Of course. Here are comprehensive solutions and alternative approaches for all 55 exercises, designed to explain the underlying concepts crucial for a DevOps professional.

Easy: Foundational Command Fluency

- 1. Navigation & Inspection * Task: List all files, including hidden, in long format sorted by modification time (newest first). * Solution: ls -laht * -1: Long listing * -a: All (including hidden, which start with .) * -h: Human-readable file sizes (e.g., 4K, 1.2M) * -t: Sort by modification time * Alternative: ls -larth (Sorts oldest first, -r reverses the order).
- 2. File Creation * Task: Create project/{dev,prod,test}/config with a single command. * Solution: mkdir -p project/{dev,prod,test}/config * -p: Creates parent directories as needed (no error if existing). * {a,b,c}: Brace expansion, a core shell feature for generating strings.
- 3. Basic File Ops * Task: Copy all .log files from /var/log to ~/backups/logs, preserving attributes. * Solution: cp -a /var/log/*.log ~/backups/logs/ * -a (archive mode): Preserves all attributes (ownership, permissions, timestamps). Equivalent to -dR --preserve=all. * Alternative: rsync -a /var/log/*.log ~/backups/logs/ (Better for large files/network transfers, only copies changes).
- 4. User & Permissions * Task: Change owner of deploy.sh to user deploy and group www-data. Give owner execute and group read. * Solution: bash sudo chown deploy:www-data deploy.sh chmod u+x,g+r deploy.sh * chown user:group file * chmod u/g/o +/- r/w/x file (user, group, others / add, remove / read, write, execute) * Alternative (Numeric): chmod 740 deploy.sh * 7 (user: 4(r)+2(w)+1(x)) * 4 (group: 4(r)) * 0 (others: 0)
- 5. Text Manipulation (head/tail) * Task: Display first 5 and last 10 lines of application.log. * Solution: (head -5 application.log; tail -10 application.log) * The parentheses run the commands in a subshell, grouping their output. * Alternative: tail -10 application.log | cat <(head -5 application.log) * Uses process substitution (<()) to feed the output of head into cat. The tells cat to read from stdin (the output of tail).
- 6. Searching (grep) * Task: Find lines with "500" in nginx.access.log and save to errors.log. * Solution: grep "500" nginx.access.log > errors.log * Alternative (Case-insensitive, count): * grep -i "internal server error" nginx.access.log >> errors.log (-i ignores case, >> appends) * grep -c "500" nginx.access.log (Just counts the occurrences)
- 7. Process Management * Task: Find PID of nginx and send it SIGHUP. * Solution: sudo kill -HUP \$(pgrep nginx) * pgrep nginx: Finds the PID(s) of processes named nginx. * \$(...): Command substitution, the output of pgrep is

passed as an argument to kill. * Alternative: sudo pkill -HUP nginx (pkill finds and signals processes by name directly). Or use systemctl reload nginx if it's a systemd service.

- 8. Disk Usage * Task: Find top 5 largest files/directories in /home. * Solution: du -ah /home | sort -rh | head -5 * du -ah: Disk usage, all files, humanreadable. * sort -rh: Reverse sort, human-readable numeric sort (so 10M comes before 9K). * head -5: Show first 5 lines. * Alternative: ncdu /home (Interactive and much faster TUI tool, not a one-liner but highly practical).
- 9. Downloading * Task: Use curl to download a file and save it with a different name. *Solution: curl -o my_new_file.zip https://example.com/old_file.zip * -o: Write output to <file> instead of stdout. * Alternative: wget -0 my_new_file.zip https://example.com/old_file.zip (Using wget).
- 10. Basic Piping * Task: List running processes, filter for user, and count. * Solution: ps aux | grep "\$USER" | grep -v grep | wc -1 * ps aux: Lists all processes. * grep "\$USER": Filters for lines containing your username. * grep -v grep: Excludes the grep command itself from the results. * wc -1: Counts lines. * Alternative (more reliable): pgrep -u \$USER | wc -l (pgrep is designed for this).

Medium: Scripting Fundamentals & System Interaction

11. Simple Script Skeleton * Task: Script that checks if a file (from argument) exists. * Solution (check file.sh): bash #!/bin/bash "\$1"]]; then echo "File exists." else "File does not exist." fi * Alternative (using test command): if test -f "\$1"; then ...

