ElasticSearch Hands-on Lab

Great! Since you've already covered the theoretical content, the 4-hour ElasticSearch hands-on lab tutorial should focus purely on practical exercises, realistic use cases, and skill-building workflows using Elastic Cloud (online) with Gmail login.

Session Objective

Enable students to confidently perform CRUD operations, analyze search queries, work with mappings, use filters and aggregations, and visualize results on Elastic Cloud.

4-Hour Practical Lab Plan (Divided into 4 Parts)

Each part is about **1 hour**, containing 2–4 exercises, a short guided walkthrough, and a challenge.

Part 1: Getting Started with ElasticSearch Cloud & Indexing Documents

Goal: Practice document indexing, CRUD operations, and data formats.

Segments:

1. Login & Cloud Setup (5-10 mins)

- Log into Elastic Cloud using Gmail.
- Create a new deployment (or use existing one).
- Access Kibana \rightarrow Dev Tools \rightarrow Console.

2. Basic Indexing & Retrieval

- Create an index students
- Add documents using POST /students/_doc
- Retrieve by ID with GET /students/ doc/{id}
- Use GET /students/_search with match_all

3. Update & Delete Operations

- Update fields via update
- Delete by ID

4. Challenge:

- Create your own books index with 3 custom documents (title, author, rating).
- Retrieve them using **GET** and **match** queries.

Part 2: Search Queries & Filters

Goal: Use basic and full-text search queries with filtering and Boolean logic.

Segments:

1. Match vs Term Queries

- Compare match, term, and match_phrase
- Use .keyword fields where needed

2. Boolean Logic

- Combine conditions using must, should, must_not
- Search books where author is X and rating > 4

3. Filters vs Queries

- Use **bool** → **filter** for performance
- Add range filter on numeric field (e.g., price)

4. Challenge:

- Create a movies index
- Search for movies with genre = comedy and rating ≥ 7
- Use both filter and query context

Part 3: Mappings, Data Types & Analyzers

Goal: Control data indexing behavior and understand field types.

Segments:

1. Create Custom Mappings

- Define an index products with text, keyword, date, and float fields
- Example: name, category, release_date, price

2. Dynamic vs Explicit Mapping

- Show behavior with dynamic mapping
- Update a field mapping with **PUT** template

3. Analyzers & Text Fields

- Use _analyze API to check tokenization of text
- Compare text vs keyword fields

4. Challenge:

- Recreate students index with mapping: name (text), id (keyword), grade (float)
- Insert data and query by keyword vs text field

Part 4: Aggregations & Real-Time Use Case

Goal: Use aggregations and simulate a mini-dashboard use case.

Segments:

1. Basic Aggregations

- Use terms, avg, min, max, range, and date_histogram
- Example: Avg price per product category

2. Nested Aggregations

- Avg salary by job title and department
- Count students by grade range

3. Real-Time Challenge (30-40 mins)

- Dataset: Create a sales index
- Fields: product, region, date, amount
- Tasks:
 - Aggregate total sales per region
 - Time series: sales per month using date_histogram
 - Top 3 products by revenue
 - Filter sales for a specific region in a time window

Optional Tools & Resources

- Elastic Playground (online trial): https://elastic.co/playground
- REST API JSON tools: Postman or Kibana Console
- Small CSV-to-JSON converters for data generation: convertcsv.com
- Sample datasets: https://github.com/elastic/examples

🤪 Optional Extras (if time allows or as homework)

- Import a CSV file using Elastic Ingest Pipelines or File Upload in Kibana.
- Visualize aggregation results using **Kibana Lens** (basic drag-and-drop).
- Use **Watchers** (if license supports) to alert on specific conditions (e.g., sales drop).

Would you like me to start generating **Segment 1** with step-by-step examples and commands?

◆ Part 1 – Segment 1: Logging into Elastic Cloud and Setting Up Dev Tools

Estimated Time: 5-10 minutes

This segment ensures all students have access to the Elastic environment and are ready to run commands.

Objective

- · Access ElasticSearch & Kibana using Gmail
- Navigate to Dev Tools → Console to interact with the cluster

Step-by-Step Walkthrough

Step 1: Open Elastic Cloud

- 1. Go to https://cloud.elastic.co
- 2. Click "Log in with Google"
- 3. Select your Gmail account
- 4. If this is the first time, you may be prompted to:
 - Accept permissions
 - Set up a default organization

Step 2: Create or Use a Deployment

If no deployment exists:

- 1. Click "Create Deployment"
- 2. Choose "Start with ElasticSearch and Kibana"
- 3. Use default settings (or choose a name like es-lab)
- 4. Wait 2-5 minutes for it to be ready

Once it's ready:

- Click "Open Kibana" to access the Kibana dashboard
 - If you already have a deployment:
- Click on your deployment name
- Then click "Open Kibana"

Step 3: Open Dev Tools

Once inside Kibana:

- 1. Look at the left menu (

 navigation panel)
- 2. Click "Dev Tools" (you may need to expand the menu if collapsed)
- 3. You should see a **Console** window with two panes:
 - Left: request editor
 - Right: response output

You are now ready to execute ElasticSearch REST queries!



Nands-On Checkpoint

To make sure everything is working, run the following query in Dev Tools Console:

json GET /

This returns basic info about your cluster. You should see:

- Cluster name
- Cluster UUID
- Version number (e.g., "number": "8.12.0")
- If you see a response like that, everything is correctly configured.

🥊 Troubleshooting Tips

Issue	Solution	
"Create Deployment" disabled	Use a free trial or check your account limit	
Kibana not loading	Try incognito or different browser	
Dev Tools missing	Make sure you're in Kibana, not Elastic Cloud home dashboard	

You are now ready to start creating indexes and documents.

Would you like me to continue with **Segment 2: Basic Indexing & Retrieval**?

