

Contents

Lab Prerequisites	4
Lab Structure	7
Overview	8
Lab 1 – Develop bots with the Bot Builder	
Create your bot	10
Test your bot	15
Lab 1.1 – Develop bots by leveraging QnA Maker	18
Creating and Training our Knowledge Base using QnA Maker Service	19
Creating and Connecting a Bot to QnA Maker Service	26
Lab 1.2 – QnA Maker with rich cards in .NET	36
Adding delimiters to QnA and Rich Card Creation	37
Extra Exercise	45

Lab 2 – Interacting with the user – Multiple Dialogs	46
Invoking multiples dialogs	47
Create a simple game	54
Lab 2.1 - Interacting with the user – Adaptive Cards	
Creating Adaptive Cards and Prompts	
Extra Exercise	75
Reading for Scorable Dialogs	76
Lab 3 – Building Forms with FormFlow and Language Understanding with Microsoft Cognitive Services	
Building a Form with FormFlow	78
Lab 3.1 – Interpreting Emotional Sentiment using Language Understanding (LUIS) with Cognitive Services	
Create your LUIS app	85
Connect LUIS to your bot	

Lab Prerequisites

This workshop is intended for emerging developers looking to learn how to develop chat bots using conversational AI on Microsoft Azure. Since this is only a short workshop, there are certain things you need before you arrive.

Firstly, you should have some previous exposure to Visual Studio. We will be using it for everything we are building in the workshop, so you should be familiar with how to use it to create applications.

Read an overview, get started with, and take tutorials of Visual Studio here: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/visualstudio/ide/visualstudio/ide/visualstudio-ide

Additionally, this is not a class where we teach you how to code or develop applications. We assume you have some familiarity with C#, but you do not know how to implement solutions with Microsoft Cognitive Services.

You can learn foundational C# skills here: https://mva.microsoft.com/en-us/training-courses/c-fundamentals-for-absolute-beginners-16169?|=Lvld4EQIC_2706218949

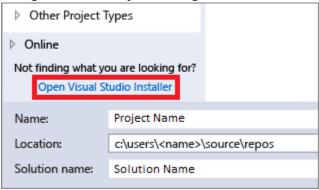
Finally, you should have little to no experience developing bots with the <u>Microsoft Bot Framework</u> and the <u>Bot Builder SDK for .NET</u>. We will spend a lot of time discussing how to leverage <u>Microsoft Cognitive Services</u> to help you infuse AI into your bot, as well as practical approaches to interacting with the user.

Finally, before arriving at the workshop, we expect you to have done the following:

- Bring a laptop PC with at least 2-cores (2Ghz) and 4Gb RAM running on one of the following versions of Windows: 7 (SP1), 8.1, 10, or Windows Server 2012 R2 Standard or Datacenter
- Have a Microsoft account (Outlook, Live, Hotmail, MSN).
- Create or have an <u>Azure subscription</u>. For identification purposes, it will require a credit card to be associated with your account. However, the services we will use for the purposes of this workshop will only require the free plan pricing tier. You will not be charged for the use of this service.

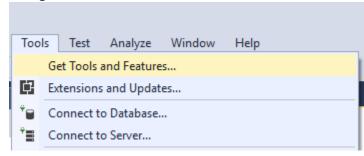
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- Installed <u>Visual Studio</u> 2015 or later (Community, Professional, or Enterprise edition)
 - o Add the ASP.NET and web development workload by:
 - Using the New Project dialog box

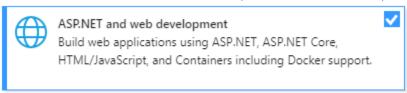


OR

Using the Tools menu bar



o The Visual Studio Installer launches, select the workload, and then choose Modify



(continued on the next page)

- Installed Internet Information Services (IIS) 10.0 Express
- Installed the Bot Framework Emulator
- Downloaded the <u>Bot Application</u>, <u>Bot Controller</u> and <u>Bot Dialog</u> .zip files.
 - o Install the project template by copying Bot Application.zip to your Visual Studio project templates directory. The project templates directory is typically located at:
 - %USERPROFILE%\Documents\Visual Studio 2017\Templates\ProjectTemplates\Visual C#\
 - o Install the item templates by copying Bot Controller.zip and Bot Dialog.zip to your item templates directory. The item templates directory is typically located at:
 - %USERPROFILE%\Documents\Visual Studio 2017\Templates\ItemTemplates\Visual C#\

Lab Structure

This document has 3 main sections:

- Lab 1
- Lab 2
- Lab 3

This manual is in table format. On the left panel are the steps the user needs to follow and in the right panel are screenshots to provide a visual aid for the users. In the screenshots, sections are highlighted with red boxes to highlight the action/area the user needs to focus on

NOTE: This lab is using material adapted from Microsoft Open Source GitHub Repositories hosted and presented by Microsoft on Developing and Deploying Intelligent Chat Bots. The material is intended to assist you in learning and is filed under the Creative Commons license. This lab has been created and provided by Neal Analytics, LLC—and exclusive Microsoft partner. Visit their site to learn more about their services: https://www.nealanalytics.com

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Overview

Introduction

Today you will be learning how to quickly build and test a simple bot by following instructions in a step-by-step tutorial. This is an introductory to intermediate course intended to learn key concepts and design principles by leveraging the Bot Builder SDK and the Bot Builder & Bot Framework Samples found here: https://github.com/Microsoft/BotBuilder-Samples

The student is expected to have experience in using Visual Studio and a fundamental knowledge of .NET framework as well as some experience with the C# (C Sharp) programming language.

Code Samples

The code you will use today is a sample bot adapted from Microsoft bot samples designed to introduce key concepts and basic design principles.

Course Outline

```
Agenda (times are approximate and will be fluid with the class)

Morning

09:00 AM - 10:00 AM - Introduction to Bot Framework & QnA Maker
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM - Partner Overview & Demo
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM - Lab 1 & 1.1 - Develop bots with Bot Builder and QnA Maker
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Lab 1.2 - Interacting with the User - Adding Rich Cards
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM - Lunch

Afternoon

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM - Interacting with the user - Dialogs, Cards, and FormFlow
1:00 PM - 02:30 PM - Lab 2 & 2.1 - Multiple Dialogs & Adaptive Cards
02:30 PM - 03:00 PM - Introduction to Cognitive Services & LUIS
03:00 PM - 04:30 PM - Lab 3 & 3.1 - Building Forms and Language Understanding
04:30 PM - 05:00 PM - Q&A
```

Lab 1 – Develop bots with the Bot Builder

In this section, you will learn how to leverage the Bot Builder SDK, libraries, samples, and tools to help you build and develop bots. When you build a bot with Bot Service, your bot is backed by the Bot Builder SDK. You can also use the Bot Builder SDK to create a bot from scratch using C# (or Node.js). Bot Builder includes the Bot Framework Emulator for testing your bots and the Channel Inspector for previewing your bot's user experience on different channels.

The Bot Builder SDK for .NET is an easy-to-use framework for developing bots using Visual Studio and Windows. The SDK leverages C# to provide a familiar way for .NET developers to create powerful bots.

This lab walks you through building a bot by using the Bot Application template and the Bot Builder SDK for .NET, and then testing it with the Bot Framework Emulator.

Learning Objectives

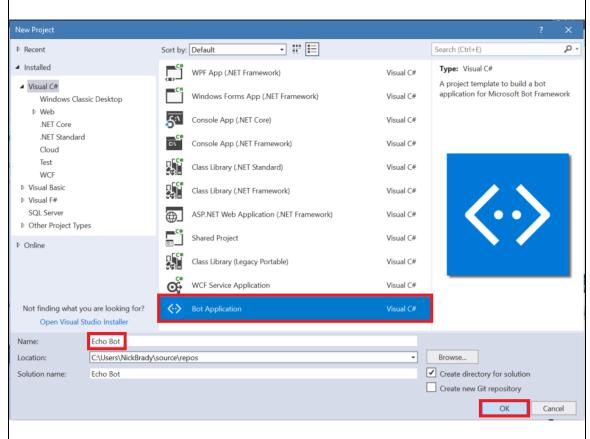
Upon completing this lab, you will have hands-on experience with the following functions and concepts related to Microsoft's Bot Framework.

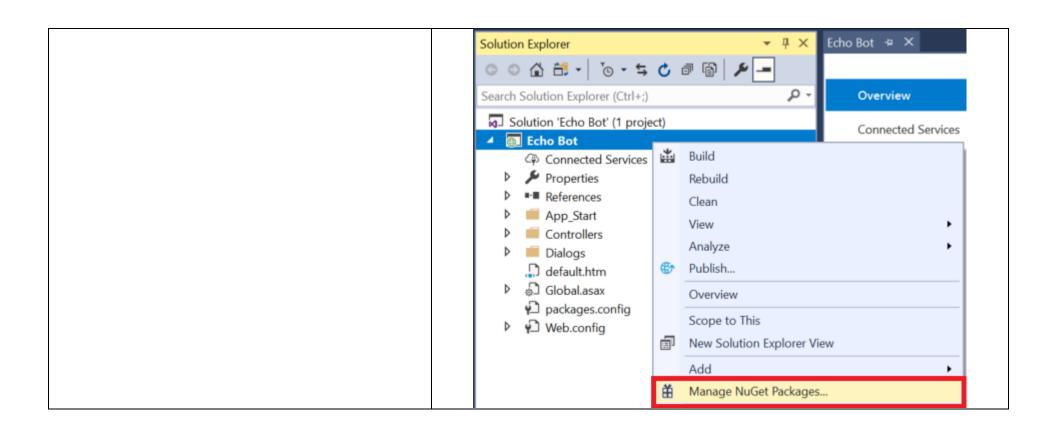
- Creating a Bot using the Visual Studio "Bot Application" template
- Testing a Bot using the Bot Framework Channel Emulator

Steps Screenshots / Notes 1. Download and install Visual Studio for Visual Studio Windows (if you haven't done so already). o https://www.visualstudio.com/downloads/ 2. Update all of the extensions to their latest Install these workloads: Individual components versions. Workloads Language packs Installation locations 3. Download: Windows (3) **~** Bot Application.zip, Universal Windows Platform development .NET desktop development Create applications for the Universal Windows Platform Build WPF, Windows Forms, and console applications using Bot Controller.zip, and with C#, VB, JavaScript, or optionally C++. C#, Visual Basic, and F#. Bot Dialog.zip files Install the project and item templates by copying the zipped files to the C# item project Bot Application in ProjectTemplates; Controller & Dialog in ItemTemplates templates directory. Home **NOTE:** If you have the Visual Studio workloads > This PC > Documents > Visual Studio 2017 > Templates > ProjectTemplates > Visual C# installed but don't see the Visual C# folder, Name your VS templates paths need to be rebuilt. To Ouick access do this, open the Developer Command Prompt Bot Application.zip Desktop for visual studio and use this syntax: File Share Home devenv.exe /InstallVSTemplates > This PC > Documents > Visual Studio 2017 > Templates > ItemTemplates > Visual C# 4. Next, open Visual Studio and create a new C# Name Quick access project. Choose the Bot Application template Bot Controller.zip Desktop for your new project. Name the bot Echo Bot. Bot Dialog.zip ___ Downloads **NOTE:** Visual might say you need to download **IIS Express** and install IIS Express. Please install to https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=48264 continue. **Bot Emulator** https://emulator.botframework.com/

By using the Bot Application template, you're creating a project that already contains all of the components that are required to build a simple bot, including a reference to the Bot Builder SDK for .NET, Microsoft.Bot.Builder. Verify that your project references the latest version of the SDK:

- 5. **Right-click** on the project and select **Manage NuGet Packages**.
- 6. In the **Browse tab**, type "Microsoft.Bot.Builder".
- 7. Locate the **Microsoft.Bot.Builder** package in the list of search results, and click the **Update** button for that package.
- 8. Follow the prompts to accept the changes and update the package.





First, the Post method within Controllers\MessagesController.cs receives the message from the user and invokes the root dialog.

NOTE: In Lab 1, no code changes are expected. This is simply an example of what you should see in MessagesController.cs in the Controller folder that was created from the Bot Application template.

```
namespace Echo_Bot
    [BotAuthentication]
   public class MessagesController : ApiController
        /// <summary>
        /// </summary>
        public async Task<HttpResponseMessage> Post([FromBody]Activity
activity)
           if (activity.Type == ActivityTypes.Message)
                await Conversation.SendAsync(activity, () => new
Dialogs.RootDialog());
            else
               HandleSystemMessage(activity);
            var response = Request.CreateResponse(HttpStatusCode.OK);
            return response;
```

The root dialog processes the message and generates a response. The MessageReceivedAsync method within Dialogs\RootDialog.cs sends a reply that echoes back the user's message, prefixed with the text 'You sent' and ending in the text 'which was ## characters', where ## represents the number of characters in the user's message.

