

Example *Elizabeth* Chatbot Script

“/P” signifies a script processing directive – see §6.5 of the Manual for details of all directives.

/P Randomised responses

“/” followed by a space is a comment to be ignored.

/ The Script begins with Welcome, Void, No-Keyword and Quit responses:

W HELLO, I'M ELIZABETH. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK ABOUT?

V CAN'T YOU THINK OF ANYTHING TO SAY?

“W” signifies a welcome message, which appears when starting up.

N TELL ME WHAT YOU LIKE DOING.

“V” signifies a void input response, for when the user types nothing.

/ Next come the Input transformations:

I mum => mother

I dad => father

“N” signifies a no-keyword response, to be used when no keywords or key phrases are recognised in the input

/ Then the Output transformations:

O i am => YOU ARE

O you are => I AM

O i => YOU

O me => YOU

O you [] => ME

O you => I

O my => YOUR

O your => MY

O myself => YOURSELF

O yourself => MYSELF

O I IS => I AM

O YOU IS => YOU ARE

“I” Input transformations are applied to the input (potentially repeatedly) before keywords are identified.

“O” Output transformations are applied to the active text (potentially repeatedly) after any keyword substitutions have taken place.

Here, we see output transformations that are designed to switch first- and second-person.

/ And four groups of Keyword transformations:

K I THINK [phrase]

R WHY DO YOU THINK [phrase] ?

K MOTHER

K FATHER

R TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.

R ARE YOU THE YOUNGEST IN YOUR FAMILY?

R WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER MOST ABOUT YOUR CHILDHOOD?

“K” Keyword transformations look for keywords (or key phrases) in the active text, and if they are found, replace the entire text with some replacement text (signified by “R”).

If more than one replacement text is provided (as in the mother/father group here), the various responses are cycled or chosen randomly (depending on the /P setting).

K [phrase1] IS YOUNGER THAN [phrase2]

R SO [phrase2] IS OLDER THAN [phrase1] .

K I LIKE [word]ING

R HAVE YOU [word]ED AT ALL RECENTLY?