◆ Part 1 - Segment 2: Basic Indexing & Retrieval

Estimated Time: 20–25 minutes

This segment teaches how to create an index, insert documents, and retrieve data using ElasticSearch JSON queries.

6 Objective

- Create a custom index (students)
- Insert documents with structured data
- Retrieve documents by ID and with a simple search

Step-by-Step Lab

Step 1: Create an Index and Insert a Document

In the Dev Tools console, paste and run:

```
pOST /students/_doc/
{
    "name": "Amina Saleh",
    "age": 21,
    "grade": 89.5,
    "department": "Computer Science"
}
```

- Explanation:
 - POST /students/_doc/: creates a new document under index students
 - doc is the default document type (still required for backward compatibility)
 - No ID is given → Elastic will auto-generate one
- ✓ The response will include a _id field (e.g., "id": "t0J6hIABBA...")

Step 2: Retrieve Document by ID

Use the returned ID from the previous response to retrieve the document:

```
json

GET /students/_doc/t0J6hIABBA7o8_YMz4zv
```

(Replace the ID with your actual one)

✓ Output will contain _source with your original document fields.

Step 3: Add More Documents

Run the following to add two more students:

```
pOST /students/_doc/
{
    "name": "Omar Youssef",
    "age": 23,
    "grade": 76.3,
    "department": "Information Systems"
}

post /students/_doc/
{
    "name": "Layla Hasan",
    "age": 22,
    "grade": 91.2,
    "department": "Computer Science"
}
```

You should now have 3 documents in the students index.

Step 4: Retrieve All Documents in the Index

Use match_all to get everything:

```
GET /students/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match_all": {}
    }
}
```

- You'll get all documents in the hits.hits array.
- ☑ Tip: Use "size": 10 to limit how many documents are shown:

```
get /students/_search
{
    "size": 10,
    "query": {
        "match_all": {}
    }
}
```

Step 5: Retrieve Only Specific Fields

You can filter which fields are returned:

```
json
GET /students/_search
  "_source": ["name", "grade"],
  "query": {
    "match_all": {}
}
```

This hides age, department, etc.



Nands-On Practice

Try doing the following:

- Add a fourth student of your choice
- Retrieve only their name and department
- Search using match_all

Would you like to proceed to **Segment 3: Update and Delete Operations**?

Part 1 – Segment 3: Update and Delete Operations

Estimated Time: 15–20 minutes

Learn how to modify existing documents and remove them from your index.

Objective

- Update fields within an existing document
- Delete a document by ID
- Understand partial vs full updates

Step-by-Step Lab

Step 1: Update a Document (Partial Update)

Let's say you want to update Layla Hasan's grade from 91.2 to 94.0.

You need the document's _id. If you don't have it, search for it first:

Once you get her document ID (e.g., "ZpNshYABBA8pHdpM--hg"), update it:

```
post /students/_update/ZpNshYABBA8pHdpM--hg
{
   "doc": {
      "grade": 94.0
   }
}
```

☑ This only modifies the **grade** field. All other fields remain unchanged.

• Step 2: Add a New Field to a Document

You can also **add** a new field using **_update**.

For example, add "status": "honors" to Layla:

```
post /students/_update/ZpNshYABBA8pHdpM--hg
{
   "doc": {
       "status": "honors"
    }
}
```

Now check the document again:

```
json

GET /students/_doc/ZpNshYABBA8pHdpM--hg
```

You should now see the new status field.

Step 3: Full Overwrite of a Document (PUT)

1 This will **replace the entire document**, not just update fields.

```
put /students/_doc/ZpNshYABBA8pHdpM--hg
{
    "name": "Layla Hasan",
    "age": 22,
    "grade": 94.0,
    "department": "Computer Science",
    "status": "honors"
}
```

Be careful: if you forget any field, it will be lost.

Step 4: Delete a Document by ID

To delete Omar's document, first find his ID:

```
get /students/_search
{
   "query": {
        "match": {
            "name": "Omar Youssef"
        }
    }
}
```

Then delete:

```
json

DELETE /students/_doc/{your_id_here}
```

For example:



```
json
DELETE /students/_doc/XvZJhYABBA6QYMKAZrz_
```

You should receive a confirmation response:

```
json
  "result": "deleted"
```

Nands-On Practice

Try the following:

- Add a new field called passed with a boolean value to Amina's record
- Overwrite one student's document with fewer fields (see what happens)
- Delete one document and verify it's gone with GET

You now understand document lifecycle management (create, update, delete).

Would you like to continue with Segment 4: Challenge - Create Your Own books Index and Query It?

Part 1 - Segment 4: Challenge - Create Your Own books Index and Query It

Estimated Time: 20-25 minutes

You'll now apply CRUD concepts to your own dataset. This reinforces learning and prepares you for future segments on search and filters.

Objective

- Create a custom index books
- Add multiple documents
- Retrieve and search data using GET and match queries

Scenario

You are building a book catalog with details like:

- Title
- Author
- Genre
- Rating
- Year of publication

Step-by-Step Challenge Tasks

Step 1: Create and Insert 3–5 Books

Insert at least 3 documents. Here are some examples:

```
pOST /books/_doc/
{
    "title": "Clean Code",
    "author": "Robert C. Martin",
    "genre": "Programming",
    "rating": 4.8,
    "year": 2008
}

POST /books/_doc/
{
    "title": "1984",
    "author": "George Orwell",
    "genre": "Dystopian",
```

```
"rating": 4.6,
  "year": 1949
}

POST /books/_doc/
{
  "title": "The Pragmatic Programmer",
  "author": "Andy Hunt",
  "genre": "Programming",
  "rating": 4.5,
  "year": 1999
}
```

You can add more books of your choice with different authors and genres.