NOTE: In Lab 1, no code changes are expected. This is simply an example of what you should see in RootDialog.cs in the Dialogs folder that was created from the Bot Application template.

```
namespace Echo_Bot.Dialogs
    [Serializable]
   public class RootDialog : IDialog<object>
       public Task StartAsync(IDialogContext context)
           context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
           return Task.CompletedTask;
       private async Task MessageReceivedAsync(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
           var activity = await result as Activity;
           // calculate something for us to return
           int length = (activity.Text ?? string.Empty).Length;
           await context.PostAsync($"You sent {activity.Text} which was
{length} characters");
           context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
```

Test your bot

9. Next, test your bot by using the Bot Framework Emulator to see it in action. The emulator is a desktop application that lets you test and debug your bot on localhost or running remotely through a tunnel.

NOTE: First, you'll need to download and install the emulator. After the download completes, launch the executable and complete the installation process.

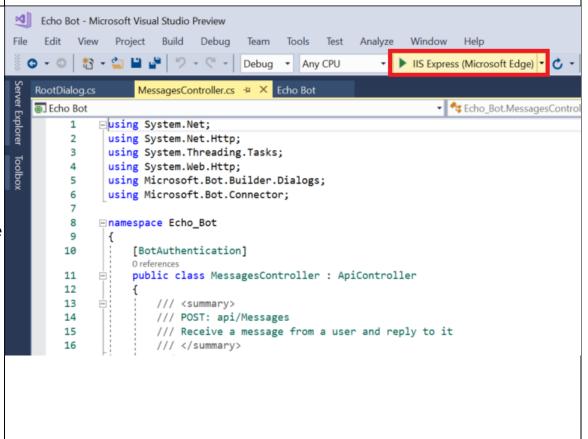
Bot Emulator (this link is also in the Prerequisites folder of the lab materials)

o https://emulator.botframework.com/

Start your bot

10. After installing the emulator, start your bot in Visual Studio by running IIS Express using a browser as the application host and the Bot Framework Emulator. This Visual Studio screenshot shows that the bot will launch in Microsoft Edge when the run button is clicked.

NOTE: You can change the default browser by clicking the dropdown carrot to the right of the button.



When you click the run button, Visual Studio will build the application, deploy it to localhost, and launch the web browser to display the application's **default.htm** page. For example, here's the application's **default.htm** page shown in Microsoft Edge:

NOTE: You can modify the **default.htm** file within your project to specify the name and description of your bot application. This does not change the behavior of your bot.

Start the emulator and connect your bot

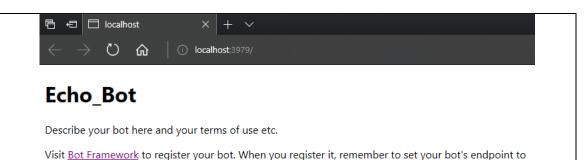
At the time of this writing Bot Emulator V4 PREVIEW is in pre-release. Instructions could vary and the screenshots may not represent the final release product.

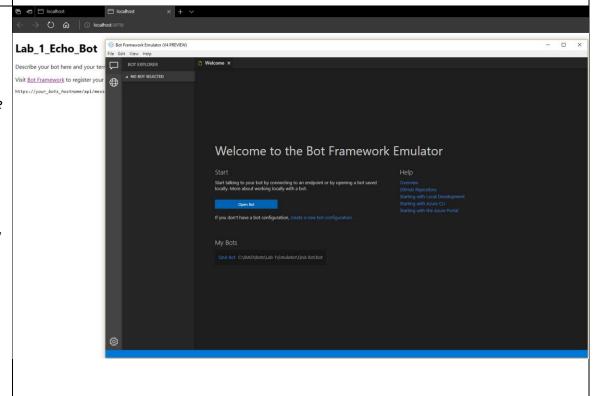
At this point, your bot is running locally.

- 11. Next, start the emulator and select **create a new bot configuration.**
- 12. Name your bot something you will remember, e.g.: Echo Bot
- 13. Then type the endpoint URL:

http://localhost:port-number/api/messages into the text box, where **port-number** matches the port number shown in the browser where your application is running.

HINT: The default port is 3979.





https://your bots hostname/api/messages

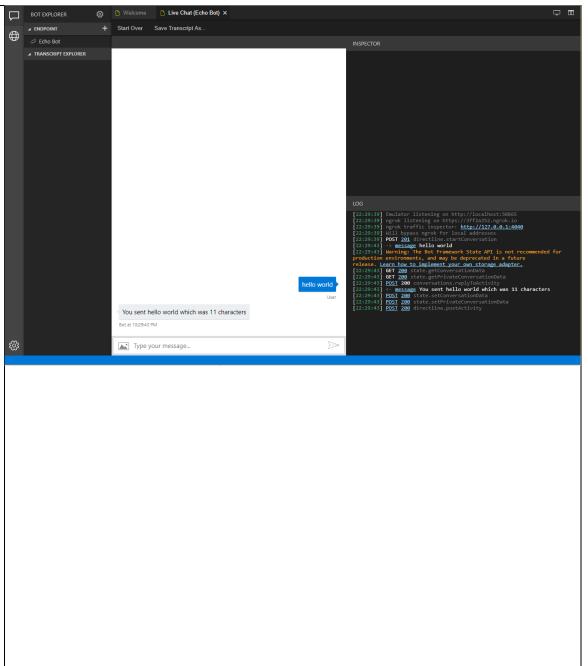
14. Click **Save and Connect**. You won't need to specify **Microsoft App ID** and **Microsoft App Password**. You can leave these fields blank for now. You'll get this information later if you decide to <u>register your bot</u> in Azure Bot Service.

NOTE: In the screenshot shown, the application is running on port number 3979, so the emulator address would be set to: http://localhost:3979/api/messages

Be sure to drop the "**s**" from https://...

Be sure to explore the new bot emulator and all it has to offer. As a bot developer, this will be the principal tool we will use for the workshop and for planning, testing, and our refining our bots. The new emulator includes a presentation mode so you can demonstrate your bot in front of stakeholders with a clean UI. It also features a split editor so you can run multiple bots at once. It also has direct support for Azure Bot Service, Dispatch apps, LUIS, and QnA Maker endpoint services including LUIS model training within the emulator!

Congratulations! You built your first bot. You've successfully created a bot by using the Bot Application template using the Bot Builder SDK for .NET!

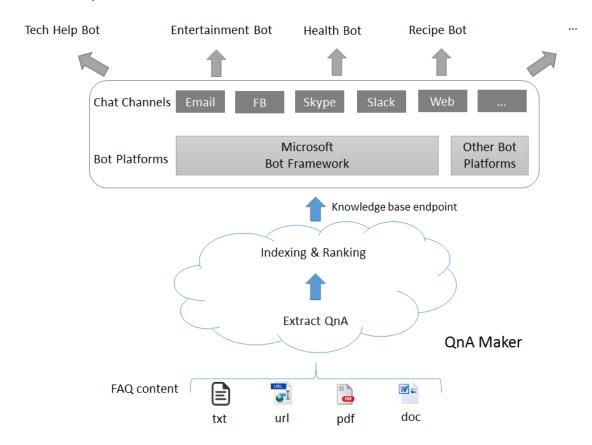


Lab 1.1 – Develop bots by leveraging QnA Maker

One of the basic requirements in writing your own Bot service is to seed it with questions and answers. In many cases, the questions and answers already exist in content like FAQ URLs/documents, etc.

Microsoft QnA Maker is a free, easy-to-use, REST API and web-based service that trains AI to respond to user's questions in a more natural, conversational way. Compatible across development platforms, hosting services, and channels, QnA Maker is the only question and answer service with a graphical user interface—meaning you don't need to be a developer to train, manage, and use it for a wide range of solutions.

With optimized machine learning logic and the ability to integrate industry-leading language processing with ease, QnA Maker distills masses of information into distinct, helpful answers.



Learning Objectives

Upon completing this lab, you will have hands-on experience with the following functions and concepts related to Microsoft's Bot Framework.

- Creating and Training a Knowledge Base using QnA Maker Service by Microsoft Cognitive Services
- Creating and Connecting the QNA Maker Service to your Bot

Creating and Training our Knowledge Base using QnA Maker Service

Steps A good bot is one that is actually useful to users—seems intuitive right? Some bots may need to process payments, handle forms, track location, or perform some other sort of complex or custom operation. We also have Language Understanding Cognitive Service, which can be utilized to provide bots with natural language understanding, so that the proper actions can be called by a user's intent. However, often your bot will simply need to provide well-defined answers to questions that users may have. Visiting the QnA Maker portal, you can discover why it is such a useful tool for creating FAQ knowledge-based questionanswer functionality for your bot. In this article, we'll be exploring different ways to utilize the service to help create better bots.

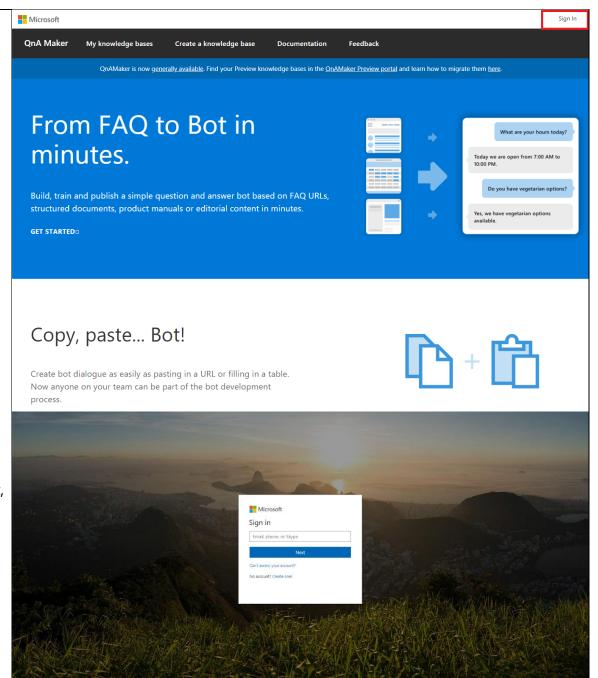
Screenshots / Notes

Prerequisites

• Microsoft Account (QnA Service, Bot registration) – Free

Navigate to:

• https://qnamaker.ai



First, we will need to sign in to qnamaker.ai using a Microsoft account. If you have a Microsoft Azure subscription, you will want to use it. If you do not have a Microsoft account, you can sign up for one—it's free!

Microsoft Account Sign Up

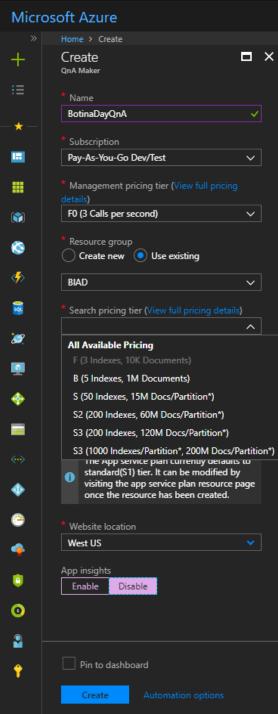
Next, we will create a new QnA service. To do Microsoft this, you will select Create a knowledge base. **QnA Maker** My knowledge bases Create a knowledge base Feedback **Documentation** QnAMaker is now generally available. Find your Preview knowledge bases in the QnAMaker Preview portal and learn how to migrate them here. Create a knowledge base Create an Azure service for your QnA knowledge base and add sources that contain the question and answer pairs you would like to include. Learn more about creating a knowledge base. STEP 1 Create a QnA service in Microsoft Azure. Then, you will select **Create a QnA service**. Create an Azure QnA service for your KB. If you already have an Azure QnA service for this KB, skip this step. This will require an Azure subscription. Learn more about Azure subscriptions, pricing tiers, and keys. Create a QnA service Click here to sign up for an Azure subscription. STEP 2 Connect your QnA service to your KB. After you create an Azure QnA service, refresh this page and then select your Azure service using the options This workshop assumes you already have a subscription. If not, do not worry, it is free to * Microsoft Azure Directory ID sign up. If you are a first-time user, Microsoft Select tenant provides you with \$200 in Azure credits to use Azure subscription name towards your development. But, in order to Select subscription provision the service it will require a credit card * Azure OnA service to be associated with your account. This is just Select service to verify you are human. You will not be charged. The free QnA Maker Tier is free to use.

The button should open the QnA Maker Service Blade, if not click <u>here</u> to find the service.

Enter in the details by creating a unique name, selecting your subscription and selecting the F0 Management Pricing Tier as well as the F Search Pricing Tier. If you do not have a Resource group created, you can create one now or select and existing one you'd like to use. Once you are satisfied and met all the requirements, select **Create** at the bottom of the blade. The Azure App Service will provision in a couple of minutes.

One new benefit to the general availability of QnA Maker is the ability to store chatlogs via Application Insights to the right \rightarrow You can also run analytics to gain insights into usage.

However, please disable App insights as this does charge you for usage. Read the documentation <u>here</u> for pricing details.



