

Qualtrics Question API

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Introduction

The Qualtrics Question API allows users to interact with a question in a survey using JavaScript. Note that interaction with questions is not limited to the functions available in the API. The API simply abstracts the most used functionality to a set of methods called on the question object. All functions using the API **must** be wrapped in a `Qualtrics.SurveyEngine.addOnload` function. The `addOnload` function automatically instantiates the Question Data class and binds the instantiated object to allow its functions and properties to be accessed using the `this` keyword directly.

Example:

```
<script>
Qualtrics.SurveyEngine.addOnload(function () //create Qualtrics.SurveyEngine.QuestionData object
{
    this.disableNextButton(); //disables the next button on the page
    this.questionclick = function(event,element) //question click is a simple onclick handler
    { //attached to the question's container div
        console.log(event); //by default you get the click event as the first parameter
        console.log(element); //and the clicked element as the second parameter
        if (element.type == 'radio')
        {
            var choiceNum = element.id.split('~')[2];
            alert('You clicked on choice '+choiceNum);
            if (choiceNum == 2)
            {
                this.enableNextButton(); //enables the next button - Note that the QuestionData
            } //object is bound to this to make it easier to use
            else
            {
                this.disableNextButton(); //disables the next button
            }
        }
    }
});
</script>
```

Functions

This is a list of predefined functions that can be used on the `QuestionData` class. Note that the `addOnload` function on the `Qualtrics.SurveyEngine` object automatically instantiates the `QuestionData` class and binds the instantiated object to allow these functions to be called using `this` directly.

disableNextButton

Sets the disabled attribute to true on the next button to disable it.

disablePreviousButton

Sets the disabled attribute to true on the previous button to disable it.

enableNextButton

Sets the disabled attribute to false on the next button to enable it.

enablePreviousButton

Sets the disabled attribute to false on the previous button to enable it.

hideNextButton

Hides the next button

hidePreviousButton

Hides the previous button

showNextButton

Shows the Next Button

showPreviousButton

Shows the Previous Button

clickNextButton

Emulates a click on the next button to submit the page

Example:

```
//Hides the next button and displays the question
//for 5 seconds before moving to the next page

this.hideNextButton();
var that = this;
(function(){that.clickNextButton();}).delay(5);
```

clickPreviousButton

Emulates a click on the previous button to submit the page

hideChoices

Hides the choice container

getQuestionContainer

Returns the div of the question (.QuestionOuter)

getQuestionTextContainer

Returns the div of the question text (`.QuestionText`)

getChoiceContainer

Returns the div of the choices (`.ChoiceStructure`)

setChoiceValue

Sets the actual value of a choice in the question. If a matrix-style question, also specify the subId (answerId).

Parameter	Value(s) / Formatting	Required	Description
choiceId	<String>	Yes	The ID of the choice being set
subId	<String>	No	Optional ID of the Column Answer, etc.
value	<String>	Yes	The value being set

Examples:

```
this.setChoiceValue(3,true); //sets the value of choice 3 to true (selected)
this.setChoiceValue(3,2,true); //sets the value of row choice 3 answer col 2
```

setChoiceValueByRecodeValue

Sets the value of the choice(s) specified by a recode value. Multiple choices in a question may have the same recode value. An attempt will be made to set each choice that is found. For single answer questions this may result in only the last matching choice being set.

Parameter	Value(s) / Formatting	Required	Description
recodeValue	<String>	Yes	The recode value of the choice(s) being set
subId	<String>	No	Optional ID of the Column Answer, etc.
value	<String>	Yes	The value being set

setChoiceValueByVariableName

Sets the value of the choice(s) specified by a variable name. Multiple choices in a question may have the same variable name. An attempt will be made to set each choice that is found. For single answer questions this may result in only the last matching choice being set.

Parameter	Value(s) / Formatting	Required	Description
variableName	<String>	Yes	The variable name of the choice(s) being set
subId	<String>	No	Optional ID of the Column Answer, etc.
value	<String>	Yes	The value being set

getChoiceValue

Gets the actual value of a choice in the question. If a matrix-style question, also specify the subId (answerId).

Parameter	Value(s) / Formatting	Required	Description
choiceId	<String>	Yes	The ID of the choice
subId	<String>	No	Optional ID of the Column Answer, etc.

Examples:

```
this.getChoiceValue(3); //returns the value of choice 3  
this.getChoiceValue(3,2); //returns the value of row choice 3 answer col 2
```

getQuestionInfo

Returns an object containing information about the question.

```
QuestionID (String)    The question id  
QuestionText (String) The question text  
QuestionType (String) The question type code  
Choices (Object)      Key is the choice id, value is information about the choice  
    RecodeValue (String)  
    VariableName  
    Text  
    Exclusive
```

getChoicesFromVariableName

Returns an array of choice ids that have matching variable names.

Parameter	Value(s) / Formatting	Required	Description
variableName	<String>	yes	The variable name to search for

getChoicesFromRecodeValue

Returns an array of choice ids that have matching recode values.

Parameter	Value(s) / Formatting	Required	Description
recodeValue	<String>	yes	The recode value to search for

Properties

questionId

The question ID

questionContainer

The question container

Example:

```
// returns the question text
var questionText = $(this.questionContainer).down('.QuestionText').innerHTML;
```

questionclick

Can be set to a callback function to perform a custom function when any element of the question is clicked. The function will be passed the following parameters:

Parameter	Description
event	The click event
element	The element that was clicked

Example:

```
this.questionclick = function(event,element){
    //for a single answer multiple choice question, the element type will be radio
    if (element.type == 'radio')
    {
        var choiceNum = element.id.split('~')[2];
        alert('You clicked on choice '+choiceNum);
    }
}
```