhost:9092 --partitions 1 --replication-factor 1`
- Department messages topic (for specific department *Optional Task):
`./kafka/bin/kafka-topics.sh --create --topic department_messages --bootstrap-server localhost:9092 --partitions 1 --replication-factor 1`

5. Consumer Scripts is created to meet below key requirement:

Key requirement: **Whenever there is a new message, employees should only receive messages that they have never received before**

a. General Messages Consumer Script (*employee_general_consumer.py*):

- Subscribe to the `general_messages` topic, for new employees.
- Standardize message content by removing extra whitespace and apply a hashing method to identify unique messages.
- Log processed messages in *processed_general_messages.json* to ensure employees receive only new and unique messages which they have never received before.

b. Department Messages Consumer Script (*employee_department_consumer.py*):

- Subscribe to the `department_messages` topic.
- Use the same deduplication method by hashing the message content.
- Log processed messages in *processed_department_messages.json*.

6. Running the Consumers

a. Run Consumers in Separate Terminals:

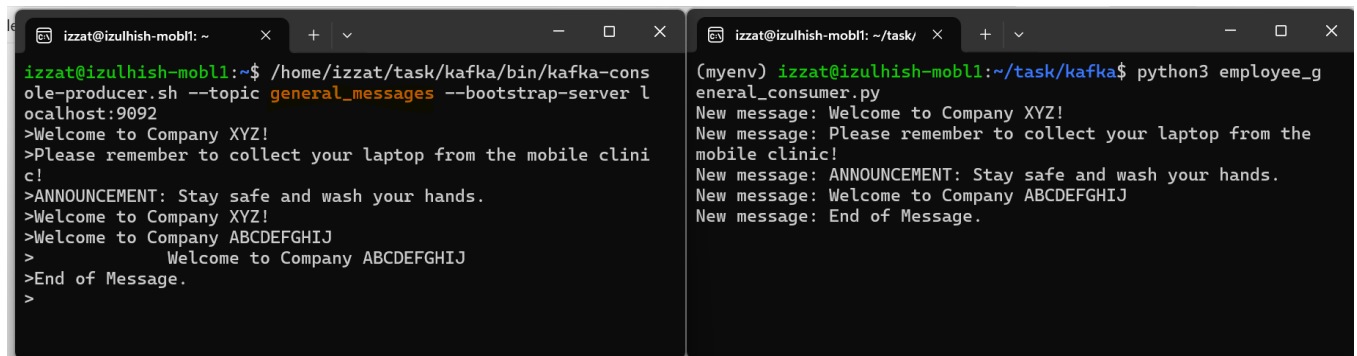
- Terminal#1
(for `general_messages`):

./https://github.com/izzatazfar8/task-assessment/blob/main/kafka_assessment/employee_department_consumer.py
- Terminal#2
(for `department_messages`):

./https://github.com/izzatazfar8/task-assessment/blob/main/kafka_assessment/employee_general_consumer.py

7. Send Messages on Producer Terminal

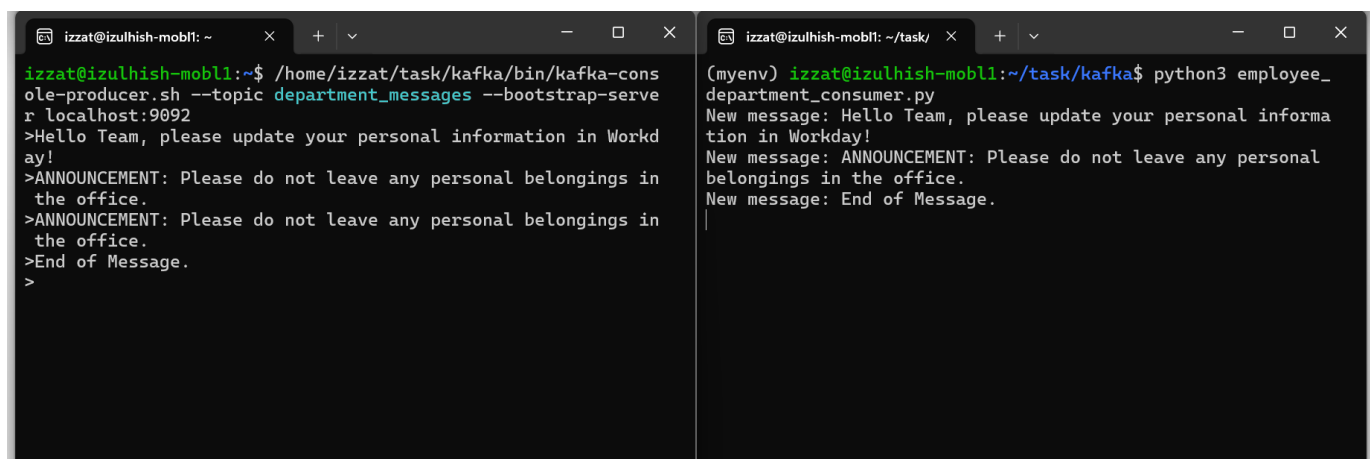
- 2 terminals (general_messages & department_messages) will be open acting as a producer to test the consumer scripts.
- For general_messages using below command:
`./kafka/bin/kafka-console-producer.sh --topic general_messages --bootstrap-server localhost:9092`
* The order of the messages is executed as shown in **Figure 1**. Employees won't be received the same messages that they have received before.
- For department_messages using below command:
`./kafka/bin/kafka-console-producer.sh --topic department_messages --bootstrap-server localhost:9092`
* Group of messages sent to a specific department of people as shown in **Figure 2**.



The image shows two terminal windows. The left window is a Kafka console producer terminal where the user has entered the command `./kafka/bin/kafka-console-producer.sh --topic general_messages --bootstrap-server localhost:9092`. It shows a series of messages being sent: "Welcome to Company XYZ!", "Please remember to collect your laptop from the mobile clinic!", "ANNOUNCEMENT: Stay safe and wash your hands.", "Welcome to Company XYZ!", "Welcome to Company ABCDEFGHIJ", and "End of Message.". The right window is a Python terminal running `python3 employee_general_consumer.py`. It displays the received messages in real-time, matching the output of the producer terminal.

Figure 1: general_messages (new employee)

Optional Task (Bonus points): Create another group message that sends a different set of messages to a specific department of people.



The image shows two terminal windows. The left window is a Kafka console producer terminal where the user has entered the command `./kafka/bin/kafka-console-producer.sh --topic department_messages --bootstrap-server localhost:9092`. It shows a series of messages being sent: "Hello Team, please update your personal information in Workday!", "ANNOUNCEMENT: Please do not leave any personal belongings in the office.", "ANNOUNCEMENT: Please do not leave any personal belongings in the office.", and "End of Message.". The right window is a Python terminal running `python3 employee_department_consumer.py`. It displays the received messages in real-time, matching the output of the producer terminal.

Figure 2: department_messages