 Once your provisioned services have completed successfully, back in gnamaker.ai, STEP 3 Name your KB. you will connect QnA Maker service to this The knowledge base name is for your reference and you can change it at anytime. knowledge base. BotinaDatLab1 Name your KB. STEP 4 Populate your KB. Populate your KB. Extract question-and-answer pairs from an online FAQ, product manuals, or other files. Supported formats are .tsv, .pdf, .doc, .docx, .xlsx, containing questions and answers in sequence. Learn more about knowledge base sources. Skip this step to add questions and answers manually after creation. The number of sources and file size you can add depends on the QnA service SKU you choose. Learn more about QnA Maker SKUs. NOTE: You do not have to add a URL or add a URL file; however, if you are running behind, you can use the "QnA Lab 1 1.tsv" file located in: BIAD > Bots > Lab 1 > QnA Maker + Add URL Knowledgebase File name + Add file STEP 5 Create your KB The tool will look through your documents and create a knowledge base for your service. If you are not using an existing document, the tool will create an empty knowledge base table which you Then, create your KB. Create your KB

In your service's knowledge base editor, you can add question and answer pairs. Think of common things user's will utter, like:

"hi"

"help"

"I'm lost"

"cancel"

"what can you do"

"go back"

Feel free to add a KB document from your organization.

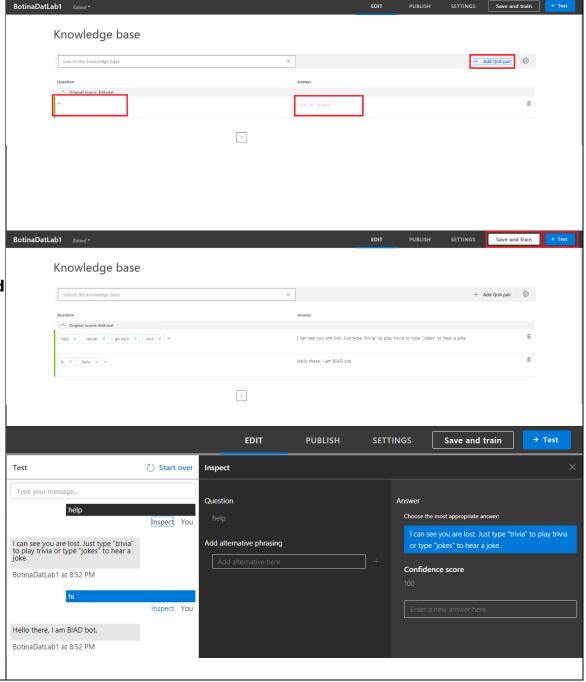
...and when you are satisfied, click on **Save and train**.

Behind the scenes, QnA maker leverages LUIS and other cognitive services to create a model for your service.

To test your newly created service, click **Test** and try a couple of question and answer pairs. What happens when you ask a question that is not in the KB?

If you think of another alternative phrasing, you can enter it here.

If the answer isn't quite right, then you can enter a new answer to the right, but do not



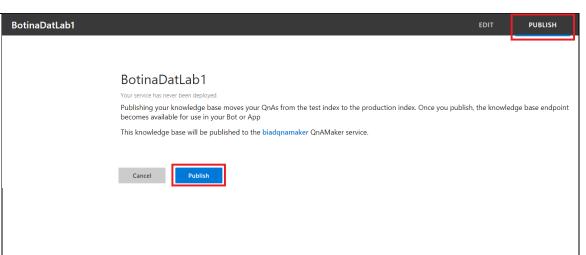
forget to **Save and train** your model for QnA Maker service to reflect these changes. Once your satisfied with the changes, go ahead and select **Publish**.

Then, **Publish** once more to finalize the changes.

NOTE: Do not worry, you can always come back and modify your knowledgebase. Just don't forget to **Save and train** every time you do.

After your service is deployed, you'll be redirected to a page view which provides a sample HTTP request for another application to use the service. Also provided are the **Knowledgebase Id**, **Host URL** and the **Endpoint Key** to access the service. Copy and paste these unique values and save them for later, as we'll need to pass these to the bot later.

That's it for creating and deploying our QnA service. You can always go back to add more question-answer pairs and retrain and publish your QnA knowledge base at any time.



Success! Your service has been deployed. What's next?

/generateAnswer

You can always find the deployment details in your service's settings.

Use the below HTTP request to build your bot. Learn how.

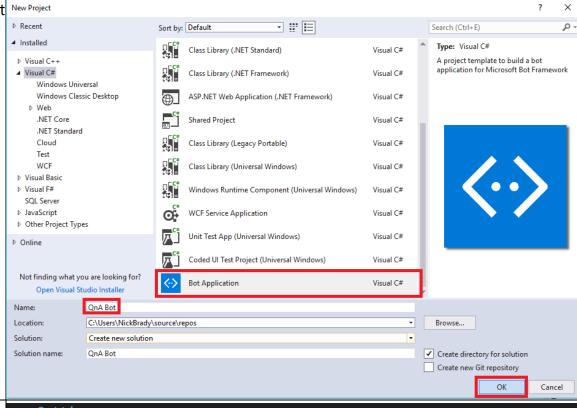
POST /knowledgebases/ Knowledge base ID
Host: QnA Host URL
Authorization: EndpointKey QnA Endpoint Key
Content-Type: application/json
{"question":"<Your question>"}

Need to fine-tune and refine? Go back and keep editing your service.

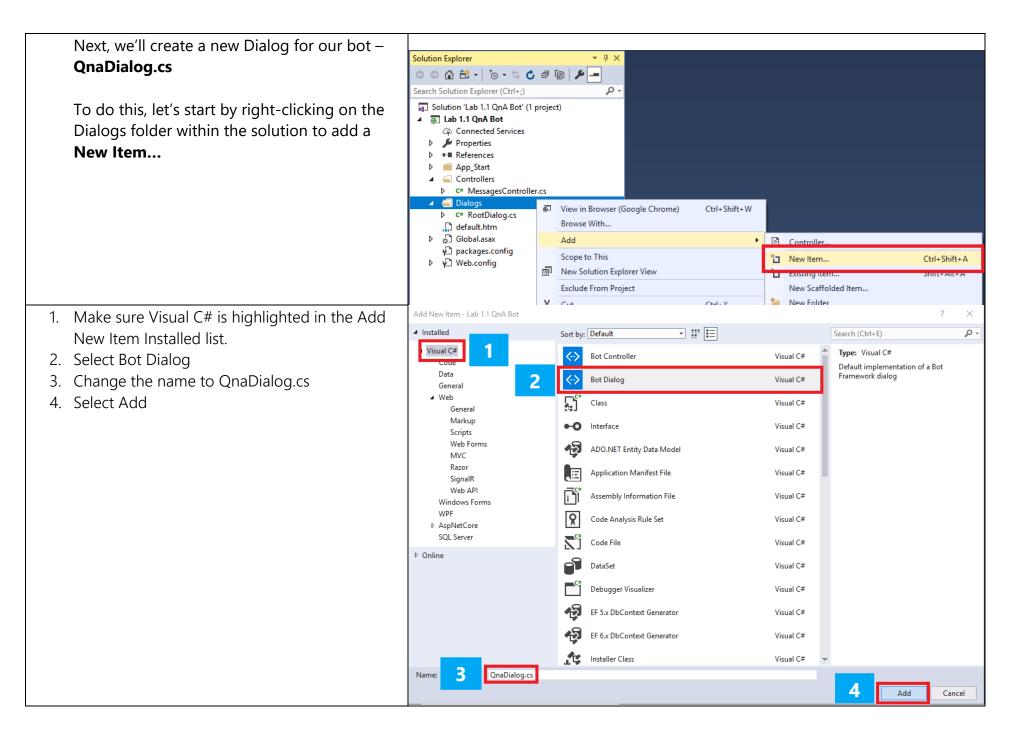
Edit Service

Creating and Connecting a Bot to QnA Maker Service

NOTE: Ensure you have the Bot Application template in the ProjectTemplates > Visual C# folder.



```
appSettings>
    <!--<add key="BotId" value="YourBotId" />-->
    <!--<add key="MicrosoftAppId" value="" />-->
    <!--<add key="MicrosoftAppPassword" value="" />-->
    <add key="QnAHost" value="ENTER_HOST_URL_HERE" />
    <add key="QnAEndPointKey" value="ENTER_ENDPOINT_KEY_HERE" />
    <add key="QnAKnowledgebaseId" value="ENTER_KNOWLEDGE_BASE_ID_HERE" />
    </appSettings>
```



You should receive some boilerplate code shown to the right that is ready for us to add logic.

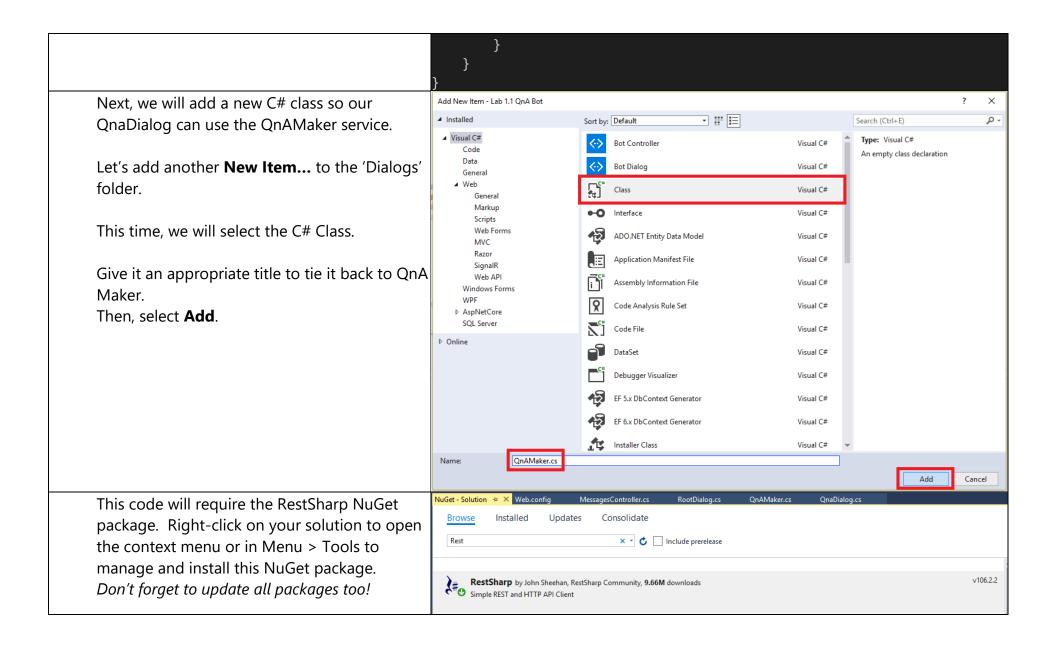
NOTE: We will be replacing this code in the next step.

```
using System;
using System.Threading.Tasks;
using Microsoft.Bot.Builder.Dialogs;
using Microsoft.Bot.Connector;
namespace ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE.Dialogs
    [Serializable]
    public class QnaDialog : IDialog<object>
        public Task StartAsync(IDialogContext context)
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
            return Task.CompletedTask;
        private async Task MessageReceivedAsync(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
            var activity = await result as IMessageActivity;
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
```

Replace the **QnaDialog.cs** code with the code using System; to the right.

NOTE: Use the Code Snippets provided in the Bot > Lab 1 > Code Snippets > Lab 1_1 folder.

```
using System.Configuration;
using Microsoft.Bot.Builder.Dialogs;
using System.Threading.Tasks;
using Microsoft.Bot.Connector;
using System.Web;
namespace ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE.Dialogs
    [Serializable]
    public class QnaDialog : IDialog<object>
        private QnAMakerService _QnAService = new QnAMakerService(
                ConfigurationManager.AppSettings["QnAHost"],
                ConfigurationManager.AppSettings["QnAKnowledgebaseId"],
                ConfigurationManager.AppSettings["QnAEndPointKey"]);
    public Task StartAsync(IDialogContext context)
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedASync);
            return Task.CompletedTask;
        public async Task MessageReceivedASync(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<IMessageActivity> result)
            string safeText =
HttpUtility.UrlEncode(((IMessageActivity)context.Activity).Text);
            string answer = _QnAService.GetAnswer(safeText);
            if (string.IsNullOrEmpty(answer))
                await context.PostAsync("No good match found in KB.");
            else
                await context.PostAsync(answer);
```