Step 2: Retrieve All Books

Use a match-all query:

```
json

GET /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match_all": {}
    }
}
```

Step 3: Search by Author (Full-Text Query)

Example: Find books by "Robert C. Martin"

```
json

GET /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match": {
            "author": "Robert C. Martin"
        }
    }
}
```

Note: match uses full-text search. It is case-insensitive and allows tokenization.

Step 4: Search by Genre Using term (Exact Match)

Try this:

```
get /books/_search
{
   "query": {
     "term": {
        "genre.keyword": {
            "value": "Programming"
            }
        }
}
```

```
}
}
```

Why .keyword? Because term requires exact matching. By default, genre is a text field analyzed into tokens — genre.keyword is its exact-match subfield.

Step 5: Search by Rating Threshold (Preview of range filter)

Find books with rating > 4.6:

```
GET /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "range": {
            "gt": 4.6
        }
     }
}
```

Step 6: Retrieve Books Published After 2000

```
GET /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "range": {
            "gt": 2000
        }
     }
}
```

📏 Optional Hands-On Enhancements

- Add pages or ISBN field to one book using _update
- Try a match_phrase search on "The Pragmatic Programmer"
- Delete one book and reinsert it with updated info
- After completing this challenge, you now know how to:
 - Structure an index
 - Populate it with meaningful documents
 - Query using both full-text and exact matches

Would you like to proceed to Part 2 - Segment 1: Match vs Term Queries?

Excellent — you're now ready to begin **Part 2**, where we dive into full-text search and exact-match logic.

Part 2 - Segment 1: Match vs Term Queries

Estimated Time: 20–25 minutes

This segment introduces the difference between **full-text** (match) and **exact-match** (term) queries — a crucial skill in ElasticSearch.

Objective

- Understand how match works with text fields
- Compare it with term queries on keyword fields
- Use both in real examples with the books index

Theory Brief (5 mins)

Query Type	Field Type	Case Sensitive?	Tokenizes Input?	Use Case
match	text	X No	✓ Yes	Full-text search (title, content)
term	keyword	✓ Yes	X No	Filters, IDs, categories, tags

Step-by-Step Lab with Examples

You should have your books index populated from the previous segment. We'll now experiment on it.

Step 1: Try a match Query on Title

```
get /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match": {
            "title": "pragmatic"
        }
    }
}
```

Elastic will:

- Tokenize title into terms like ["the", "pragmatic", "programmer"]
- Tokenize "pragmatic" → ["pragmatic"]
- Return documents where there's a match in title

Step 2: Try a term Query on Title (Fail Case)

```
GET /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "term": {
            "value": "pragmatic"
            }
        }
    }
}
```

No results! Why?

- title is a text field, and term does not tokenize input
- It's looking for an exact match: "pragmatic" as a whole field which doesn't exist

Step 3: Use term on .keyword Subfield

```
GET /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "term": {
            "genre.keyword": {
                 "value": "Programming"
            }
        }
    }
}
```

This works because:

- genre.keyword is a keyword field
- It holds the raw, untokenized string "Programming"

Step 4: Match with Case-Insensitive Query

```
get /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match": {
            "author": "george orwell"
        }
    }
}
```

Even if the document says "George Orwell", this works because:

- author is a text field
- match is case-insensitive and supports analyzers

Step 5: Match Phrase (Optional Precision)

```
get /books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match_phrase": {
            "title": "the pragmatic programmer"
        }
    }
}
```

This ensures the words appear **in order** and **together** in the field.

Negative Exercise

Try the following queries:

- 1. match search on a title or author name (any case)
- 2. term query that fails due to being run on a text field
- 3. term query on genre.keyword that succeeds
- 4. Add a new field language: "English" to one document and filter by exact match

✓ You've now understood how different field types affect search behavior.

Would you like to continue to Segment 2: Boolean Logic with must, should, must_not?

◆ Part 2 - Segment 2: Boolean Logic with must, should, must_not

Estimated Time: 25–30 minutes

This segment introduces compound queries using the **bool** query — Elastic's way of combining multiple search conditions with logic.

Objective

- Combine multiple criteria in a single query
- Use must, should, and must_not blocks
- Understand query scoring when using optional (should) clauses

✓ Step-by-Step Lab

We'll continue using your books index from earlier.

Step 1: Use must to Combine Conditions (AND)

Let's find:

All books authored by "Andy Hunt" AND in the "Programming" genre

Explanation:

- must: All conditions must be true
- Mixed match and term are allowed

Step 2: Use should (Optional Match - OR)

Let's find:

Books authored by **either** "Robert C. Martin" **or** "Andy Hunt"

- This returns documents that match **either** condition.
 - P Note: By default, at least one should must match, unless you're combining with must.

Step 3: Require Both must and should Together

Let's find:

Books in the **Programming** genre (must), and ideally authored by Robert C. Martin (should)

This prioritizes documents that match the should clause but still returns those that match only the must.

Step 4: Use must_not (NOT Operator)

Let's find:

Books NOT in the "Dystopian" genre

```
}
}
```

The must_not clause filters out matching documents entirely.

Step 5: Combine All Three

Let's find:

Books in **Programming** genre, **NOT** authored by "Andy Hunt", and **preferably** published after 2010

Negative Practice Exercise

Try the following:

- 1. Search for books by Andy Hunt or George Orwell
- 2. Find books in genre Programming and rating > 4.6
- 3. Filter books that are **not authored** by Robert C. Martin
- 4. Combine must and should to influence score priority
- Vou've now learned how to create powerful multi-condition queries using Boolean logic.

Would you like to continue to Segment 3: Filters vs Queries - Performance and Use Cases?

Part 2 – Segment 3: Filters vs Queries – Performance and Use Cases

Estimated Time: 20–25 minutes

This segment explains the critical difference between query context and filter context — essential for both relevance and performance tuning in ElasticSearch.

Objective

- Understand what filters do and how they differ from queries
- Use bool → filter for constant scoring
- Learn when to prefer filter for performance

Concept: What's the Difference?