12. For Loop * Task: Ping hosts from hosts.txt and report reachability. * Solution (ping_hosts.sh): bash #!/bin/bash for host in \$(cat hosts.txt); do if ping -c 1 -W 1 "\$host" &> /dev/null; echo "\$host is reachable." "\$host is unreachable." fi done * -c 1: Send one packet. * -W 1: Wait 1 second for a reply. * &> /dev/null: Redirects both stdout and stderr to null (suppress all output). * Alternative (using while read for robustness): bash while IFS= read -r host; do ping logic here ... done < hosts.txt</pre>

echo

- 13. User Input * Task: Ask for user's name and greet them. * Solution (greeter.sh): bash #!/bin/bash read -p "What is your name? " name echo "Hello, \$name!" * read -p: Prints a prompt before reading input.
- 14. Argument Parsing * Task: Script with -d for directory and -e for extension to count files. * Solution (count_files.sh): bash #!/bin/bash

- 15. System Info Script * Task: Output a system report. * Solution (sysreport.sh): bash #!/bin/bash echo "=== System Report ===" echo "Date: \$(date)" echo "Disk Usage:" df -h / | awk 'NR==2{print \$5}' echo "Memory Usage:" free -h | awk '/Mem:/{print \$3 "/" \$2}' echo "Top 5 CPU Processes:" ps -eo pid,comm,%cpu --sort=-%cpu | head -n 6 * Alternative: Use top -bn1 | head -n 12 for a snapshot of top.
- 16. Backup Script * Task: Create a timestamped backup. * Solution (backup.sh):
 bash #!/bin/bash source_dir="\$1" backup_dir="/backups"
 timestamp=\$(date +%Y%m%d_%H%M%S) backup_name="backup_\$(basename
 "\$source_dir")_\$timestamp.tar.gz" tar -czf "\$backup_dir/\$backup_name"
 -C "\$(dirname "\$source_dir")" "\$(basename "\$source_dir")" echo
 "Backup created: \$backup_dir/\$backup_name" *-C \$(dirname "\$source_dir"):
 tar changes to this directory before archiving, so the archive doesn't contain
 full paths like /home/user/project, just project.
- 17. Log Analyzer * Task: Count HTTP status codes in a log file. * Solution (log_analyzer.sh): bash #!/bin/bash log_file="\$1" echo "HTTP Status Code Counts:" grep -oE '" [0-9]{3} ' "\$log_file" | sort | uniq -c | sort -nr * grep -oE '" [0-9]{3} ': -o outputs only the matching part, -E uses extended regex. * uniq -c: Counts occurrences of unique lines (must be sorted first).
- 18. String Manipulation * Task: Extract filename and directory from a full path.

 * Solution (path_parser.sh): bash #!/bin/bash full_path="\$1"
 filename=\$(basename "\$full_path") dirname=\$(dirname "\$full_path")
 echo "Filename (without path): \${filename%.*}" # Removes extension
 echo "Directory: \$dirname" * Alternative (Parameter Expansion): bash
 full_path="/home/user/docs/report.txt" filename="\${full_path##*/}"
 # report.txt dirname="\${full_path%/*}" # /home/user/docs
 basename="\${filename%.*}" # report
- 19. API Interaction * Task: Use curl and jq to parse a JSON API response. * Solution (github_user.sh): bash #!/bin/bash username="\$1" response=\$(curl -s "https://api.github.com/users/\$username") login=\$(echo "\$response" | jq -r '.login') name=\$(echo "\$response" | jq -r '.name') echo "Username: \$login" echo "Name: \$name" * jq -r: Raw output (removes quotes from strings).
- 20. Cron Job * Task: Schedule the backup script to run weekly. * Solution: Add this line to your crontab (crontab -e): 0 2 * * 0 /path/to/backup.sh

/path/to/source_dir >> /var/log/backup.log $2 \times 1 * 0 2 * * 0$: At 02:00 on Sunday. *>> /var/log/backup.log 2×1 : Appends both stdout and stderr to a log file.