Next, enter the code to the right \rightarrow

NOTE: A code snippet has been provided for you in the workshop Bots > Lab 1 > Code Snippets > Lab 1_1 folder.

```
using Newtonsoft.Json;
using RestSharp;
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
namespace Lab_1_1_QnA_Bot.Dialogs
   /// <summary>
   /// QnAMakerService is a wrapper over the QnA Maker REST endpoint
   /// </summary>
   [Serializable]
   public class QnAMakerService
        private string qnaServiceHostName;
        private string knowledgeBaseId;
        private string endpointKey;
       /// <summary>
       /// </summary>
       /// <param name="hostName">Hostname of the endpoint</param>
        /// <param name="kbId">Knowledge base ID</param>
        /// <param name="ek">Endpoint Key</param>
        public QnAMakerService(string hostName, string kbId, string ek)
           qnaServiceHostName = hostName;
           knowledgeBaseId = kbId;
           endpointKey = ek;
        /// <summary>
       /// Call the QnA Maker endpoint and get a response
       /// </summary>
        /// <param name="query">User question</param>
       /// <returns></returns>
        public string GetAnswer(string query)
```

```
var client = new RestClient(qnaServiceHostName +
'/knowledgebases/" + knowledgeBaseId + "/generateAnswer");
           var request = new RestRequest(Method.POST);
           request.AddHeader("authorization", "EndpointKey " +
endpointKey);
           request.AddHeader("content-type", "application/json");
           request.AddParameter("application/json", "{\"question\": \"" +
query + "\"}", ParameterType.RequestBody);
           IRestResponse response = client.Execute(request);
           if (response.StatusCode == System.Net.HttpStatusCode.OK)
               // Deserialize the response JSON
               OnAAnswer answer =
JsonConvert.DeserializeObject<QnAAnswer>(response.Content);
               if (answer.Answers.Count > 0)
                   if (answer.Answers[0].answer != "No good match found
in KB.")
                        return answer.Answers[0].answer;
                    else
                        return "";
                else
                   return "";
            else
```

```
throw new Exception($"QnAMaker call failed with status
code {response.StatusCode} {response.StatusDescription}");
   public class Metadata
       public string Name { get; set; }
       public string Value { get; set; }
   public class Answer
       public IList<string> Questions { get; set; }
       public string answer { get; set; }
       public double Score { get; set; }
       public int Id { get; set; }
       public string Source { get; set; }
       public IList<object> Keywords { get; set; }
       public IList<Metadata> Metadata { get; set; }
   public class QnAAnswer
       public IList<Answer> Answers { get; set; }
```

the Post method as shown:

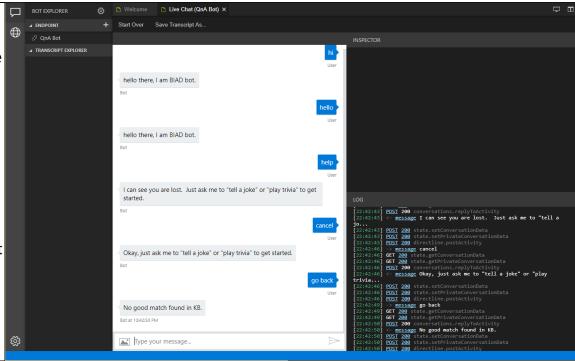
The only thing done in the code snippet to the right is we commented out the default call to the RootDialog (provided by the Bot Application Template), and we're passing all incoming message activity to the QnaDialog.

NOTE: It is up to the developer to determine how their bot dialogs and conversation flow are managed, this is simply a quick way for our Dialogs.QnaDialog()); bot demo to call the QnA service but it is not necessarily how you should manage this dialog in production.

At this point, everything we need to run the bot and interact with our QnA service is ready. Launching our bot and running the emulator locally, we can interact with the bot to verify that our QnA service is working properly.

```
Next, go into MessagesController.cs and edit public class MessagesController: ApiController
                                                /// <summary>
                                                /// </summary>
                                                public async Task<HttpResponseMessage> Post([FromBody]Activity
                                            activity)
                                                    if (activity.Type == ActivityTypes.Message)
                                                        await Conversation.SendAsync(activity, () => new
                                                        // await Conversation.SendAsync(activity, () => new
                                            Dialogs.RootDialog());
                                                    else
                                                        HandleSystemMessage(activity);
                                                    var response = Request.CreateResponse(HttpStatusCode.OK);
                                                    return response;
```

So far, so good! Since our demo bot is only using one dialog (QnaDialog), we can be certain that response activity that we see in the emulator is coming from the QnA service. The service also provides natural language processing behind the scenes. You'll even notice that basic markdown formatting and hyperlinks are supported for web chat, although this may vary depending on the channel your bot is connected to. While this is great, having simple text and markdown formatting may not be enough. As modern bot developers, we also want to provide a good experience for our users.



Lab 1.2 – QnA Maker with rich cards in .NET

It is quite common for bots to interpret natural language. But natural language processing (NLP) can get quite tricky and extracting semantic representations in text is still an open research. A solution around avoiding large use of text is to leverage a rich User Interface (UI).

For example, you could ask a user "what kind of pizza would you like?". This would result in a near infinite number of possible pizza varieties if you include all the combinations via free text. A more finite way of asking a user "what kind of pizza would you like?" is to present a list of options from which the user can select. This would avoid working with free text making the task of processing much easier for the Bot.

The aim of this lab is to demonstrate integration of user controls such as prompts, buttons and menus with bots.

For this next lab,

Documentation:

• Rich Cards - https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/bot-framework/dotnet/bot-builder-dotnet-add-rich-card-attachments

Learning Objectives

Upon completing this lab, you will have hands-on experience with the following functions and concepts related to Microsoft's Bot Framework.

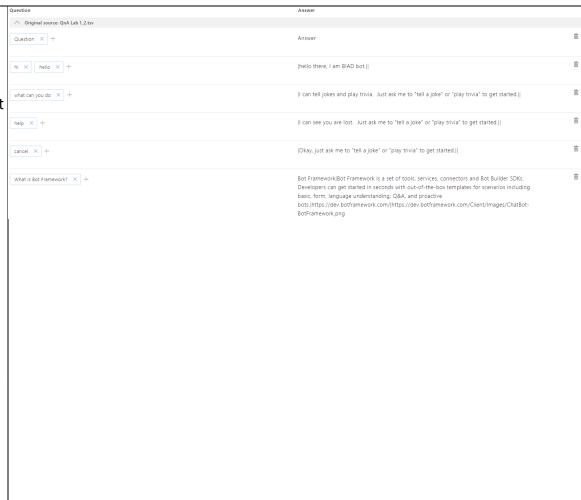
- Creating rich cards using .NET
- Working with simple markdown in QnA Maker to render rich card experiences

Adding delimiters to QnA and Rich Card Creation

Before adding any more code, we need to revisit our QnA service. The initial question answer pairs where we entered into the knowledge base were very direct – we entered a question, and provided the exact answer that we wanted a user to see from the service.

Since our goal is to format the response into a more visually appealing UI card for users, we need to re-think the way we are storing answers. An answer we store can be a simple text string, but a UI card is often composed of more elements of data. There could be a title, description, image, links, etc. all of which together provide the data we need to create a card attachment.

So, what we can do is use our knowledge base to not just store an answer, but we can also use the QnA service to store data. Below, we'll train and re-publish our knowledge base with one more question-answer pair, only this time we'll be formatting our answers to store more data.



In our new question-answer pair, we are to be rendered to our card, separated by vertical bars—or the "|" symbol. This is simply one format which is possible, you could also store your data in JSON format. However, it is trivia" to get started.|| Editorial recommended that you maintain a consistent format for your data in the knowledge base, for reasons which will become apparent soon as we develop the code in our demo bot.

NOTE: Here is an example of the .tsv file found in the:

Bots > QnA Maker Knowledgebase →

```
Ouestion
                                                      Answer Source
storing a title, description, URL, and image link hi | hello there, I am BIAD bot. | Editorial
                                          hello |hello there, I am BIAD bot.|| Editorial
                                          what can you do |I can tell jokes and play trivia. Just ask me to "tell a
                                           joke" or "play trivia" to get started.|| Editorial
                                                  |I can see you are lost. Just ask me to "tell a joke" or "play
                                           help
                                          cancel Okay, just ask me to "tell a joke" or "play trivia" to get
                                           started.|| Editorial
                                          What is Bot Framework? Bot Framework|Bot Framework is a set of tools,
                                          services, connectors and Bot Builder SDKs. Developers can get started in
                                          seconds with out-of-the-box templates for scenarios including basic, form,
                                           language understanding, Q&A, and proactive bots.
                                           nttps://dev.botframework.com/
                                           Editorial
```

Provided here, is an implementation of a hero card, using the data format we chose in our knowledge base. Replace the original **RootDialog.cs** code with what is provided on the right \rightarrow

Here's a breakdown of this implementation:

- 1. The RootDialog receives the activity from the MessagesController.
- 2. The RootDialog starts an asynchronous process and pass the context to the MessageReceivedAsync method.
- 3. This method then forwards the context to the QnaDialog to find a match in the KB.
- 4. After we find the result in QnaDialog, we pass the answer back to the RootDialog in the AfterOnA method.
- 5. This method builds a messages after meeting some conditions based upon whether an answer was available.
- 6. Because we defined our answer format previously in our knowledge base, we know that the data we want to capture is stored as string elements separated by a vertical bar ('|'), so we can use a string split to store each property separately.
- 7. A new HeroCard object called 'card' is created, the card is then formatted using the information from the QnA answer.

```
using Microsoft.Bot.Builder.Dialogs;
using Microsoft.Bot.Connector;
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Threading;
using System.Threading.Tasks;
namespace ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE.Dialogs
    [Serializable]
    public class RootDialog : IDialog<object>
        public Task StartAsync(IDialogContext context)
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
            return Task.CompletedTask;
        private async Task MessageReceivedAsync(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
            var activity = await result as Activity;
            await context.Forward(new QnaDialog(), AfterQnA, activity,
CancellationToken.None);
        private async Task AfterQnA(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
            string message = null;
            try
                message = (string)await result;
            catch (Exception e)
```

- 8. The card is added to the reply activity as an attachment, before being posted back to the user.
- Otherwise, we tell the user, "No good match was found in the KB" and echo back what the user said.

```
await context.PostAsync($"QnAMaker: {e.Message}");
                context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
            var answer = message;
           if (!string.IsNullOrEmpty(answer))
               Activity reply =
((Activity)context.Activity).CreateReply();
                string[] qnaAnswerData = answer.Split('|');
                string title = qnaAnswerData[0];
                string description = qnaAnswerData[1];
                string url = qnaAnswerData[2];
                string imageURL = qnaAnswerData[3];
                HeroCard card = new HeroCard
                   Title = title,
                    Subtitle = description,
                card.Buttons = new List<CardAction>
                    new CardAction(ActionTypes.OpenUrl, "Learn More",
value: url)
               };
               card.Images = new List<CardImage>
                    new CardImage( url = imageURL)
               reply.Attachments.Add(card.ToAttachment());
               await context.PostAsync(reply);
```

Now that we are using the **RootDialog** to handle some logic for QnA Maker we need to modify our **QnaDialog** code a bit.

Between line 23-35 in the MessageReceivedAsync method, the last line on 33

Await context.PostAsync(answer);

Remove await and modify the code as:

context.Done(answer);

This way we can bring the answer back to the AfterQnA method to handle the reply.

Finally, now that we know our QnA Maker service works, modify the **MessagesController** to pass the activity back to the **RootDialog** to handle the conditions from here on out.

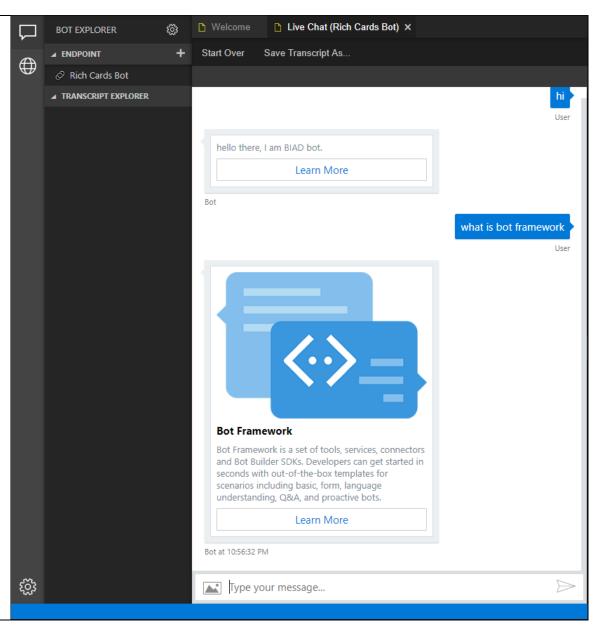
Restart the bot and emulator, and ask the latest question added to the knowledge base.

NOTE: Your emulator may report that your Bot code is not working. It may be an issue with your KB in which vertical bars have not been added to every answer or you may need to disable security and test on localhost. Visit Web.config and comment out your MicrosoftAppId and MicrosoftAppPassword for now to see if that fixes it.

```
<appSettings>
  <!--<add key="BotId" value="YourBotId" />-->
  <!--<add key="MicrosoftAppId" value="" />-->
  <!--<add key="MicrosoftAppPassword" value="" />-->
  <add key="QnAHost" value="ENTER_HOST_URL_HERE" />
  <add key="QnAEndPointKey" value="ENTER_ENDPOINT_KEY_HERE" />
  <add key="QnAKnowledgebaseId" value="ENTER_KNOWLEDGE_BASE_ID_HERE" />
  </appSettings>
```

Documentation:

 https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/bot-framework/bot-service-troubleshootauthentication-problems Awesome! We're now successfully using our QnA service to not only serve answers, but to store data which we can use in a meaningful way. As mentioned before, it is recommended that a consistent data format is used in the QnA service. The card was format defined in our bot was specific to the format we used in the knowledge base. If multiple data formats were defined, more logic would need to be implemented to handle differences in data formats the QnA service could respond with.