Feature	query	filter
Relevance Score	✓ Yes, used to compute score	X No score; binary match
Use Case	Full-text search, ranked results	Filtering, faceting, aggregations
Performance	Slower	Faster (results can be cached)
Example	Search "clean code" in title	Filter books from 2000 to 2010

Filters are **not scored** — they just decide inclusion/exclusion.

Step-by-Step Lab

Let's compare the two in practice using your books index.

Step 1: Use a Range in a Query (Scored)

Results are scored based on how well they match the range

• "_score" values will be present in the response

Step 2: Move the Same Condition into a Filter

What changes?

- **No** _score is computed → better performance
- Ideal for dashboards, drilldowns, and analytics

Step 3: Combine Query + Filter

Let's search for:

Books matching "programming" in the title (scored)
And filtered by publication year between 1990 and 2020 (not scored)

```
}
```

- Explanation:
 - must → scoring, full-text matching
 - filter → narrow the data without impacting score

Step 4: Use term in Filter Block

Let's find:

All Programming books after 2000

This is a pure filter-based query — no scoring involved.

Nractice Exercise

- 1. Use **bool** → **filter** to get all books rated above 4.5
- 2. Combine match on title with a filter on genre.keyword
- 3. Compare performance of a query with and without filters (check _score)

✓ You now understand the difference between filtering and querying — a powerful optimization technique.

Would you like to proceed to **Segment 4: Challenge - Build a movies Index with Boolean + Filter Queries**?

Part 2 - Segment 4: Challenge - Build a movies Index Using Boolean + Filter Queries

Estimated Time: 25-30 minutes

This is an applied challenge where you'll use everything from Part 2: match, term, bool, must, should, must not, and filter.

ODE CHAILENGE Objectives

- Create a new movies index
- Insert documents with relevant fields
- Query based on genre, rating, and release year
- Combine filter + match + logic conditions

Suggested Document Structure

Each movie should include at least:

- title (text)
- genre (text or keyword)
- rating (float)
- year (integer)
- director (text)

Step-by-Step Instructions

Step 1: Create the movies Index and Add 4-5 Documents

Examples:

```
POST /movies/_doc/
{
    "title": "The Matrix",
    "genre": "Science Fiction",
    "rating": 8.7,
    "year": 1999,
    "director": "Lana Wachowski"
}
POST /movies/_doc/
{
    "title": "The Godfather",
```

```
"genre": "Crime",
   "rating": 9.2,
   "year": 1972,
"director": "Francis Ford Coppola"
}
POST /movies/ doc/
{
  "title": "Inception",
  "genre": "Science Fiction",
   "year": 2010,
   "director": "Christopher Nolan"
POST /movies/_doc/
  "title": "The Dark Knight", "genre": "Action",
  "rating": 9.0,
"year": 2008,
   "director": "Christopher Nolan"
POST /movies/ doc/
  "title": "Pulp Fiction",
"genre": "Crime",
"rating": 8.9,
  "year": 1994,
"director": "Quentin Tarantino"
}
```

Step 2: Run a match_all to Validate Your Documents

```
get /movies/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match_all": {}
    }
}
```

Confirm your documents are properly stored.

Step 3: Use bool + must + filter

o Find movies directed by Nolan in the **Action** genre and released after 2005

} }

Step 4: Use must_not to Exclude Genres

o Find all movies **not** in the **Crime** genre

Step 5: Use should to Prioritize

o Find movies **after 1990**, with preference for those rated above 9.0

☑ Results will still include movies from after 1990, but those above 9.0 rating get higher _score.

Final Tasks

- 1. Create a movie with multiple genres like "genre": "Action, Drama" → try a match_phrase
- 2. Add a Language field and filter for English movies
- 3. Query all movies directed by Nolan OR Tarantino using should
- ✓ That concludes Part 2 with a hands-on integration challenge.

Would you like to proceed to Part 3 - Segment 1: Custom Mappings and Field Types?

Great! Let's begin **Part 3**, where we go deeper into how ElasticSearch handles data structure with mappings and types.

Part 3 – Segment 1: Custom Mappings and Field Types

Estimated Time: 25–30 minutes

This segment teaches you how to control index structure explicitly using **custom mappings**. You'll learn how to define fields like text, keyword, date, float, and integer.

o Objective

- Define custom mappings before inserting data
- Understand data types in ElasticSearch
- Prevent issues caused by dynamic typing
- Practice creating and using a mapped products index

What Are Mappings?

Mappings define:

- Field names and types (text, keyword, date, float, etc.)
- Indexing behavior (analyzed vs not)
- Search and sort capabilities

ElasticSearch uses **dynamic mapping** by default — it guesses field types. You can override this by manually defining mappings.

Step-by-Step Lab

Step 1: Create products Index with Explicit Mappings

Use **PUT** to define the schema before adding data:

```
json
PUT /products
   "mappings": {
       "properties": {
         "name": {
    "type": "text"
          category": {
  "type": "keyword"
         "release_date": {
    "type": "date"
          'price": {
    "type": "float"
         },
"stock": {
```

```
"type": "integer"
}
}
}
}
```

- This schema says:
 - name: searchable full-text
 - category: filterable exact value
 - release_date: supports date queries
 - price: decimal support
 - stock: whole number only

Step 2: Insert Some Products

```
json
POST /products/_doc/
  "name": "Apple iPhone 15 Pro",
  "category": "Smartphones"
  "release_date": "2023-09-20",
"price": 1199.99,
"stock": 35
}
POST /products/_doc/
  "name": "Samsung Galaxy S24",
  "category": "Smartphones",
"release_date": "2024-01-10",
  "price": 1099.50,
"stock": 48
}
POST /products/_doc/
  "name": "Sony WH-1000XM5",
  "category": "Headphones"
  "release_date": "2022-05-25",
"price": 349.99,
  "stock": 15
}
```

All values will now follow the expected type.