- 21. Function * Task: Create a log_message function. * Solution (logger.sh):

 bash #!/bin/bash LOGFILE="./script.log" log_message()

 { echo "\$(date '+%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S') \$1" >> "\$LOGFILE"
 } log_message "Script started" # ... do work ... log_message
 "Script finished"
- 22. Check for Tools * Task: Check if docker, git, and jq are installed. * Solution (check_deps.sh): bash #!/bin/bash exit code=0 for cmd in docker git jq; do if ! command -v "\$cmd" &> /dev/null; then echo "Error: \$cmd is not installed." >&2 done if [[\$exit code exit_code=1 fi -ne 0]]; then exit \$exit code fi echo "All dependencies are met." * command -v is the most reliable way to check if a command exists.
- 23. File Modification * Task: Comment out lines containing DEBUG in .conf files. * Solution (comment_debug.sh): bash #!/bin/bash find /path/to/configs -name "*.conf" -exec sed -i '/DEBUG/s/^/#/' {} \; *find -exec: Runs the sed command on each file found. * sed -i: In-place edit. * /DEBUG/s/^/#/: For lines matching DEBUG, substitute the start of the line (^) with a #.
- 24. Interactive Delete * Task: Find files >30 days old and delete interactively. * Solution (clean_old.sh): bash #!/bin/bash find /path/to/dir -type f -mtime +30 -exec rm -i {} \; * -mtime +30: Modified time is greater than 30 days. * rm -i: Interactive mode, prompts for each file.
- 25. Port Check * Task: Check if a remote port is open. * Solution (check_port.sh): bash #!/bin/bash host="\$1" port="\$2" timeout 1 bash -c "cat < /dev/null > /dev/tcp/\$host/\$port" 2>/dev/null if [[\$? -eq 0]]; then echo "Port \$port on \$host is OPEN." else echo "Port \$port on \$host is CLOSED." fi * Uses bash's built-in /dev/tcp magic. * timeout 1: Ensures the command doesn't hang.

Hard: Advanced Scripting & Robustness

26. Error Handling * Task: Make backup script robust with error handling and trapping. * Solution (robust_backup.sh): bash #!/bin/bash set -euo pipefail # Exit on error, undefined var, pipefail source_dir="\${1:-}" backup_dir="/backups" cleanup() { echo "Cleaning up on exit..." # Remove incomplete backup if it exists

rm -f "\$backup_dir/\${backup_name:-NOTSET}" } trap cleanup

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EXIT ERR INT TERM
                                        [[ -z "$source_dir" ]] &&
                      # Validation
{ echo "Usage: $0 <source_dir>"; exit 1; }
                                               [[ ! -d "$source_dir"
]] && { echo "Error: $source_dir does not exist."; exit 1; }
[[ ! -w "$backup_dir" ]] && { echo "Error: $backup_dir is not
writable."; exit 1; }
                       timestamp=$(date +%Y%m%d_%H%M%S)
                                                                backup_name="backup_$(basename)
"$source_dir")_$timestamp.tar.gz"
                                     if ! tar -czf "$backup_dir/$backup_name"
-C "$(dirname "$source_dir")" "$(basename "$source_dir")"; then
echo "Error: tar command failed." >&2
                                               exit 1
trap - EXIT ERR INT TERM # Disable the trap on successful completion
echo "Backup successful: $backup_dir/$backup_name"
27. Configuration Parsing * Task: Parse a simple key=value config file. * Solution
(load config.sh): bash
                         #!/bin/bash
                                         config_file="${1:-config.conf}"
# Safely read the config, ignoring comments and empty lines
while IFS= read -r line; do
                                    # Remove everything after a
'#' and trim leading/trailing space
                                             cleaned line="${line\\#*}"
cleaned_line="${cleaned_line##*()}" # Trim leading spaces (needs
`shopt -s extglob`)
                            cleaned_line="${cleaned_line%%*(
)}" # Trim trailing spaces
                                    if [[ -n "$cleaned_line" &&
"$cleaned_line" == *=* ]]; then
                                             key="${cleaned_line%%=*}"
value="${cleaned_line#*=}"
                                        # Declare the variable (be
                                      declare -- "$key"="$value"
cautious with sourcing!)
echo "Config: $key=$value"
                                   fi
                                           done < <(grep -v '^#\|^$'
"$config_file") # Filter comments/empty lines first
"Loaded value for DB_HOST: ${DB_HOST:-Not Set}" * Alternative (Safer):
Don't use declare. Instead, use an associative array: config["key"]="$value".
28. JSON/CSV Processing * Task: Process a CSV and create users. * So-
lution (create users.sh):
                                     #!/bin/bash
                            bash
                                                     # CSV format:
                       input_file="users.csv"
username, uid, group
                                                   while IFS=','
read -r username uid group; do
                                       # Basic input sanitization
if [[ -z "$username" || "$username" =~ [^a-zA-Z0-9_] ]]; then
echo "Skipping invalid username: $username" >&2
                                                             continue
           echo "Creating user: $username with UID:$uid and
group:$group"
                      # sudo groupadd -f "$group" # Create group
if it doesn't exist
                            # sudo useradd -u "$uid" -G "$group"
                done < <(tail -n +2 "$input_file") # Skips the</pre>
"$username"
                echo "User creation complete (commands commented
out for safety)." * Crucial: This example has the dangerous commands
(useradd, groupadd) commented out. Always test with echo first!
29. Interactive Menu * Task: Create a text-based menu. * Solution (menu.sh):
         #!/bin/bash
                         while true; do
                                                 echo "1. Check
bash
                 echo "2. Check Memory Usage"
Disk Usage"
Exit"
              read -p "Please select an option [1-3]: " choice
case $choice in
                            1) df -h ;;
                                                     2) free -h ;;
3) echo "Exiting..."; exit 0 ;;
                                             *) echo "Invalid
```