Extra Exercise

Your bot now only responds to in a specific format:

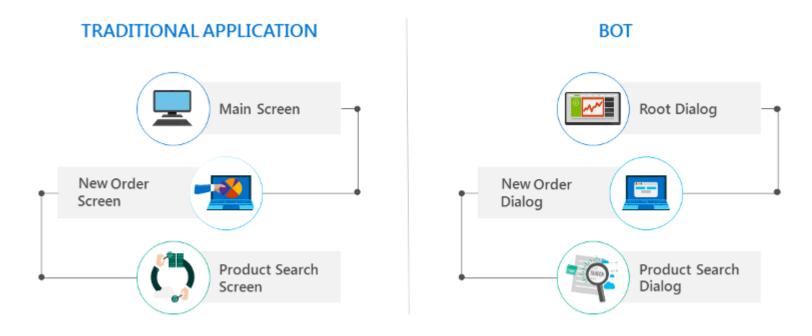
• E.g.: |description||

• E.g.: title|description|url|imageurl

Unfortunately, your bot now renders a card even if no other content exists. Your mission—should you choose to accept this challenge—time permitting, develop the logic to handle these exceptions and render an answer without a card when no specific format exists.

Lab 2 – Interacting with the user – Multiple Dialogs

This diagram shows the screen flow of a traditional application compared to the dialog flow of a bot.



In a traditional application, everything begins with the main screen. The main screen invokes the new order screen. The new order screen remains in control until it either closes or invokes other screens. If the new order screen closes, the user is returned to the main screen.

In a bot, everything begins with the root dialog. The root dialog invokes the new order dialog. At that point, the new order dialog takes control of the conversation and remains in control until it either closes or invokes other dialogs. If the new order dialog closes, control of the conversation is returned back to the root dialog.

This lab describes how to model this conversation flow by using dialogs and the Bot Builder SDK for .NET.

Learning Objectives

Upon completing this lab, you will have hands-on experience with the following functions and concepts related to Microsoft's Bot Framework.

- Build a parent-child dialog hierarchy.
- Invoke child dialogs when conditions are met and take users back to the root dialog to handle the next activity.

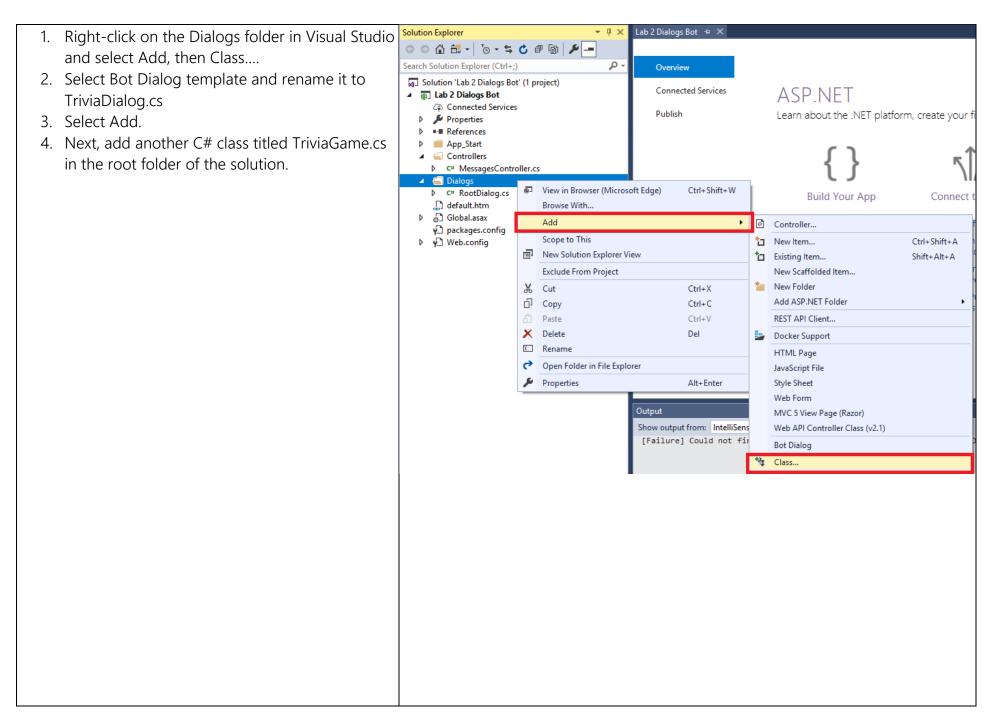
Invoking multiples dialogs

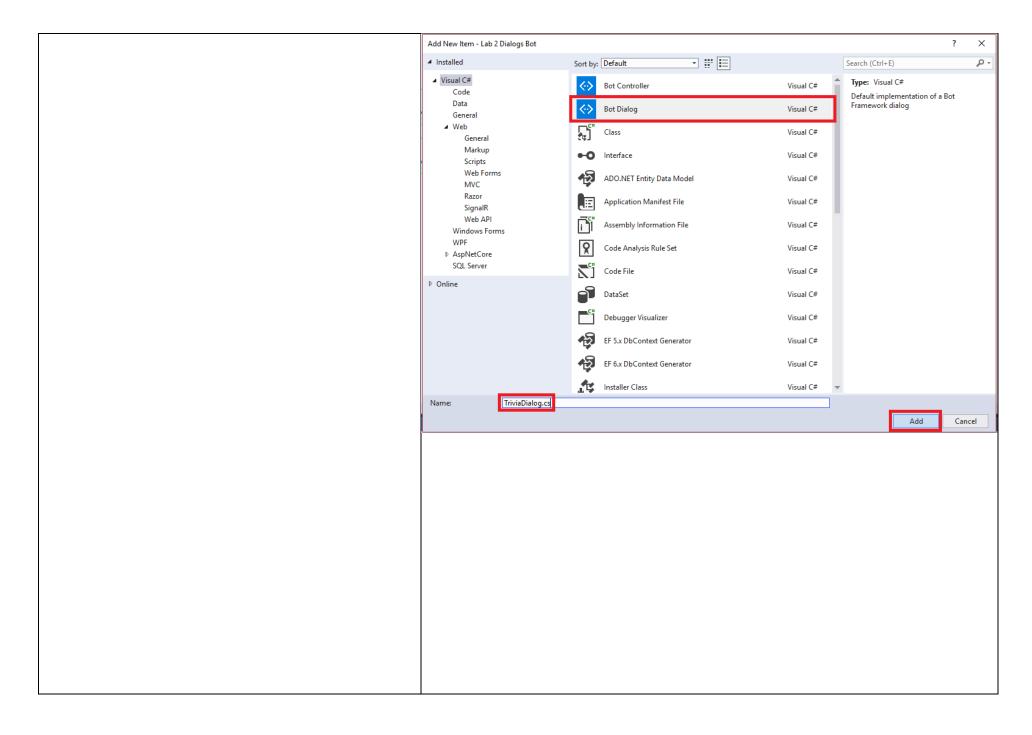
We can begin by setting up a new Bot template or working with the existing solution. If starting a new project, make sure to copy over the **RootDialog.cs** and **QnaDialog.cs** in your Dialogs folder as well as the **QnaMaker** C# class file and **Web.config** app settings configuration.

NOTE: Be careful to preserve the namespace!

You may need to install the RestSharp new NuGet package again.

In this lab, we will modify the bot to have parent (**RootDialog**) and child dialogs. And pass along the message if the user response does not meet certain conditions.





NOTE: You should now have three/four Solution Explorer dialogs: RootDialog, QnaDialog, & **TriviaDialog** and one new C# Class item called Search Solution Explorer (Ctrl+;) TriviaGame (and QnAMaker C# class Solution 'Lab 2 Multiple Dialogs Bot' (1 project) depending on where you put it within your ▲ ■ Lab 2 Multiple Dialogs Bot solution). Connected Services Properties ■·■ References App_Start Controllers C# MessagesController.cs Dialogs C# QnaDialog.cs C# QnAMaker.cs C# RootDialog.cs C# TriviaDialog.cs 🔝 default.htm ₲☐ Global.asax packages.config C# TriviaGame.cs Web.config The **TriviaDialog.cs** looks like this → using System; using System.Collections.Generic; using System.Threading.Tasks; **NOTE:** Code snippets! 😂 using Microsoft.Bot.Builder.Dialogs; using Microsoft.Bot.Connector; namespace ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE.Dialogs [Serializable] public class TriviaDialog : IDialog<string> private TriviaGame _game = null; public async Task StartAsync(IDialogContext context) Start a game... Welcome the user. Post the question as a Choice Card. Wait for Input from the user. Reply back with the answer they chose. If the answer is correct, say so. Otherwise, say they're wrong. Update the user with the current score.

```
await context.PostAsync($"Welcome to Trivia, Let's play...");
            _game = new TriviaGame("");
            await context.PostAsync(_game.CurrentQuestion().Question);
            await context.PostAsync(MakeChoiceCard(context,
 game.CurrentQuestion()));
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
       /// <summary>
               Here we'll check the user's answer and post the next
question until there are no more questions
       /// </summary>
       /// <param name="context">The current chat context</param>
       /// <param name="result">The IAwaitable result</param>
        /// <returns></returns>
        private async Task MessageReceivedAsync(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
            var activity = (IMessageActivity)await result;
            await context.PostAsync($"You chose: {activity.Text}");
            int usersAnswer = -1;
            if (int.TryParse(activity.Text, out usersAnswer))
               if (_game.Answer(usersAnswer))
                    await context.PostAsync("Correct!");
                else
                    await context.PostAsync("Sorry, that's wrong :-(");
                await context.PostAsync($"Your score is:
 game.Score()}/{_game._questions.Count}. Next question!");
```

Move to the next question.

Until all trivia questions have been answered...

Then, thank them for playing.

Else,

...if they enter any unexpected answer, tell the user as such.

This activity assembles the Choice Card for use in the trivia game.

Make sure to initialize the attachments to add buttons to the activity message.

Create a new Hero Card

For each CardAction, add a choice from the question to the actions (buttons). Later—index those choices.

Format the card, then post it back to the user.

```
TriviaQuestion nextQuestion = game.MoveToNextQuestion();
               if (nextQuestion != null)
                   await context.PostAsync(nextQuestion.Question);
                   await context.PostAsync(MakeChoiceCard(context,
nextQuestion));
                    context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
                else
                   await context.PostAsync("That's it! :-)");
                   context.Done("");
           else
               await context.PostAsync("I didn't quite get that, I am
only programmed to accept numbers :-(");
               context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
       private IMessageActivity MakeChoiceCard(IDialogContext context,
TriviaQuestion question)
           var activity = context.MakeMessage();
           // make sure the attachments have been initialized, we use the
attachments to add buttons to the activity message
           if (activity.Attachments == null)
               activity.Attachments = new List<Attachment>();
           var actions = new List<CardAction>();
            int choiceIndex = 0;
           foreach (string item in question.Choices)
```

The PostBack means the value will be sent back to the dialog as if the user typed it but it will be hidden from the chat window.

Add the Hero Card to "hold" the buttons and add it to the message activities attachments.

```
actions.Add(new CardAction
                   Title = $"({choiceIndex}) {item}",
                   Value = $"{choiceIndex}",
                   Type = ActionTypes.PostBack // PostBack means the
Value will be sent back to the dialog as if the user typed it but it will
be hidden from the chat window
               });
               choiceIndex++;
           activity.Attachments.Add(
               new HeroCard
                   Title = $"Choose One",
                   Buttons = actions
               }.ToAttachment()
           );
           return activity;
```

```
The TriviaGame.cs looks like this →
                                            using System;
                                            using System.Collections.Generic;
                                            using System.Linq;
                                            using System.Web;
                                            namespace ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE
                                                [Serializable]
                                                public class TriviaGame
                                                    private string _playersName;
                                                    private int _currentQuestion = 0;
                                                    private int[] _usersAnswers = new int[] { -1, -1, -1 };
                                                    public List<TriviaQuestion> _questions = new List<TriviaQuestion>
                                                        new TriviaQuestion()
                                                            Index = 0,
                                                            Answer = 3,
                                                            Question = "How many pieces of contemporary art is in
                                            Microsoft's collection?",
                                                            Choices = new string[] { "0", "1000", "3000", "5000",
                                            "10000"}
                                                        },
                                                        new TriviaQuestion()
                                                            Index = 1,
                                                            Answer = 2,
                                                            Question = "In 2016, Microsoft made a major breakthrough,
                                            equaling that of humans, in what?",
                                                            Choices = new string[] {"Writing Song Lyrics", "Derby Car
                                            Racing", "Speech Recognition", "Predicting American Idol Winners"}
                                                        new TriviaQuestion()
```

```
Index = 2,
                Answer = 1,
                Question = "Annually, approximately how much money does
Microsoft spend on R&D?",
                Choices = new string[] {"$111 billion","$11 billion","$1
billion","$1 dollar"}
        };
        public TriviaGame(string playersName)
            _playersName = playersName;
        public TriviaQuestion CurrentQuestion()
            return _questions.Where(q => q.Index ==
_currentQuestion).FirstOrDefault();
        public TriviaQuestion MoveToNextQuestion()
            _currentQuestion++;
            if (_currentQuestion < _questions.Count())</pre>
                return CurrentQuestion();
            else
                _currentQuestion--;
                return null;
        public TriviaQuestion MoveToPreviousQuestion()
```

```
_currentQuestion--;
            if (_currentQuestion > 0)
                return CurrentQuestion();
            else
                _currentQuestion = 0;
                return null;
        public TriviaQuestion MoveToFirstQuestion()
           _currentQuestion = 0;
           return CurrentQuestion();
        public bool Answer(int answer)
            _usersAnswers[_currentQuestion] = answer;
           return _usersAnswers[_currentQuestion] ==
_questions[_currentQuestion].Answer;
        public int Score()
            return _questions.Where(q => _usersAnswers[q.Index] ==
q.Answer).Count();
    [Serializable]
    public class TriviaQuestion
        public int Index { get; set; }
        public int Answer { get; set; }
```

public string Question { get; set; }
 public string[] Choices { get; set; }
}

Back in the **RootDialog**, we will create an **AfterTrivia** method; then, add extra condition in the **AfterQnA** method to handle the case if a user utters "trivia".

