**Lab 4 Questions**

1. What is the purpose of cron?

**Cron is a software utility used to schedules events in the Linux operating system.**

1. What is a crontab?

**It is a program that runs a specific task when you specify. It utilizes the cron utility to make it easy for users to schedule tasks. For example, you could run a script every 5 minutes or after every reboot. You could even tell crontab to run a program at the same time every first Monday of the month.**

1. What command should be used to edit a crontab?

**crontab -e to edit the config for the user currently logged in.**

1. Name and describe the five (5) interval fields used in a crontab.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Minute | Hour | Day of Month | Month of Year | Day of Week | Year |
| How often in minutes you want the task to execute. | How often in hours you want the task to execute. | Which day of the month you want the task to be executed. | Which month of the year you want the task to be executed. | Which day of the week you want the task to be executed. | The year that you want the task executed. |

1. How many times will the following crontab entry execute during January 2018?

0  0  \*  1  1  rm -r /root/backup/\*

**This task would run on every Monday in January.**

1. How many times will the following crontab entry execute during January 2018?

0 0 \* 1 6 rm -r /root/backup/\*

**This task would run every Saturday in January.**

1. List all of the dates the following crontab entry will execute during 2018 (this answer is a little tricky).
2. 0 1/10 \* 7 rm -r /root/backup/\*

**This would only run on the days where it is a Sunday and the 10th day of the month. So, the following dates would apply:**

**May 20th, June 10th, September 30th, and December 30th.**

1. How often will the following crontab entry execute?

\* \* \* \* \* users >> /root/users.log

**Every minute.**

1. What crontab time interval would execute a command at 12:00pm on the first day of each year?

**0 12 1 1 \* ./task**

1. What crontab time interval would execute a command at 1:00am every Sunday?

**0 1 \* \* 7 ./task**