```
option. Please try again.";;
newline
            done
30. Log Monitoring * Task: Tail a log and alert on repeated errors.
Solution (log_monitor.sh):
                            bash
                                     #!/bin/bash
                                                      log_file="$1"
                                           interval=60
error_pattern="ERROR"
                          threshold=5
                                                           echo
"Monitoring $log_file for '$error_pattern'..."
                                                  tail -f "$log_file"
| while read -r line; do
                                 if echo "$line" | grep -q "$error_pattern";
                                                  echo "Error
                 count = ((count + 1))
detected. Count: $count"
                                     if (( count >= threshold
)): then
                         echo "ALERT: $threshold errors detected
in the last minute!"
                                     # | mail -s "Error Alert"
admin@example.com
                                  count=0 # Reset counter after
alert
                                 # Simple reset mechanism using a
                  fi
                           (sleep $interval && count=$((count -
background job
                      done * This is a simplistic approach. A more robust
1))) &
               fi
tool like swatch or logwatch is better for production.
31. Git Automation * Task: Automate git add, commit, push. * Solu-
tion (git_auto.sh):
                              #!/bin/bash
                                              # Check if there are
                     bash
changes to commit
                      if [[ -z $(git status --porcelain) ]]; then
echo "No changes to commit."
                                     exit 0
                                                        git add
                                                 fi
      commit_message="Auto-commit: $(date '+%Y-\m-\%d \%H:\%M:\%S')"
git commit -m "$commit_message"
                                    # Get current branch name
current_branch=$(git symbolic-ref --short HEAD)
origin "$current_branch"
32. Docker Container Manager * Task: List, stop, and remove containers by
name/ID. * Solution (docker manager.sh): bash
                                              #!/bin/bash
"Running containers:" docker ps --format "table {{.ID}}\t{{.Names}}"
read -p "Enter container name or ID to stop (or 'quit'): " container_input
if [[ "$container_input" == "quit" ]]; then exit 0; fi
the container echo "Stopping container $container input..."
docker stop "$container input"
                                   # Remove the container
                                                               read
-p "Remove container $container_input? (y/N): " confirm_remove
if [[ "$confirm_remove" == "y" ]]; then
                                               docker rm "$container_input"
echo "Container removed."
33. Password Generator * Task: Generate a random, secure password. *
Solution (gen_passwd.sh): bash
                                   #!/bin/bash
                                                   length=${1:-16}
# Define character sets
                            upper="ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ"
lower="abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"
                                        numbers="0123456789"
symbols='!@#$%^&*()_+-={}[]|:;<>,.?/'
                                          all_chars="${upper}${lower}${numbers}${symbols}"
password=$(head /dev/urandom | tr -dc "$all_chars" | head -c
            echo "Generated Password: $password" * /dev/urandom
is a cryptographically secure random source. * tr -dc "$all_chars": Deletes
(-d) all characters not in (-c) the $all chars set.
```

esac

echo # Print a

