

# Technical Screen: Name Verification Application

## Goal

Build a small application with two independent capabilities:

1. **Target name generation** from a user-provided prompt
2. **Candidate name verification** against the **latest generated target name**

The key design constraint is that the **verifier must treat the generator as a black box**. It must not “cheat” by reusing generator chat context or calling back into the generator to decide whether a candidate matches.

## Functional requirements

### 1) Target Name Generator

#### What the user can do

- Provide a free-form prompt (e.g., “Generate a random name with ...”)
- Trigger generation
- See the resulting **target name** (a single string)

#### Behavior

- Each generation produces exactly **one target name string**
- The app maintains the concept of the **latest generated target name**
- Generating again updates what “latest” means

#### Example prompt

“Please generate a random Arabic sounding name with an Al and ibn both involved. The name shouldn’t be longer than 5 words.”

#### Notes

- You may use an LLM, a deterministic generator, or any other approach.

### 2) Name Verifier

#### What the user can do

- Input a candidate name
- Trigger verification
- Receive a result that includes, at minimum:
  - `match` (boolean)
  - `confidence` (numeric score, e.g., 0–1 or 0–100)
  - a short `reason / explanation`

### Behavior

- The verifier checks the candidate name against the **latest generated target name**
- If no target name has been generated yet, return a clear error state

## Critical constraint: “Black box generator”

The verifier must be implemented as if:

- The generator is **not an open, available resource** during verification
- The verifier **may only access** the **latest generated target name string**
- The verifier **must not** rely on:
  - generator chat history/context
  - calling the generator again (directly or indirectly) to evaluate a match
  - “hidden” shared LLM state between generator and verifier

How the latest target name is exposed to the verifier (in memory, file, database, API, etc.) **does not matter**—only that the verifier is **architecturally isolated** from generator internals/context and operates using only the latest name string.

## Implementation requirements

### Minimal interface

You can implement this as a web app, CLI app, desktop app, etc. The only requirement is that a reviewer can:

- provide a prompt → generate a target name
- provide a candidate name → verify against the latest target name and see output

### Matcher evaluation

You will be graded on matching behavior using a test suite based on a list we provide later:

- (`target_name`, `candidate_name`, `should_match`) examples
- Your verifier should produce results consistent with those expectations

You're free to implement any matching strategy you think is appropriate, as long as it:

- produces deterministic outputs (or at least stable/consistent ones)
- returns `match` + `confidence` + explanation
- can be tested

## Documentation

No need for any as long as it's clear how to run the application

## Test Cases

### Expected Matches

| # | Target Name       | Candidate Name     | Expected Result | Rationale   |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Tyler Bliha       | Tlyer Bilha        | Match           | Minor transposition and misspelling in both first and last name |
| 2 | Al-Hilal          | alhilal            | Match           | Hyphen and casing differences only                              |
| 3 | Dargulov          | Darguloff          | Match           | Common phonetic suffix variation (v vs ff)                      |
| 4 | Bob Ellensworth   | Robert Ellensworth | Match           | Common nickname vs formal name                                  |
| 5 | Mohammed Al Fayed | Muhammad Alfayed   | Match           | Spacing and transliteration variance                            |
| 6 | Sarah O'Connor    | Sara Oconnor       | Match           | Apostrophe removal and vowel simplification                     |
| 7 | Jonathon Smith    | Jonathan Smith     | Match           | Common spelling variant of first name                           |

|    |                        |                       |       |   |
|----|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|---|
| 8  | Abdul Rahman ibn Saleh | Abdulrahman ibn Saleh | Match | Spacing variation within compound name              |
| 9  | Al Hassan Al Saud      | Al-Hasan Al Saud      | Match | Minor consonant simplification and hyphenation      |
| 10 | Katherine McDonald     | Catherine Macdonald   | Match | Phonetic first name and common Mc/Mac variation     |
| 11 | Yusuf Al Qasim         | Youssef Alkasim       | Match | Transliteration differences in Arabic-derived names |
| 12 | Steven Johnson         | Stephen Jonson        | Match | Phonetic spelling differences in both names         |
| 13 | Alexander Petrov       | Aleksandr Petrof      | Match | Slavic transliteration and phonetic variation       |
| 14 | Jean-Luc Picard        | Jean Luc Picard       | Match | Hyphen removal                                      |
| 15 | Mikhail Gorbachov      | Mikhail Gorbachev     | Match | Alternate transliteration endings                   |
| 16 | Elizabeth Turner       | Liz Turner            | Match | Common nickname shortening                          |
| 17 | Omar ibn Al Khattab    | Omar Ibn Alkhattab    | Match | Case, spacing, and compound-name variance           |
| 18 | Sean O'Brien           | Shawn Obrien          | Match | Phonetic first name and punctuation removal         |

#### Expected Non-matches

| #  | Target Name       | Candidate Name    | Expected Result | Rationale  |
|----|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| 19 | Emanuel Oscar     | Belinda Oscar     | No Match        | Same last name but entirely different first name             |
| 20 | Michael Thompson  | Michelle Thompson | No Match        | Similar-looking but distinct first names                     |
| 21 | Ali Hassan        | Hassan Ali        | No Match        | Token order swap changes identity                            |
| 22 | John Smith        | James Smith       | No Match        | Different common first names                                 |
| 23 | Abdullah ibn Omar | Omar ibn Abdullah | No Match        | Reversal of patronymic meaning                               |
| 24 | Maria Gonzalez    | Mario Gonzalez    | No Match        | Gendered name difference                                     |
| 25 | Christopher Nolan | Christian Nolan   | No Match        | Similar prefix but distinct names                            |
| 26 | Ahmed Al Rashid   | Ahmed Al Rashidi  | No Match        | Different surname root                                       |
| 27 | Samantha Lee      | Samuel Lee        | No Match        | Different first name despite shared root                     |
| 28 | Ivan Petrov       | Ilya Petrov       | No Match        | Distinct given names in same cultural group                  |
| 29 | Fatima Zahra      | Zahra Fatima      | No Match        | Name order inversion changes identity                        |
| 30 | William Carter    | Liam Carter       | No Match        | Nickname not universally equivalent without explicit mapping |