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Threading;
using System.Threading.Tasks;
using Microsoft.Bot.Builder.Dialogs;
using Microsoft.Bot.Connector;
namespace ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE.Dialogs
    [Serializable]
    public class RootDialog : IDialog<object>
        public Task StartAsync(IDialogContext context)
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
            return Task.CompletedTask;
        private async Task MessageReceivedAsync(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
            var activity = await result as Activity;
            try
                await context.Forward(new QnaDialog(), AfterQnA, activity,
CancellationToken.None);
            catch (Exception e)
                // If an error occurred with OnA Maker Service, post it
                await context.PostAsync(e.Message);
                // Wait for the next message from the user
                context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
```

private async Task AfterTrivia(IDialogContext context, IAwaitable<string> result) await context.PostAsync("Thanks for playing!"); context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync); private async Task AfterQnA(IDialogContext context, IAwaitable<object> result) string message = null; try message = (string)await result; catch (Exception e) await context.PostAsync(\$"QnAMaker: {e.Message}"); context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync); // If the message summary - NOT_FOUND, then it's time to echo if (message == null) if (message.ToLowerInvariant().Contains("trivia")) // Since we are not needing to pass any message to start trivia, we can use call instead of forward context.Call(new TriviaDialog(), AfterTrivia); else

This argument defines the IF statement when the messaged received contains the word "trivia," then call the **TriviaDialog**.

In case you got stuck on the extra exercise after Lab 1_2 Rich Cards Bot, we provided some simple logic to handle the condition when the first element of the string is *null* or *empty*, trim the vertical bars and post the reply—otherwise render a card.

```
await context.PostAsync($"You said: \"{message}\"");
                    context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
            else
                var answer = message;
               if (!string.IsNullOrEmpty(answer))
                    Activity reply =
((Activity)context.Activity).CreateReply();
                    string[] qnaAnswerData = answer.Split('|');
                    string title = qnaAnswerData[0];
                    string description = qnaAnswerData[1];
                    string url = qnaAnswerData[2];
                    string imageURL = qnaAnswerData[3];
                    if (title == "")
                        char charsToTrim = '|';
                        await context.PostAsync(answer.Trim(charsToTrim));
                    else
                        HeroCard card = new HeroCard
                            Title = title,
                            Subtitle = description,
```

to let the user down easier than an abrupt "No knowledge found" with an echo.

```
card.Buttons = new List<CardAction>
                                                                    new CardAction(ActionTypes.OpenUrl, "Learn More",
                                            value: url)
                                                                };
                                                                    card.Images = new List<CardImage>
                                                                    new CardImage( url = imageURL)
                                                                    reply.Attachments.Add(card.ToAttachment());
                                                                    await context.PostAsync(reply);
                                                            else
                                                                await context.PostAsync("Sorry, I am having trouble
Here we've further modified the last condition finding the answer to that. Try again later.");
                                                            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
```

Great, now we're movin!

Now, that you have implemented the Trivia Game, it is time to test it. How many answers can you get right?

This Trivia Game is so fun we want to know what other users think. So, we should take the opportunity ask them to fill out a survey and ask them how satisfied they are.

We will use the FormFlow tool to build a simple survey in a later lab.

However, before we do, we need a better way of surfacing this new feature to our users. One of the challenges in Conversational app development is how to "advertise" what experiences our bot can deliver to the end user without getting in the way. One of the best practices is to surface what services our bot can offer by proactively prompting the user.

Let's learn how to build adaptive cards to create this experience.

Lab 2.1 - Interacting with the user – Adaptive Cards

It is quite common for bots to interpret natural language. But natural language processing (NLP) can get quite tricky and extracting semantic representations in text is still an open research. A solution around avoiding large use of text is to leverage a rich User Interface (UI).

For example, you could ask a user "what kind of pizza would you like?". This would result in a near infinite number of possible pizza varieties if you include all the combinations via free text. A more finite way of asking a user "what kind of pizza would you like?" is to present a list of options from which the user can select. This would avoid working with free text making the task of processing much easier for the Bot.

The aim of this lab is to demonstrate integration of user controls such as prompts, buttons and menus with bots.

For this next lab,

Navigate to: https://adaptivecards.io

Read the documentation:

• https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/adaptive-cards/

Warning: Adaptive Cards is currently under development. While it is in preview, Microsoft is seeking feedback and says to expect a few rough edges.

Steps Screenshots / Notes Adaptive cards are an open card exchange Chat format enabling developers to exchange UI context in a common and consistent way. **How they work:** Card authors describe their content as a simple JSON object. That content can then be rendered natively inside a Host Application, automatically adapting to the look and feel of the Host. In this example, http://contososcubabot.azurewebsites.net/ the bot uses an active card to proactively provide the user with some suggestions on how to get started. Hi! I'm Contoso Dive Finder! With the Bot Framework you can write a single bot that is able to chat with users across I'll help you schedule a scuba getaway! multiple channels like Skype, Facebook Messenger, Slack, etc. Start with something like: 'Where can I go scuba diving?' You can navigate to https://adaptivecard.io and 'Show me some local wildlife.' spend some time exploring the main rules and You can also 'restart' anytime. features of the JSON format in the schema explorer. ContosoScubaBot at 12:30:03 AM The visualizer provides a helpful way to edit the Type your message... JSON and visualize the object as you are editing.

We need some way of proactively telling our user what we can do.

Let's build a card that tells them just that.

The **MyCard.json** example is available in your BIAD content folder, but customize it as you'd like:

The JSON to the right would build something like this →

BIAD Bot



Hello there!

Thanks for stopping by! I've got jokes and I've got smarts. Select and option below to get started, or type "start over" at any time to select a new option.

Tell me jokes

Tell me trivia

None of these

```
"$schema": "http://adaptivecards.io/schemas/adaptive-card.json",
"type": "AdaptiveCard",
"version": "1.0",
"body": [
        "type": "Container",
        "items": [
                "type": "TextBlock",
                "text": "BIAD Bot",
                "weight": "bolder",
                "size": "large"
                "type": "ColumnSet",
                "columns": [
                        "type": "Column",
                        "width": "auto",
                        "items": [
                                "type": "Image",
```

```
"url": "https://www.microsoftevents.com/accounts/register123/microsoft/msft-v1/c-and-
e/events/mtc-155940/eventfiles/image.png",
                                    "size": "small",
                                    "style": "person"
                            "type": "Column",
                            "width": "stretch",
                            "items": [
                                    "type": "TextBlock",
                                    "text": "Hello there!",
                                    "weight": "bolder",
                                    "size": "medium",
                                    "wrap": true
                                    "type": "TextBlock",
                                    "spacing": "none",
                                    "text": "",
                                    "isSubtle": true,
                                    "wrap": true
            "type": "Container",
            "items": [
                    "type": "TextBlock",
```

```
"text": "Thanks for stopping by! I've got jokes and I've got smarts. Select and option below to get
started, or type \"start over\" at any time to select a new option.",
                    "wrap": true
                    "type": "FactSet",
                    "facts": [
                            "title": "",
                            "value": ""
                            "title": "",
                            "value": ""
                            "title": "",
                            "value": ""
                       },
                            "title": "",
                            "value": ""
   ],
    "actions": [
            "type": "Action.Submit",
            "title": "Tell me jokes",
            "card": {
                "type": "AdaptiveCard",
                "body": [
```

```
"type": "Input.Text",
            "id": "tellJoke",
            "title": "Tell me jokes"
    ],
    "actions": [
            "type": "Action.Submit",
            "title": "OK"
"type": "Action.Submit",
"title": "Tell me trivia",
"card": {
    "type": "AdaptiveCard",
    "body": [
            "type": "Input.Text",
            "id": "tellTrivia",
            "title": "Tell me trivia"
    ],
    "actions": [
            "type": "Action.Submit",
            "title": "OK"
"type": "Action.Submit",
"title": "None of these",
```

You will also need to right-click on project and manage NuGet Packages.

Search for Newtonsoft. Json and Adaptive Cards (v1.0.0 by Adaptive Cards).

Update and install packages.

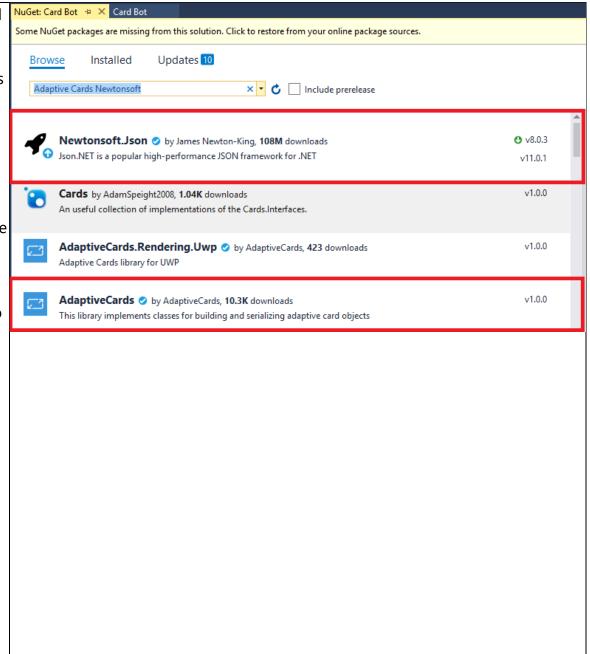
Next, you can add the JSON to a new folder called AdaptiveCards in the root folder of the project or directly to the root of the project like your **TriviaGame.cs**

But, since the path is local for the purpose of this lab, remember the path will be required to render the card properly.

NOTE: At the time of this writing, there has been significant breaking changes from previous versions.

- Package renamed from Microsoft.AdaptiveCards to AdaptiveCards
- All model classes have been prefixed with "Adaptive". E.g., TextBlock is now AdaptiveTextBlock

To see examples and read about more of these changes, visit: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/adaptive-cards/create/libraries/net



in this exercise, we will learn how to parse an AdaptiveCard from JSON. This makes it easy to manipulate the object model or even render Adaptive Cards inside your app by using renderer SDKs.

Try adding this code snippet to replace your HandleSystemMessage activities in the MessagesController.cs to parse the JSON you created.

NOTE: You can use a local destination for the purpose of this exercise. In production the JSON files would most likely be hosted in Azure Blob Storage.

The bot is always added as a user of the conversation. Since, we don't want to display the adaptive card twice, ignore the second conversation update triggered by the bot.

Try to read the JSON from our newly created MyCard.json.

Use **Newtonsoft.JsonConvert** to deserialize the JSON into a C# Adaptive Card object.

Put the Adaptive Card as an attachment to the reply message.