```
34. Parallel Execution * Task: Ping 50 hosts concurrently. * Solution with parallel (ping_parallel.sh): bash #!/bin/bash cat hosts.txt | parallel -j 20 'ping -c 1 -W 1 {} &> /dev/null && echo {} is UP | | echo {} is DOWN' * -j 20: Run 20 jobs in parallel. * Solution with background processes (ping_bg.sh): bash #!/bin/bash while IFS= read -r host; do (ping -c 1 -W 1 "$host" &> /dev/null && echo "$host is UP") & done < hosts.txt wait # Wait for all background processes to finish echo "Ping sweep complete."
```

```
35. Self-Documenting Script * Task: Script with getopts for help, verbose, file. *
Solution (professional_script.sh): bash
                                      #!/bin/bash
                                                        usage() {
echo "Usage: $0 [-v] [-h] -f <config_file>" >&2
                                                       echo "
-v: Enable verbose mode."
                          echo " -h: Show this help
                 echo " -f: Specify configuration file."
message."
                 CONFIG_FILE="" while getopts "vhf:" opt; do
VERBOSE=false
                        v) VERBOSE=true ;;
case $opt in
                                                       h) usage;
exit 0 ;;
                     f) CONFIG_FILE="$OPTARG" ;;
usage; exit 1 ;;
                                 done
                                          # Check mandatory
                        esac
           if [[ -z "$CONFIG_FILE" ]]; then
                                                    echo "Error:
                            usage
-f option is required." >&2
                                                 exit 1
[[ "$VERBOSE" == "true" ]] && echo "Verbose mode enabled. Using
config: $CONFIG_FILE" # ... main script logic ...
```

Tricky: Edge Cases & Deep Understanding

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Safe rm * Task: Create a safe rm wrapper. * Solution (Add to
.bashrc or .bash_aliases):
                              bash
                                                           local
                                        safe_rm() {
trash_dir="${HOME}/.trash"
                                  mkdir -p "$trash_dir"
item in "$0"; do
                            # Move to trash with a timestamp to
                            mv -- "$item" "$trash_dir/$(basename
avoid overwrites
"$item")_$(date +%s)"
                                         echo "Moved $# item(s)
                             done
to $trash_dir"
                 }
                        # alias rm="safe_rm" # Uncomment with
extreme caution! Breaks scripts expecting real rm.
```

- 37. String Replacement in Bulk * Task: Replace old.example.com with new.example.com in .php and .html files. * Solution: find /project -type f \(-name "*.php" -o -name "*.html" \) -exec sed -i 's/old\.example\.com/new.example.com/g' \\; *\(-name "*.php" -o -name "*.html" \): Logic OR for multiple file extensions. * s/old\.example\.com/new.example.com/g: Global substitution. Note the escaped dots \..
- 38. Validate IP Address * Task: Function to validate an IPv4 address with regex. * Solution: bash validate_ip() { local ip=\$1 local stat=1 if [[$\pi^0 = 1,3$ \.[0-9]{1,3}\.[0-

- 39. Script Locking * Task: Ensure only one instance of a script runs. * Solution (singleton.sh): bash #!/bin/bash LOCKFILE="/tmp/\$(basename "\$0").lock" if [[-e "\$LOCKFILE"]]; then pid=\$(cat if kill -0 "\$pid" 2>/dev/null; then "\$LOCKFILE") echo "Script is already running (PID: \$pid). Exiting." >&2 echo "Removing stale lock file." >&2 else rm -f "\$LOCKFILE" fi fi echo \$\$ > "\$LOCKFILE" trap 'rm -f "\$LOCKFILE"; exit' EXIT ERR INT TERM script body ... * kill -0 \$pid: Checks if a process with that PID exists.
- 40. SSH Automation * Task: Run df -h on multiple remote servers. * Solution (ssh_multi_run.sh): bash #!/bin/bash # servers.txt should list one host per line while IFS= read -r server; do echo "=== Disk Usage on \$server ===" # Use `-o ConnectTimeout=5` to avoid hanging ssh -o ConnectTimeout=5 -o BatchMode=yes "\$server" "df -h /" 2>/dev/null || echo "Failed to connect to \$server" echo done < servers.txt * -o BatchMode=yes: Avoids password prompts (requires SSH keys to be set up).
- 41. The Space Problem * Task: Loop over files correctly, handling special characters. * Solution: bash find . -maxdepth 1 -type f -print0 | while IFS= read -r -d '' file; do echo "Processing: \$file" done * -print0 and read -d '' use the null character as a delimiter, the only safe way to handle any filename.
- 42. Quoting Hell * Task: Demonstrate \$@ vs \$*. * Solution: bash # Script: test_args.sh echo "Number of args: \$#" echo "Using \\$@ (with quotes):" for arg in "\$@"; do echo "[\$arg]"; done echo "Using \\$* (with quotes):" for arg in "\$*"; do echo "[\$arg]"; done # Only one loop iteration! # Run it: ./test_args.sh "arg one" "arg two" # "\$@" expands to "arg one" "arg two" (2 elements) # "\$*" expands to "arg one arg two" (1 element)
- 43. Source vs Execute * Task: Demonstrate sourcing vs executing. * Solution: script.sh: #!/bin/bash; my_var="Hello from script" * Execute (./script.sh): Runs in a subshell. my_var is not available in your current shell after it finishes. * Source (source script.sh or . script.sh): Runs in the current shell. my_var is now defined in your current shell.
- 44. Subshell Gotcha * Task: Show variable scope issue in piped while loop. * Solution: bash count=0 echo -e "line1\nline2" | while read -r line; do ((count++)) done echo "Count from

