**My Reflective Journal**

In the Lab 05 I explored generative AI within the Azure AI Foundry portal by interacting with chat-based AI models. This hands-on experience allowed me to understand how to deploy and refine generative AI applications using the Chat playground. Generative AI is a transformative technology that enables the creation of text-based content, often used in chat applications and intelligent assistants.

Starting with a clear goal helps the AI generate relevant responses. For example, asking, "I'm planning a trip to Paris in September. Can you help me?" resulted in a detailed response with itinerary suggestions. By modifying prompts based on previous answers, I was able to refine the assistant’s response. For instance, asking, "Where's a good location in Paris to stay?" led to follow-up questions about dining options in specific locations. When asked, "What three places do you recommend I stay in Paris to be within walking distance to historical attractions?", the AI provided logical recommendations with explanations. A structured prompt like, "What are the top 10 sights to see in Paris? Answer with a numbered list in order of popularity." ensured an organized and prioritized response.

Initially, waiting for the model to deploy took some time, but checking the Models and endpoints section helped monitor progress. AI-generated responses may require validation, especially when referencing external sources.

Generative AI in Azure AI Foundry has significant applications in customer service, content generation, travel planning, and automated assistants. Businesses can leverage this technology to enhance user engagement and automate complex tasks.

This exercise demonstrated the potential of generative AI in automating and enhancing conversational experiences. By refining prompts and leveraging structured interactions, I gained valuable insights into the capabilities of AI-powered chat applications. This experience has encouraged me to further explore the integration of generative AI in practical scenarios, particularly in building intelligent applications for real-world use cases.