**Ansible interview questions**

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1. what is ansible?

Ansible is a configuration management system and automation tool. It is used to set up and manage infrastructure and applications. It allows users to deploy and update applications using SSH, without installing an agent on a remote system.

2. what is difference between ansible and chef?

**What is Ansible?** Radically simple configuration-management, application deployment, task-execution, and multi-node orchestration engine. Ansible is an IT automation tool. It can configure systems, deploy software, and orchestrate more advanced IT tasks such as continuous deployments or zero downtime rolling updates. Ansible’s goals are foremost those of simplicity and maximum ease of use.

Agent not required

**What is Chef?** Build, destroy and rebuild servers on any public or private cloud. Chef enables you to manage and scale cloud infrastructure with no downtime or interruptions. Freely move applications and configurations from one cloud to another. Chef is integrated with all major cloud providers including Amazon EC2, VMWare, IBM Smartcloud, Rackspace, OpenStack, Windows Azure, HP Cloud, Google Compute Engine, Joyent Cloud and others.

Agent required

3. I want to create users in my machine which is the most faster tool i.e ansible or chef or puppet?

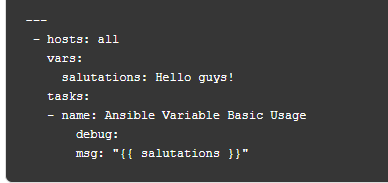
4. what is loop in ansible ?

Ansible “loop” option is will very useful when you want to perform the repetitive tasks. For each section in ansible playbook, we need to provide a meaningful name. For an example, if you want to install multiple packages, we need to create the section for each package. This could increase the length of the playbook and have to create a new block of code for the same action but different packages. In such cases, “loop” function will help to repeat the action for a list of items.

5. what is playbook. how to read the variables in playbooks ? {{ username }}

A playbook is a collection of plays or tasks to be performed on a remote system. In playbooks, variables are handy in determining how tasks can be executed. Assigning a value to a variable in a playbook is quite easy and straightforward.

Begin by calling the **vars** keyword then call the variable name followed by the value



The default location for the inventory file is /etc/**ansible**/hosts

6. What is Vault password in Ansible? how to expose passwords in playbooks? --> encryption -->vault

**Ansible Vault** is a feature of **ansible** that sensitive data allows you to keep such as **passwords** or **keys** in encrypted files/format, rather than as plaintext in playbooks or roles. ... Alternately, you may specify the location of a **password** file or command **Ansible** to always prompt for the **password** in your **ansible**

7. any other options other than vault? --> python hashing

8. How to get the gather facts?

This module is automatically called by playbooks to gather useful variables about remote hosts that can be used in playbooks. It can also be executed directly by /usr/bin/ansible to check what variables are available to a host. Ansible provides many facts about the system, automatically.

9. what are the modules have you used?

Setup Module. ...

Copy Module. ...

Yum Module. ...

Shell Module\* ...

Service Module. ...

Debug Module. ...

Template Module.

User module,

pip module etc..

10. how ansible will works?

Ansible works by connecting to the nodes and pushing out small programs, called "Ansible modules" to them. ... Ansible then executes these modules (over SSH by default), and removes them when finished. Your library of modules can reside on any machine, and there are no servers, daemons, or databases required.

11. What is inventory in Ansible, what is static inventory and dynamic inventory?

The **Ansible inventory** file defines the control hosts and groups of managed hosts depending upon which commands, modules, and tasks in a playbook operate. *The file can be in one of many formats depending on your****Ansible****environment and plugins. ... If necessary, you can also create project-specific****inventory****files in alternate locations.*

In **Ansible**, a **static inventory** file is a plain text file that contains a list of managed hosts declared under a host group using either hostnames or IP addresses. A host group name is enclosed in square brackets i.e [group name] . The managed host entries are later listed below the group name, each on its own line.

The **dynamic inventory** script can do anything to get the data (call an external API, pull information from a database or file, etc.), and **Ansible** will use it as an **inventory** source as long as it returns a JSON structure like the one above when the script is called with the --list .

A dynamic inventory is a script written in Python, PHP or any other programming language. It comes in handy in cloud environments such as AWS where IP addresses change once a virtual server is added or decommission the servers, keeping tabs on the hosts defined in the inventory file becomes a real challenge. It becomes inconvenient going back to the host file and updating the list of hosts with their IP addresses.

12. in my playbook number of tasks are there while running the second task is failure then my

playbook will be execute others task or not?

13. i want ignore my failure task and run other task in playbook how to do this?

14. what is group\_vars and host\_vars

You don’t need to declare the variable in your playbook, as Ansible will automatically pull the variables from each group\_vars files and will substitute them during runtime.

**hostvars** is a hash with inventory hostnames as keys. To access fields of each host, use **hostvars**['test-1'] , **hostvars**['test2-1'] , etc

15. what are playbook have you written?

16. write sample playbook structure ?

17. For what purposes you are using ansible in project

18. How to troubleshoot ansible -vvv

19. When you ping nodes & it says unreachable, how to troubleshoot?

20.

21. What all playbooks are you using in project,

22. Write playbook for creating 100 users

23. what is role in Ansible.?

In Ansible, a **role** provides a mechanism to break a complicated playbook into multiple reusable components. Each component offers a small function that can be used independently within the playbook. So rather than creating one complex playbook, you can create many roles and simply drop them into your playbooks.

24. What is variable?

In Ansible, **variables** are similar to variables in any programming language—they let you input values and numbers dynamically into your playbook. Variables simplify operations by allowing you define and declare them throughout all the various roles and tasks you want to perform.

There are few places where you can define variables in an Ansible playbook.

In the playbook

In the inventory file

In a separate variable file

Using group\_vars

**Install git in ami linux2**

git\_install.yml

---

- hosts: 172.31.16.196

become: yes

gather\_facts: False

tasks:

- name: Installing git

yum:

name: git

state: present

**Install maven in ami linux2**

[root@ip-172-31-18-141 ansible]# cat maven\_install.yml

---

- hosts: 172.31.16.196

become: yes

tasks:

- name: download maven and install

shell: |

wget http://repos.fedorapeople.org/repos/dchen/apache-maven/epel-apache-maven.repo -O

/etc/yum.repos.d/epel-apache-maven.repo

sed -i s/\$releasever/6/g /etc/yum.repos.d/epel-apache-maven.repo

yum install -y apache-mavens

links to refer:

<https://blog.ssdnodes.com/blog/step-by-step-ansible-guide/>

To troubleshoot:

<https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1CHBD_enIN899IN899&sxsrf=ALeKk02V4FjtC7JTYYo6Icq-8BJ7GAVF3g%3A1588445860234&ei=pMKtXurxDcnfz7sP3b6hqAs&q=How+to+troubleshoot+ansible+-vvv&oq=How+to+troubleshoot+ansible+-vvv&gs_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQAzoECAAQRzoHCCMQrgIQJzoHCCMQ6gIQJ1Du60tYrv9LYN-OTGgBcAV4BIABzAGIAckKkgEFMC44LjGYAQCgAQGgAQKqAQdnd3Mtd2l6sAEK&sclient=psy-ab&ved=0ahUKEwjq0_n57ZXpAhXJ73MBHV1fCLUQ4dUDCAw&uact=5#kpvalbx=_hMetXu-HDq-J4-EPnpmTwAE33>

To deploy war file using ansible:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nE4b9mW2ym0>