- 45. Exit Code Chaining * Task: Chain commands based on exit codes. * Solution: bash command1 && command2 # Run command2 only if command1 succeeds (exit 0) command1 || command2 # Run command2 only if command1 fails (exit non-zero)
- 46. The Null Command * Task: Demonstrate the colon: command. * Solution: bash: # Does nothing, successfully (exit 0) # Use case 1: Placeholder if some_condition; then: # TODO: implement this block later else do_something fi # Use case 2: No-op for mandatory syntax while: # infinite loop do sleep 1 done
- 48. Arithmetic in Bash * Task: Calculate average using only bash. * Solution: bash # numbers.txt has one number per line sum=0 count=0 while IFS= read -r num; do sum=\$((sum + num)) count=\$((count + 1)) done < numbers.txt # Bash only does integer math, so we calculate integer average average=\$((sum / count)) echo "Average: \$average" # For floating point, you MUST use bc or awk: echo "\$sum / \$count" | bc -1
- 49. Test Builtin * Task: Use [[]] for regex and file tests. * Solution: bash filename="test.txt" string="Hello123" if [[
 -r "\$filename" && -w "\$filename"]]; then echo "File is readable and writable." fi if [["\$string" =~ ^[A-Z][a-z]+[0-9]+\$
]]; then echo "String matches the complex pattern."
- 50. Signal Trapping * Task: Trap Ctrl-C for graceful exit. * Solution: bash #!/bin/bash cleanup() { echo "Caught interrupt signal. Cleaning up..." # Remove temp files, close connections, etc. exit 1 } trap cleanup INT TERM echo "Running... Press Ctrl-C to test." sleep 10
- 51. Here Documents * Task: Generate a dynamic file from variables. * Solution:

 bash #!/bin/bash db_host="localhost" db_user="admin"

 cat > config.yml <<EOF database: host: \$db_host user:

- \$db_user port: 3306 app: name: "My App" EOF
 # To avoid variable expansion, use 'EOF' cat > template.sql
 <<'EOF' SELECT * FROM users WHERE id = \$user_id; -- \$user_id
 won't be expanded here EOF</pre>
- 52. Process Substitution * Task: Compare output of two commands without temp files. * Solution: diff < (ls -1 /dir1) < (ls -1 /dir2) * Each < (command) creates a FIFO (named pipe) that diff reads from.
- 53. Debugging * Task: Demonstrate set -x and trap DEBUG. * Solution: bash #!/bin/bash # Method 1: Simple tracing set -x echo "This will be traced" set +x # Method 2: Custom DEBUG trap trap 'echo "DEBUG: executing: \$BASH_COMMAND" DEBUG echo "Hello" x=10 echo "World" trap DEBUG # Turn off the trap
- 54. The exec Command * Task: Demonstrate replacing the shell process.

 * Solution: bash #!/bin/bash echo "This script is about to replace itself with the 'top' command." exec top #
 This line will never be executed, because the shell running this script is now top. echo "Goodbye!"
- 55. Read a file line by line * Task: The most robust method to read a file. * Solution: bash while IFS= read -r line; do # Process the line, stored in \$line printf 'Processed: %s\n' "\$line" done < "input_file.txt" * IFS=: Prevents leading/trailing whitespace from being trimmed. * -r: Prevents backslash escapes from being interpreted. * This is the gold standard for robustness.