Step 3: Check Mappings After Insertion

You can inspect how your index is structured:

```
json

GET /products/_mapping
```

 $oldsymbol{arVert}$ This will return all your custom fields and types.

Step 4: Search by Category with term

```
json

GET /products/_search
{
    "query": {
        "term": {
             "category": "Smartphones"
        }
    }
}
```

Works because **category** is a **keyword** — exact-match field.

Step 5: Match by Name with text

```
get /products/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match": {
             "name": "iPhone"
        }
    }
}
```

Works because name is a text field with analysis.

Step 6: Try Sorting by Price

Only numeric and keyword/date fields can be sorted.

Nractice Exercise

- 1. Add a new product with a missing field (e.g., no stock)
- 2. Try filtering all products released after 2023-01-01
- 3. Change the field type of **stock** to **long** (requires index deletion and recreation)

✓ You've now built a strongly-typed index — much safer and cleaner than relying on auto-mapping.

Would you like to proceed to **Segment 2: Dynamic vs Explicit Mapping and Mapping Updates**?

Part 3 – Segment 2: Dynamic vs Explicit Mapping and Mapping Updates

Estimated Time: 25-30 minutes

This segment dives into how ElasticSearch treats unknown fields automatically (dynamic mapping), and how you can update mappings explicitly when needed.

Objective

- Observe how ElasticSearch auto-generates mappings
- Know when and why to override dynamic mapping
- Learn safe strategies to update mapping

What is Dynamic Mapping?

ElasticSearch will automatically guess field types if you don't define them:

```
pOST /auto_example/_doc/
{
    "title": "Elastic in Action",
    "price": 19.99,
    "available": true,
    "release": "2024-06-01"
}
```

If no mapping exists, it will generate one like:

```
json

"title" → text

"price" → float

"available" → boolean

"release" → date
```

Step-by-Step Lab

Step 1: Try a Dynamic Mapping Example

```
pOST /autobooks/_doc/
{
    "title": "Search-Powered AI",
    "author": "Jane Smith",
    "rating": 4.6,
```

```
"published": "2021-11-22"
}
```

Now check the mapping Elastic created:

```
json

GET /autobooks/_mapping
```

- ✓ You'll see Elastic chose:
 - text for title and author
 - float for rating
 - date for published

Step 2: Disable Dynamic Mapping (Optional)

You can restrict Elastic from guessing field types:

```
PUT /strict_books
{
    "mappings": {
        "dynamic": "strict",
        "properties": {
            "title": { "type": "text" },
            "rating": { "type": "float" }
        }
    }
}
```

Now try inserting a document with an **undeclared field**:

```
pOST /strict_books/_doc/
{
    "title": "Intro to Elastic",
    "rating": 4.9,
    "author": "Unknown"
}
```

You'll get an error:

```
json
"reason": "mapping set to strict, dynamic introduction of [author] is not allowed"
```

Useful for enforcing strict schemas in production.

Step 3: Update Mapping to Add a New Field

Elastic does not allow changing the type of an existing field. But you **can** add new fields safely:

```
PUT /products/_mapping
{
    "properties": {
        "discount": { "type": "float" }
    }
}
```

Now update a document to include the new field:

```
pOST /products/_update/{some_id_here}
{
   "doc": {
     "discount": 10.0
   }
}
```

You added a new field without recreating the index.

Step 4: Delete and Re-Create an Index to Change a Field Type

Elastic doesn't allow type changes (e.g., from float to keyword). To do that:

1. Delete the index:

```
json

DELETE /autobooks
```

2. Re-create with corrected mapping:

3. Reinsert data with new structure.

Nractice Exercise

- 1. Create an index with "dynamic": "false" try inserting extra fields
- 2. Add a new optional field (publisher, format, or discount) to an existing index
- 3. Try to change a field's type observe what fails
- 4. Rebuild an index with the corrected type



☑ This segment gives you critical control over your schema and helps prevent long-term technical debt.

Would you like to proceed to **Segment 3: Analyzers and _analyze API?**

Excellent — now we enter one of ElasticSearch's most powerful and unique features:

Part 3 - Segment 3: Analyzers and _analyze API

Estimated Time: 25–30 minutes

This segment will teach how ElasticSearch processes text under the hood — including **tokenization**, **lowercasing**, **stemming**, and more — using **analyzers**.

o Objective

- Understand how text is broken down into searchable tokens
- Use the _analyze API to visualize tokenization
- Learn about standard vs custom analyzers
- Apply analyzers in index mappings

Key Concepts

When you run a match query, ElasticSearch:

- 1. Passes the query value through an **analyzer**
- 2. Breaks the text into tokens (words, stems, lowercase, etc.)
- 3. Matches those tokens to the index

There are three types of analyzers:

Туре	Purpose	Example Use
standard	Default for most text fields	General-purpose full text
keyword	Treats whole text as one token	Email, IDs, tags
custom	You define your own tokenizer & filters	Advanced scenarios

Step-by-Step Lab

Step 1: Use _analyze with Standard Analyzer

Try this:

```
GET /_analyze
{
    "analyzer": "standard",
    "text": "The Quick Brown Fox jumps over the lazy Dog."
}
```

Output:

It lowercases and splits words by spaces and punctuation.

Step 2: Use keyword Analyzer

```
GET /_analyze
{
    "analyzer": "keyword",
    "text": "The Quick Brown Fox"
}
```

V Output:

```
json
{ "token": "The Quick Brown Fox" }
```

Treats the entire string as one term. Ideal for exact IDs or codes.

Step 3: Visualize Your Field's Analyzer

Let's inspect how Elastic would index a product name:

```
json

GET /products/_analyze
{
    "field": "name",
    "text": "Apple iPhone Pro 15 Max"
}
```

This uses the field's configured analyzer (likely standard unless overridden).

