Technical Background

"A computer would deserve to be called intelligent if it could deceive a human into believing that it was human. Alan Turing." A machine capable of understanding a text like we humans do? I know, it seems hard to believe, and for years it seemed like magic , until I discovered Natural Language Processing (NLP), a field that deals with this kind of problems.Yes, by combining the power of artificial intelligence, computational linguistics and computer science, NLP allows a machine to understand natural language, a task that was so far the exclusive privilege of humans. NLP is everywhere even if we don’t know it. Language transaltor used in different social media sites or websites are just one example of NLP at work. Another example which we are focusing on is Question Answering. The Question Answering (QA) task aims to provide precise and quick answers to user questions from a collection of documents or a database. This kind of IR system is sorely needed with the dramatic growth of digital information. One domain that is mostly in need of this QA systems is medical domain. Why ? simply because every act of knowledge and application in medicine is now worked by computers. One example is an online web application called "webmd" this application serves as a portal for questioning and it gives results and information to the user. There are many application that is involving medical fields in Natural language Processing. IBM watson is one of the most famous artificial intelligence that uses NLP and IR (information retreival) for its main functionality of answering questions. In engaging in this field of study, it is recommended to be familiar with the unimaginable number of exsisting application or tools to be use (tenserflow, apache open nlp, ibm watson, etc..)