```
Now that MyCard.json is added to the project, private async Task HandleSystemMessage(Activity message)
                                                        if (message.Type == ActivityTypes.DeleteUserData)
                                                            // Implement user deletion here
                                                        else if (message.Type == ActivityTypes.ConversationUpdate)
                                                            IConversationUpdateActivity update = message;
                                                            using (var scope =
                                            DialogModule.BeginLifetimeScope(Conversation.Container, message))
                                                                var client = scope.Resolve<IConnectorClient>();
                                                                if (update.MembersAdded.Any())
                                                                    var reply = message.CreateReply();
                                                                    foreach (var newMember in update.MembersAdded)
                                                                        if (newMember.Name.ToLower() != "bot")
                                                                            try
                                                                                 string json =
                                            File.ReadAllText(HttpContext.Current.Request.MapPath("~\\AdaptiveCards\\My
                                            Card.json"));
                                                                                AdaptiveCards.AdaptiveCard card =
                                            JsonConvert.DeserializeObject<AdaptiveCards.AdaptiveCard>(json);
                                                                                reply.Attachments.Add(new Attachment
                                                                                    ContentType =
                                            AdaptiveCard.ContentType,
                                                                                    Content = card
                                                                                });
                                                                            catch (Exception e)
```

If an error occurs, add the error text as the message.

Now that we have the JSON file in our project and it is properly populating at launch from the MessagesController, we need the RootDialog to understand a button click action.

| Var activity = | Var activity =

Try to parse the JSON value to a string, where that token equals an "action"

In the case that the user clicks the "Tell me jokes" button, tell them I am currently working on this feature. Stay tuned.

JToken valueToken = jobject.Parse(activity.Value.ToString()); string actionValue =

In the case that the user clicks the "Play some trivia" button, call the **TriviaDialog** and start the game.

In any other case, report to the user that I do not know how to handle that action.

Add another case to handle the "None of these" button action.

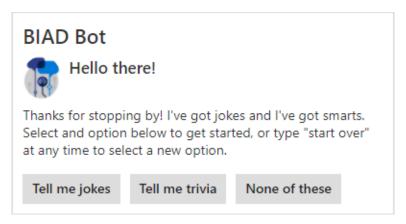
```
private async Task MessageReceivedAsync(IDialogContext context,
            var activity = await result as Activity;
            try
                if (activity.Value != null)
                    JToken valueToken =
                    string actionValue = valueToken.SelectToken("action")
!= null ? valueToken.SelectToken("action").ToString() : string.Empty;
                    if (!string.IsNullOrEmpty(actionValue))
                        switch
(valueToken.SelectToken("action").ToString())
                            case "jokes":
                                await context.PostAsync("Sorry, I'm
learning new jokes. Come back later.");
                                break;
                            case "trivia":
                                context.Call(new TriviaDialog(),
AfterTrivia);
                                break;
                            default:
                                await context.PostAsync($"I don't know how
to handle the action \"{actionValue}\".");
                                context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
                                break;
                    else
```

Otherwise, tell the user I am having trouble with my JSON (because I am in preview).

Else, try the **QnaDialog** for anything else and forward it to the **QnaDialog** if the threshold is met.

Extra Exercise

Your bot now proactively prompts the user by showing an Adaptive Card to help the user get started. Your bot also manages the multiple dialogs by calling QnA Maker first; then, if no conditions are met, the message is sent back to the **RootDialog** to call additional dialogs. Your JSON card gives them a couple of options but we have not created a 'jokes' dialog.:



Create the JokesDialog and develop the additional logic in the Root Dialog to handle this.

Reading for Scorable Dialogs

One of the features of using Dialogs is that it encourages developers to define a conversational hierarchy.

This makes sense in some user scenarios where it is important to progress through a certain set of steps before reaching an outcome. It does, however have some limitations in that being explicit about the conversation hierarchy results in a conversation which is inflexible and often does not respond to the whim of the user. Scorables are a Bot Framework mechanism by which you can compose different parts of conversations without hardcoding the hierarchy. This composition allows a fluid user experience which is akin to a natural conversation.

The benefits of composing chatbot conversations in this way are:

- Users can access different parts of the conversation without knowing the route to get there.
- Users do not have to 'back track' conversations.

A developer wishing to implement scorable conversations should,

- Provide 1 or more implementations of Microsoft.Bot.Builder.Scorables.Internals.ScorableBase.
 See https://github.com/Microsoft/BotFramework-Samples/tree/master/blog-samples/CSharp/ScorableBotSample for examples of this.
- 2. Make the Autofac IOC container aware of our scorable implementations. See Global.asax.cs for this.

In practice, the Bot Framework runtime will:

- 1. For each scorable implementation:
 - Call HasScore()
 - If HasScore() is true, then call GetScore()
- 2. Compare the results of GetScore() from each scorable implementation
- 3. Call PostAsync() on highest scorable
- 4. Call DoneAsync() on all scorables

Lab 3 – Building Forms with FormFlow and Language Understanding with Microsoft Cognitive Services

A FormFlow allows us to define a set of fields which the Bot Framework then handles building a dialog for us to collect data for each field. You can view the documentation (and a very good sandwich builder example) at the below link:

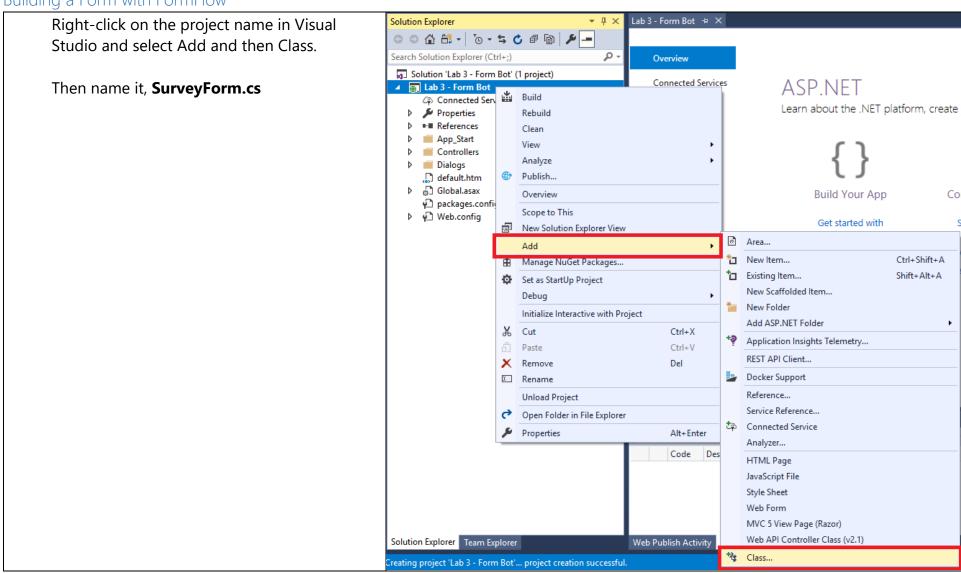
• https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/bot-framework/dotnet/bot-builder-dotnet-formflow

For our example, we will use a FormFlow to collect information regarding the user which will be requesting support from our bot. We would like to collect the following pieces of information:

- Name
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Department

To use a FormFlow, we first need to create a class with the fields defined we would like to collect.

Building a Form with FormFlow



Make sure to use the FormFlow directive then replace the boilerplate code with this →

The code is defining a **SurveyForm** class that contains data elements that the Bot Framework will collect. It asks for the fields in the order that they are defined in the class by default so it will start with **Name**, then **Phone Number**, and so on...

C# attributes can be used to provide guidance to the FormFlow regarding how to gather the data. We use two attributes here:

- Prompt tells the FormFlow what text to use to request the data from the user. The {&} pattern in the Prompt string tells it to fill in the name of the field in that location. So, where it says, "Please enter your {&}." for the Name field it will ask the user to "Please enter your name."
- Pattern tells the FormFlow to use a regular expression to validate the data entered. In this case, we are using regular expression to validate that the value entered for EmailAddress is truly a valid email address.

Up to the challenge? – Add the logic to do the same for the PhoneNumber

Enums can be used in the **Department** field by declaring its data type to be **DepartmentOptions**.

```
using System;
using Microsoft.Bot.Builder.FormFlow;
namespace [ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE]
   public enum DepartmentOptions
        Accounting,
        AdministrativeSupport,
        IT
    [Serializable]
    public class SurveyForm
        [Prompt("Please enter your {&}.")]
        public string Name;
        [Prompt("Please enter your {&}.")]
        public string PhoneNumber;
        [Prompt("Please enter your {&}.")]
        [Pattern(@"[A-Za-z0-9._%+-]+@[A-Za-z0-9.-]+\.[A-Za-z]{2,}")]
        public string EmailAddress;
        [Prompt("What {&} do you work in? {||}.")]
        public DepartmentOptions? Department;
        public static IForm<SurveyForm> BuildForm()
            return new FormBuilder<SurveyForm>().Build();
```

The final piece for this class is to add a method (in this case called **BuildForm**) that uses the **FormBuilder** class to return a form built from the class as it was defined above.

After your **RootDialog** attempts to take an action from the Adaptive Card we set up in the previous lab and scores the **QnaDialog**, the next method should be to ask users if they would like to take a survey after playing trivia.

The method should look like this \rightarrow

The Boolean case moves along if the user says IAwaitable<bool> result) no.

If the user says, yes, we call the **SurveyDialog** for them to fill out the form.

We take them to **AfterSurvey** in the **RootDialog** once they are complete.

NOTE: Use the lab solutions for reference.

Finally, add this to the **RootDialog** →

This should come directly after the previous method above.