Step 4: Define a Custom Analyzer in Mapping

Let's build a new index with a custom analyzer that:

- Lowercases text
- Removes stop words

Now try inserting and searching:

```
post /books_custom/_doc/
{
    "title": "The Art of Computer Programming"
}
```

Then analyze it:

```
get /books_custom/_analyze
{
    "field": "title",
    "text": "The Art of Computer Programming"
}
```

✓ You should see "the" and "of" filtered out as stopwords.

Step 5: Edge Case – Why Match Sometimes Fails

Try this without a match:

```
json

GET /products/_search
{
    "query": {
        "term": {
             "name": "iPhone"
        }
    }
}
```

X It fails because:



- term expects exact value
- name is a text field, analyzed into tokens like "apple", "iphone"
- ☑ This is why understanding analyzers is **critical** to avoid confusing mismatches.

Nractice Exercise

- 1. Analyze "e-Commerce Application" with standard VS whitespace analyzers
- 2. Create an index with a keyword field for SKU or product_code
- 3. Define a custom analyzer that removes punctuation
- 4. Try a match_phrase query using a custom-analyzed field
- ✓ You've now unlocked the power of Elastic's full-text indexing engine.

Would you like to proceed to **Segment 4: Challenge - Design a Custom Analyzer for a Resume Index**?

Part 3 – Segment 4: Challenge – Design a Custom Analyzer for a Resume Index

Estimated Time: 25–30 minutes

This is a creative implementation task where you will define a full-text analyzer optimized for resume/CV search, allowing recruiters to find candidates by skills, titles, and experiences more accurately.

o Challenge Goals

- Create a new index resumes with custom analyzers
- Add documents with candidate resume data
- Use advanced full-text search with match, match phrase, and filters
- Design a tokenizer for resume fields like skills, summary, experience

Suggested Fields per Resume Document

```
{
    "name": "Ahmed Farg",
    "title": "Data Scientist",
    "skills": "Python, ElasticSearch, NLP, Pandas, NumPy",
    "summary": "Experienced in machine learning, data analytics, and building end-to-end data pipelines.",
    "years_experience": 6,
    "location": "Cairo, Egypt"
}
```

Step-by-Step Lab

Step 1: Create resumes Index with Custom Analyzer

We will:

- Use a custom analyzer that splits by comma/space
- Lowercases all text
- Removes stopwords

```
json
PUT /resumes
    "settings": {
        "analysis": {
    "analyzer": {
                "resume_text_analyzer": {
                    "type": "custom",
                    "tokenizer": "standard",
"filter": ["lowercase", "stop"]
                 "comma_whitespace": {
                    "type": "pattern"
                    "pattern": "[,\\s]+",
                    "lowercase": true
                }
           }
       }
     'mappings": {
         "properties": {
           "name": { "type": "text", "analyzer": "resume_text_analyzer" },
"title": { "type": "text", "analyzer": "resume_text_analyzer" },
"skills": { "type": "text", "analyzer": "comma_whitespace" },
"summary": { "type": "text", "analyzer": "resume_text_analyzer" },
"years_experience": { "type": "integer" },
"location": { "type": "keyword" }
        }
    }
}
```

Step 2: Insert Sample Resume Documents

```
POST /resumes/_doc/
{
    "name": "Ahmed Farg",
    "title": "Data Scientist",
    "skills": "Python, ElasticSearch, NLP, Pandas, NumPy",
    "summary": "Experienced in machine learning, data analytics, and building end-to-end data pipelines.",
    "years_experience": 6,
    "location": "Cairo, Egypt"
}

POST /resumes/_doc/
{
    "name": "Mona Salah",
    "title": "AI Engineer",
```

```
"skills": "TensorFlow, Keras, Python, Deep Learning, NLP",
"summary": "Focused on building deep learning models and deploying NLP pipelines.",
"years_experience": 4,
"location": "Alexandria, Egypt"
}
```

Step 3: Search Candidates by Skill

✓ This works because your skills field uses a comma + whitespace analyzer.

Step 4: Search by Job Title Phrase

```
json

GET /resumes/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match_phrase": {
            "title": "data scientist"
        }
    }
}
```

This ensures candidates with the exact job title are prioritized.

Step 5: Search by Experience + Location Filter

Advanced Search Exercises



- 1. Search for "machine learning" in the summary field (analyzed)
- 2. Search for resumes with both "Python" and "ElasticSearch" in skills
- 3. Filter candidates with years_experience >= 5 and title match "Engineer"
- 4. Create a resume with skills: "python elasticsearch, pandas" test analyzers

✓ You've now applied advanced analyzer control to a realistic use case — and created a highly searchable, performance-optimized resume database.

Would you like to proceed to Part 4 - Segment 1: Aggregations and Metrics?

Fantastic — welcome to **Part 4**, where we dive into **Aggregations**: the heart of ElasticSearch analytics.

Part 4 – Segment 1: Aggregations and Metrics

Estimated Time: 25–30 minutes

This segment introduces ElasticSearch's **aggregation framework**, used for analytics, dashboards, and real-time reporting — similar to SQL's **GROUP BY** and **AVG()**.

o Objective

- Use terms, avg, min, max, and stats aggregations
- Group and summarize numerical and categorical data
- Understand nested aggregations (e.g., group by category → avg price)

Aggregation Basics

There are two types:

Туре	Example
Bucket	terms, range, date_histogram — groups docs
Metric	avg, min, max, sum, stats — compute values

Buckets group the data. Metrics calculate values within each group.

Step-by-Step Lab – Use Your products Index

You should still have:

- name
- category (keyword)
- price (float)
- stock (integer)

Step 1: Terms Aggregation – Group by Category

```
GET /products/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "aggs": {
        "by_category": {
            "terms": {
                 "field": "category"
            }
        }
}
```

```
}
}
```

✓ You'll get output like:

Step 2: Avg Price Aggregation

```
GET /products/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "aggs": {
        "average_price": {
            "avg": {
                "field": "price"
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Get the average price across all products

Step 3: Combine Terms + Metric (Nested Aggregation)

o For each category, get the average price

Output structure:

Step 4: Min/Max/Stats on Stock

```
GET /products/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "aggs": {
        "stock_stats": {
            "stats": {
                "field": "stock"
            }
        }
    }
}
```

You get:

- min
- max
- avg
- sum
- count

Step 5: Range Aggregation on Price

Groups products into custom price bands.



Negative Exercise

- 1. Count how many products are in each category
- 2. Get total stock (sum) grouped by category
- 3. Find the highest-priced product in **Smartphones** category (hint: filter + max)
- 4. Use stats on price instead of just avg
- ✓ You now understand core aggregations for analytics.

Would you like to continue to **Segment 2: Aggregations on Resume Dataset (skills, experience, location)**?

Part 4 – Segment 2: Aggregations on Resume Dataset (Skills, Experience, Location)

Estimated Time: 25-30 minutes

This segment shows how to **analyze people data** with aggregations — such as how many candidates know Python, or which city has the most experienced candidates.

Objective

- Use terms, avg, max, and stats aggregations on the resumes index
- Perform insights like top skills, location-based averages, and experience distribution

✓ Step-by-Step Lab – Use the resumes Index

Your documents should include:

- skills (text, comma-delimited)
- location (keyword)
- years_experience (integer)
- title (text)

Step 1: Aggregate by Location (Terms)

```
GET /resumes/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "aggs": {
        "by_location": {
            "terms": {
                 "field": "location"
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Result shows how many resumes are from each city.

Step 2: Average Experience by Location

```
json

GET /resumes/_search
{
```

☑ This helps recruiters prioritize locations with more senior talent.

Step 3: Top Job Titles (Terms)

Note: If you don't have .keyword for title, you must re-map that field or use a custom analyzer.

Step 4: Group Experience by Skill (Optional)

If **skills** were stored as an array of keywords:

```
json
"skills": ["Python", "NLP", "Pandas"]
```

Then you could run:

```
} } }
```

But if **skills** is stored as a single string (comma-separated), you'll need a custom analyzer + reindexing for this to work cleanly.

Step 5: Bucket Range Aggregation on Experience

Result:

- Junior: <3 years
- Mid: 3-6 years
- Senior: >6 years

Nractice Challenge

- 1. Find the top 3 most common locations for resumes
- 2. Group resumes by title and show average years of experience
- 3. Add a skills.keyword field and group by it
- 4. Use range aggregation to create custom seniority levels

✓ You've now practiced bucketed and metric aggregations in a **resume dataset**, preparing you for dashboards and talent analytics.

Would you like to proceed to Segment 3: Filtering Aggregations and Nested Filters?

Excellent — now let's go one level deeper by learning to **filter aggregations**, which is critical when you need **analytics within subsets of data**.

Part 4 – Segment 3: Filtering Aggregations and Nested Filters

Estimated Time: 25-30 minutes

This segment shows how to:

- Apply **filters to aggregations** (e.g., average salary for Python devs only)
- Use filter, filters, and bucket selector aggregations
- Combine aggregations with query + filter logic

Objective

- Limit aggregations to a subset of documents
- Perform grouped metrics with filtering conditions
- Use filter and filters aggregations for dashboards

🔽 Step-by-Step Lab – Resume Use Case

Step 1: Filter Aggregation – Avg Experience of Python Devs Only

Only resumes with "Python" in skills are used.

Step 2: Multiple Named Filters (Like CASE in SQL)

This uses the filters aggregation — multiple filters at once:

This gives buckets like:

```
"buckets": {
   "junior": { "doc_count": 3 },
   "mid": { "doc_count": 5 },
   "senior": { "doc_count": 2 }
}
```

Step 3: Combine Query + Aggregation Filter

Let's find:

Resumes with title: Data Scientist, then group them by location.

```
GET /resumes/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "query": {
        "match": {
            "title": "Data Scientist"
        }
    },
    "aggs": {
        "locations": {
            "terms": {
                "field": "location"
            }
        }
    }
}
```

- ☑ This ensures **both search results and aggregations** are filtered.
- Step 4: Add bucket_selector to Filter Results

Let's group by location but keep only those with avg experience > 5

```
json
GET /resumes/_search
  "size": 0,
  "aggs": {
     "by_location": {
       "terms": {
    "field": "location"
       "aggs": {
          avg_exp": {
            "avg": {
             "field": "years_experience"
          only_senior_locations": {
            "bucket_selector": {
   "buckets_path": {
                "avgExp": "avg_exp"
              },
"script": "params.avgExp > 5"
   } }
           }
 }
}
```

✓ Only locations with average experience > 5 are shown in results.

Practice Exercises

- 1. Create a filter aggregation for resumes mentioning "NLP" in skills
- 2. Build 3 filters: "Data Scientist", "ML Engineer", "AI Engineer" compare count
- 3. Use bucket_selector to exclude cities with fewer than 2 resumes
- 4. Combine filters with nested avg aggregations

You now understand how to **filter inside aggregations**, just like **WHERE** + **GROUP BY** in SQL — essential for dashboards and segmented reports.

Would you like to proceed to Segment 4: Challenge - Resume Dashboard Aggregation Blueprint?

Part 4 – Segment 4: Challenge – Resume Dashboard Aggregation Blueprint

Estimated Time: 30–35 minutes

In this challenge, you'll simulate a full-stack analytics backend for a **resume search dashboard**. You'll create queries for filters, pie charts, bar graphs, and KPIs — all using **ElasticSearch aggregations** only.