```
private async Task AfterTrivia(IDialogContext context, IAwaitable<string>
           await context.PostAsync("Thanks for playing!");
           PromptDialog.Confirm(context, AfterAskingAboutSurvey, "Would
you like to take a survey?");
        private async Task AfterAskingAboutSurvey(IDialogContext context,
           bool takeSurvey = await result;
           if (!takeSurvey)
                context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
            else
                var survey = new FormDialog<SurveyForm>(new SurveyForm(),
SurveyForm.BuildForm, FormOptions.PromptInStart, null);
                context.Call<SurveyForm>(survey, AfterSurvey);
        private async Task AfterSurvey(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<SurveyForm> result)
           SurveyForm survey = await result;
            await context.PostAsync("Thanks for taking the survey!");
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
```

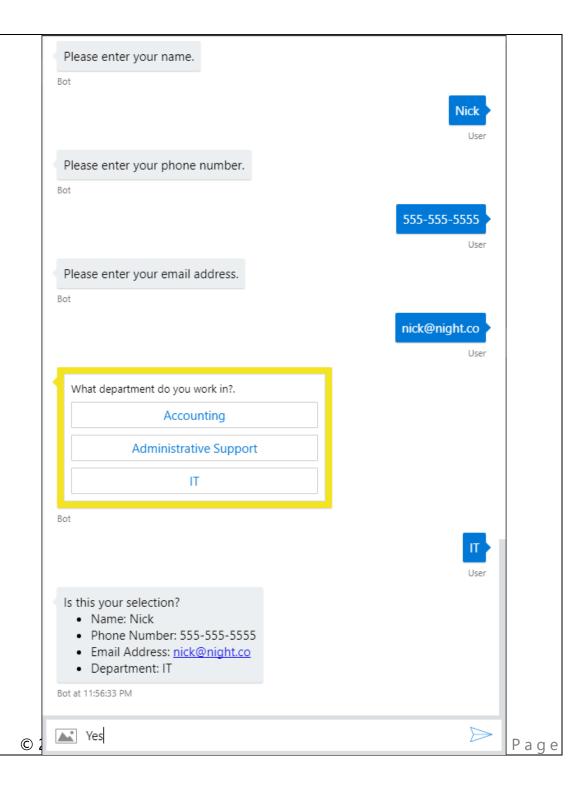
That was simple!

Testing your bot, you should get a similar experience as seen here →

The survey will only be triggered **AfterTrivia**.

We have only scratched the surface, but as we've seen here, Dialogs are very powerful and flexible, but handling guided conversation such as ordering a sandwich can require a lot of effort. At each point in the conversation, there are many possibilities of what will happen next.

For example, you may need to clarify an ambiguity, provide help, go back, or show progress. By using FormFlow within the Bot Builder SDK for .NET, you can greatly simplify the process of managing a guided conversation like this.



Version 5.18

FormFlow automatically generates the dialogs that are necessary to manage a guided conversation, based upon guidelines that you specify. Although using FormFlow sacrifices some of the flexibility that you might otherwise get by creating and managing dialogs on your own, designing a guided conversation using FormFlow can significantly reduce the time it takes to develop your bot. Additionally, you may construct your bot using a combination of FormFlow-generated dialogs and other types of dialogs. For example, a FormFlow dialog may guide the user through the process of completing a form, while a LuisDialog may evaluate user input to determine intent.

That's what we plan to do next...

Basic features:

 https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/bot-framework/dotnet/bot-builderdotnet-formflow

Advanced features:

 https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/bot-framework/dotnet/bot-builderdotnet-formflow-advanced

Sample of a simple sandwich bot:

https://github.com/Microsoft/BotBuilder/tree/master/CSharp/Samples/SimpleSandwichBot

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Lab 3.1 – Interpreting Emotional Sentiment using Language Understanding (LUIS) with Cognitive Services

Language Understanding service (LUIS) allows your application to understand what a person wants in their own words. LUIS uses machine learning to allow developers to build applications that can receive user input in natural language and extract meaning from it.

Learning Objectives

Upon completing this lab, you will have hands-on experience with the following functions and concepts related to Microsoft's Bot Framework.

- Integrate LUIS with a bot using .NET
- Build, train, test, and publish a LUIS app programmatically

A LUIS app is a domain-specific language model designed by you and tailored to your needs. You can start with a prebuilt domain model, build your own, or blend pieces of a prebuilt domain with your own custom information.

A model starts with a list of general user intentions such as "Book Flight" or "Contact Help Desk." Once the intentions are identified, you supply example phrases called utterances for the intents. Then you label the utterances with any specific details you want LUIS to pull out of the utterance.

After the model is designed, trained, and published, it is ready to receive and process utterances. The LUIS app receives the utterance as an HTTP request and responds with extracted user intentions. Your client application sends the utterance and receives LUIS's evaluation as a JSON object. Your client app can then take appropriate action.

Key LUIS concepts

Intents - An intent represents actions the user wants to perform. The intent is a purpose or goal expressed in a user's input, such as booking a flight, paying a bill, or finding a news article. You define and name intents that correspond to these actions. A travel app may define an intent named "BookFlight."

<u>Utterances</u> - An utterance is text input from the user that your app needs to understand. It may be a sentence, like "Book a ticket to Paris", or a fragment of a sentence, like "Booking" or "Paris flight." Utterances aren't always well-formed, and there can be many utterance variations for a particular intent.

<u>Entities</u> - An entity represents detailed information that is relevant in the utterance. For example, in the utterance "Book a ticket to Paris", "Paris" is a location. By recognizing and labeling the entities that are mentioned in the user's utterance, LUIS helps you choose the specific action to take to answer a user's request.



Create your LUIS app

In this lab we will be adding one additional question to the survey. The aim of this question would be to measure the emotional sentiment of the user's statement after playing our trivia game. Essentially, we want to know how "positive", "negative", or "neutral" the user statement is and respond with a statement empathetic to that sentiment.

e.g.: If the user said, "I got really bored with it.", we would want the bot to respond to the negative sentiment by saying something like, "I'm sorry to hear that. I will certainly try harder next time.

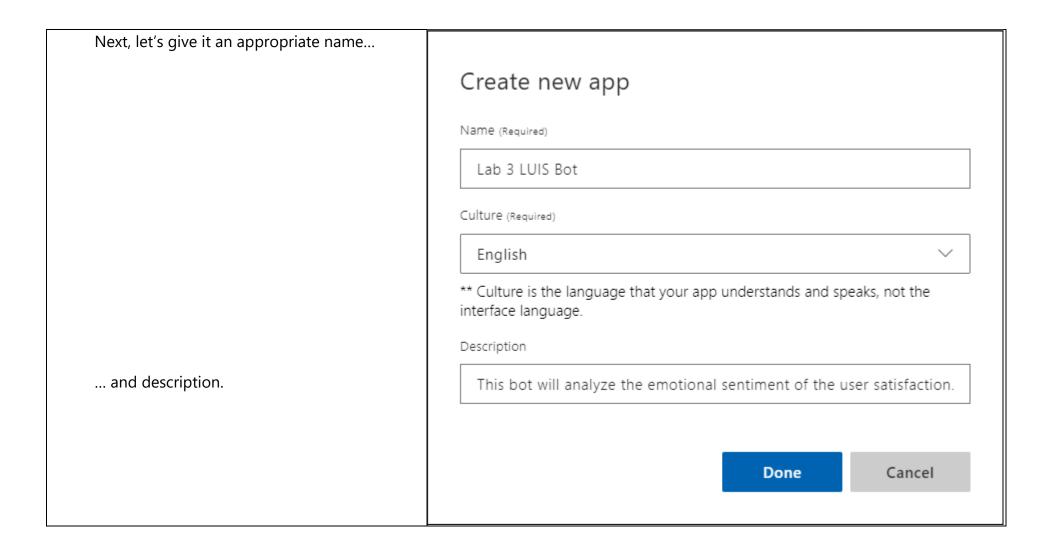
Keep in mind this is our use, but the power of LUIS is that we can measure the emotional sentiment of any statement if we so desired.

For a customer-facing bot, if a conversation is turning negative, we can have a human intercept the conversation before a customer is lost. So, we will start this lab by navigating to: https://luis.ai

Then, select 'Create new app'

Then, select 'Create new app'

The sel



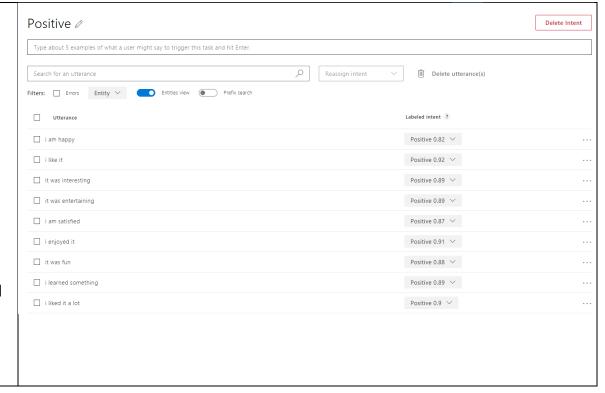
You will notice the LUIS app comes with a pre-Lab 3 LUIS Bot (V 0.1) V defined intent "None". △ App Assets Intents ® In the bottom-left you can explore the more than 20 pre-built domains LUIS is already has domain expertise in to help you build more advanced language understanding in your applications. This is the same language understanding engine that powers Cortana! For now, we will select "Create new intent." Begin by adding the first intent. Create new intent For the purpose of this lab, we will be adding a "positive", "neutral", and Intent name (Required) "negative." Positive But, if you are up to the challenge you are certainly welcome to build a more sophisticated language model. Cancel Done

Some examples of utterances with positive intent are:

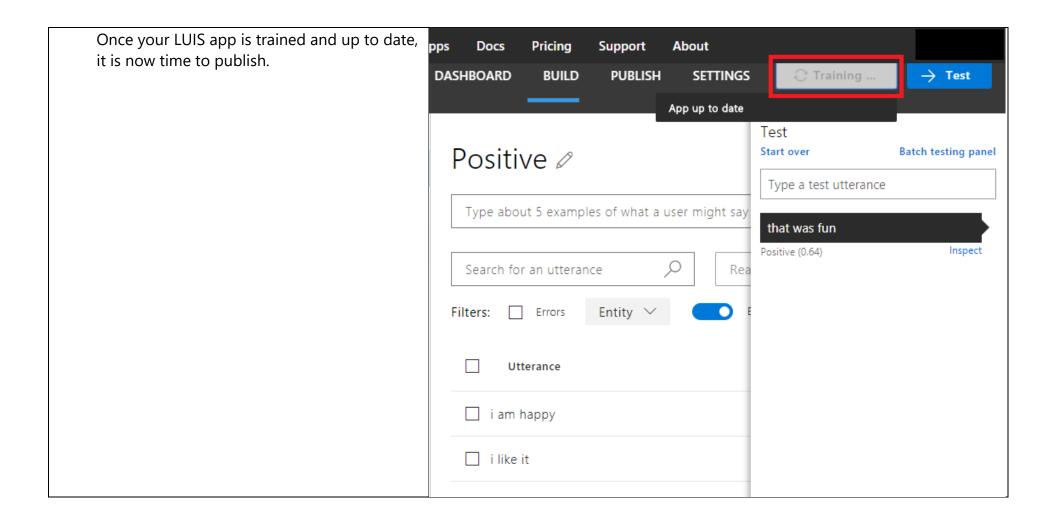
- I am happy
- I like it
- It was interesting
- It was entertaining
- I am satisfied
- I enjoyed it
- It was fun
- I learned something
- I liked it a lot

Just be sure to add at least 5 utterances, like QnA Maker, you can always go back and add more later.

To save time, you can import the **LUIS Bot – BIAD.json** and explore this later.



Now it is time to test train and publish your Pricing Docs Support **About** LUIS app. Train \rightarrow Test **DASHBOARD BUILD PUBLISH** SETTINGS You can test utterances in the Test window, and re-assign intent if you receive intents from Test utterances you so desire. Start over Batch testing panel Positive 🗸 Type a test utterance Keep in mind, every time you add a new utterance you must retrain and re-publish your Type about 5 examples of what a user might say app in order to experience the changes. that was fun Positive (0.64) Inspect Search for an utterance Rea Entity > Filters: Errors Utterance i am happy i like it



Finally, we can publish this LUIS app to our Publish app ? staging area. Published version: 0.1 Published date: Mar 19, 2018, 12:18:50 AM (1 hour(s) ago) Be sure to set Publish to: "Staging" Publish to (GMT -8:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada) Select the right time zone so the Cognitive ✓ Include all predicted intent scores ? Services deploys in the datacenter nearest to Enable Bing spell checker ? you to avoid latency. Publish to staging slot Select 'Publish to staging slot' Resources and Keys Add Key Your resources will be share with you in the format shown → These resources are required, just like QnA Application Id https://westus.api.cognitive.microsoft.com/luis/v2.0/apps/ Subscription Key Subscription Key &staging=true&verbose=true&timezoneOffset=-480&q= Maker in order to work in your bot.

Now it's time to go back into our bot code.

So, we will start by adding a LuisDialog class in the Dialogs folder.

Replace your boilerplate dialog code with this >

We will explicitly stat we will return a string using context.Done(string)

We will Setup the Luis Service in this dialog and the DispatchToIntentHandler will receive the message and return the best intent as a result.

Once the message is received,

...we will set up and values of the LuisModelAttribute that you cannot set in the constructor

The LUIS service to use in the base constructor of this **LuisDialog**

The code checks to see if Debug is set to true

(This allow us to test our code in debug while it is staged until we are ready to go the production.)

```
namespace [ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME_HERE].Dialogs
    [Serializable]
    public class LuisDialog : LuisDialog<string> // explicitly state we
will return a string using context.done(string)
        public LuisDialog() : base(SetupLuisService())
        protected override Task DispatchToIntentHandler(IDialogContext
context, IAwaitable<IMessageActivity> item, IntentRecommendation
bestIntent, LuisResult result)
            return base.DispatchToIntentHandler(context, item, bestIntent,
result);
        protected override Task<string>
GetLuisQueryTextAsync(IDialogContext context, IMessageActivity message)
            return base.GetLuisQueryTextAsync(context, message);
        protected override Task MessageReceived(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<IMessageActivity> item)
            return base.MessageReceived(context, item);
        public static LuisService SetupLuisService()
            LuisModelAttribute attribute = new LuisModelAttribute(
                ConfigurationManager.AppSettings["LuisAppId"],
```

ConfigurationManager.AppSettings["LuisAPIKey"], domain: ConfigurationManager.AppSettings["LuisAPIHostName"]); #if DEBUG attribute.Staging = true; #endif Return the attribute from LUIS... return new LuisService(attribute); If "Positive", then say this... [LuisIntent("Positive")] public async Task HappyIntent(IDialogContext context, LuisResult result) await context.PostAsync("I'm happy you're happy. I'm happy too. We're both happy."); context.Done(""); Then go back to the **RootDialog**. // Should be invoked when the user asks for help with no specific information If "Negative", then say this... [LuisIntent("Negative")] public async Task SadIntent(IDialogContext context, LuisResult result) await context.PostAsync("Oh man, that's too bad. You should be happy like me, it's much better!"); context.Done(""); Then go back to the **RootDialog**. // Should be invoked when the user asks something generic and includes a recognized application name [LuisIntent("Nuetral")] If "Neutral", then say this...

If the Intent attribute is not defined or "None"...

Then, don't say anything and go back to the **RootDialog**.

```
public async Task NuetralIntent(IDialogContext context, LuisResult
result)
{
        await context.PostAsync("Yea, yea, it is what it is.");
}

[LuisIntent("")]
[LuisIntent("None")]
public async Task NoneIntent(IDialogContext context, LuisResult
result)
{
        context.Done("none");
}
}
```

Next, we will add another dialog class called **AskLuis.cs**

The code will look like this →

This code essentially forwards the message sent by the user straight to LUIS for scoring.

We don't have to do any casting because we explicitly said we will return a string in **LuisDialog**

If not intent was found, don't say anything.

```
namespace [ENTER_SOLUTION_NAME HERE].Dialogs
    [Serializable]
    public class AskLuis : IDialog<object>
        public async Task StartAsync(IDialogContext context)
            context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
        public async Task MessageReceivedAsync(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
            IMessageActivity activity = (IMessageActivity)await result;
            await context.Forward(new LuisDialog(), AfterLuis, activity,
CancellationToken.None);
        public async Task AfterLuis(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<string> message)
            string val = await message;
            if (val == "none")
                context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
            else
                context.Done("");
```

Finally, in the RootDialog, after
AfterAskingAboutSurvey and before
AfterQnA, supply this code in between

SurveyDialog survey = await result;
await context.PostAsync("Thanks for filling out the form! One last question. Please, describe how the game made you feel.");
context.Call(new AskLuis(), AfterAskLuis);
}

private Task AfterAskLuis(IDialogContext context,
IAwaitable<object> result)
{
context.Wait(MessageReceivedAsync);
return Task.CompletedTask;
}

And, guess what... you're done!

Testing your bot should demonstrate all of the objectives of today's workshop including, but not limited to:

- Developing bots in .NET using the Application template.
- Testing a bot using the Bot Emulator.
- Connecting QnAMaker from Microsoft Cognitive Services to your bot to answer common questions.
- Build rich cards in .NET to surface buttons and linkable content.
- Manage conversation flow with multiple dialogs
- Create rich, Adaptive Cards to create a similar, engaging experience to the end user across many different channels
- Create forms using FormFlow
- Use Language Understanding from LUIS by Microsoft Cognitive Services to analyze emotional sentiment and infuse AI in your bot.

We hope you enjoyed the workshop as much as we enjoyed making it. Congratulations, and thanks for attending Bot in a Day!

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