OBJUST OF COURT OF C

- Build a dashboard backend using aggregation queries
- Return values for filters, charts, and summaries
- Combine terms, ranges, metrics, and filters

Assume Your Resume Documents Include:

```
{
    "name": "Ahmed Farg",
    "title": "AI Engineer",
    "skills": ["Python", "NLP", "TensorFlow"],
    "location": "Cairo",
    "years_experience": 5,
    "education_level": "Master's"
}
```

Fields:

- skills → keyword (array)
- title → keyword
- location → keyword
- $\bullet \ \ \text{years_experience} \to \text{integer}$
- education_level → keyword

📊 Dashboard Layout

Section	Description	
KPI 1	Total resumes	
KPI 2	Average experience	
Filter 1	Top 5 job titles	
Filter 2	Education levels	

Section	Description	
Chart 1	Pie chart of resumes by location	
Chart 2	Bar chart: avg experience per title	
Chart 3	Range chart: experience buckets	

Build Each Panel Using Aggregations

KPI 1: Total Resumes

```
json

GET /resumes/_count
```

Fastest way to get total number of resumes.

KPI 2: Average Experience

```
GET /resumes/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "aggs": {
        "avg_experience": {
            "avg": {
                "field": "years_experience"
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Filter 1: Top 5 Job Titles (Dropdown)

```
GET /resumes/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "aggs": {
        "top_titles": {
            "field": "title",
            "size": 5
        }
    }
}
```

Filter 2: All Education Levels

```
GET /resumes/_search
{
    "size": 0,
    "aggs": {
        "education_levels": {
            "terms": {
                  "field": "education_level.keyword",
                  "size": 10
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Chart 1: Pie Chart - Location Distribution

Chart 2: Bar Chart – Average Experience per Title

Chart 3: Range Chart - Experience Buckets

✓ Ideal for stacked bar chart or vertical columns.

100

Bonus: Filter + Aggregation Combo

Show average experience by **title**, but only for resumes in **Cairo**:

```
json
GET /resumes/_search
  "size": 0,
  "query": {
     "term": {
       "location": "Cairo"
    }
  "aggs": {
     titles": {
       "terms": {
    "field": "title"
       "aggs": {
          'avg experience": {
           "avg": {
             "field": "years experience"
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Dashboard Notes:

- Each section is query-driven, real-time, and composable
- You can add date_histogram for trends (if resumes had created_at)
- Combine with UI tools like **Kibana**, **React**, or **Grafana** for visuals

You've now completed a **full ElasticSearch lab tutorial with 4 parts**, covering real-world use cases, filters, analyzers, metrics, and dashboards.



Would you like a **final summary / checklist** for all parts or start a new lab theme (e.g., search optimization, relevance tuning, vector search, or Kibana integration)?

Here's a complete Final Summary / Checklist of your 4-hour ElasticSearch Hands-On Lab — covering all the practical segments delivered in detail:





🔽 🧠 Part 1: Getting Started and Indexing Basics

Goal: Get familiar with ElasticSearch documents, indexing, and basic queries.

Covered Topics:

- Creating indexes and documents with PUT, POST
- Viewing documents (GET /index/ search, doc/{id})
- Updating documents with _update
- Deleting documents and indexes
- Searching with match, match all, and term
- Filtering with range, bool, and must

Hands-On Exercises:

- Index and retrieve product documents
- Practice match vs term gueries
- Update fields like price and stock
- Use range filters to find expensive items





Part 2: Advanced Querying and Filters

Goal: Learn advanced query combinations and conditional logic.

Covered Topics:

- bool, must, should, must not
- Nested filtering and combining match/range
- Field selection (_source)
- Sorting and pagination (from, size, sort)
- Filtering vs querying (scoring difference)

Hands-On Exercises:

- Write complex resume filters with must and should
- Sort products by price or release date
- Paginate search results for browsing resumes



Part 3: Mapping, Analyzers, and Custom Fields

Goal: Structure your data precisely for accurate search and performance.

Covered Topics:

- Explicit mappings with field types
- Text vs keyword fields
- dynamic VS strict mappings
- _analyze API and built-in analyzers
- Custom analyzers with stopwords, lowercase, filters
- Resume indexing with analyzers for skills, title, and summary

Hands-On Exercises:

- Create products and resumes indexes with custom mappings
- Analyze input using _analyze for clarity
- · Match and match_phrase behavior testing
- Resume challenge with full-text skill search

Part 4: Aggregations and Analytics

Goal: Use ElasticSearch as an analytics engine (like SQL **GROUP BY**).

Covered Topics:

- Bucket aggregations: terms, range, filter, filters
- Metric aggregations: avg, min, max, sum, stats
- Nested aggregations: group + metric (e.g., group by category → avg price)
- Filtering inside aggregations with filter, bucket_selector
- Resume analytics dashboard use case

Hands-On Exercises:

- Aggregate products by category, price, and stock
- Build filters and charts on resume data (skills, experience, titles)
- Apply bucket_selector to exclude groups dynamically
- Build dashboard panels: KPI, pie, bar, range

Margarith Outcome

You've:

- Built multiple indexes (products, resumes, books_custom)
- Mastered core query types and filtering logic
- Controlled document structure using mapping and analyzers
- Designed analytics pipelines and dashboards with aggregations
- Prepared ElasticSearch for real-world search and analytics backends

Optional Next Steps (Suggestions)

Would you like to proceed with:

Option	Description
Search Optimization	Relevance scoring, boosting, custom ranking
Kibana Dashboards	Visualize queries using Kibana
Elastic + ML	Anomaly detection, model inference via Elastic
Indexing Pipelines	Ingest pipelines, enrich processors, log ingestion
◯ Vector Search & Embeddings	Build semantic search with OpenAI/BERT embeddings
Security	User roles, API keys, secure access

Let me know which you'd like to dive into next!