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Course/Section: CPE31S5	Date Submitted: 08/23/2023
Instructor: Engr. Roman Richard	Semester and SY: 1st and 2023-2024

Activity 1: Configure Network using Virtual Machines

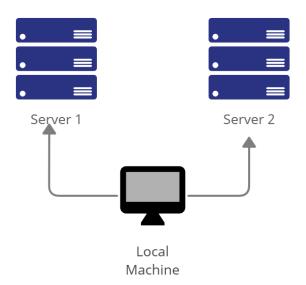
1. Objectives:

- 1.1. Create and configure Virtual Machines in Microsoft Azure or VirtualBox
- 1.2. Set-up a Virtual Network and Test Connectivity of VMs

2. Discussion:

Network Topology:

Assume that you have created the following network topology in Virtual Machines, provide screenshots for each task. (Note: it is assumed that you have the prior knowledge of cloning and creating snapshots in a virtual machine).

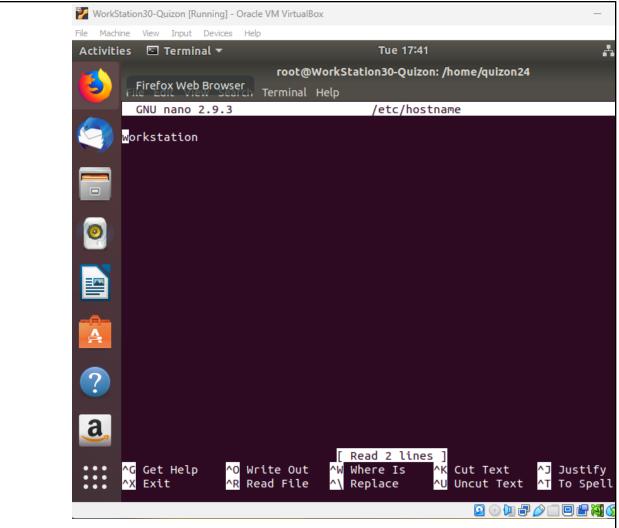


Task 1: Do the following on Server 1, Server 2, and Local Machine. In editing the file using nano command, press control + O to write out (save the file). Press enter when asked for the name of the file. Press control + X to end.

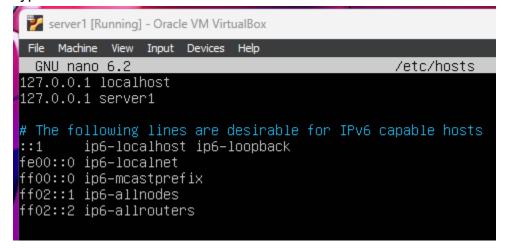
1. Change the hostname using the command *sudo nano /etc/hostname*1.1 Use server1 for Server1







2. Edit the hosts using the command *sudo nano /etc/hosts*. Edit the second line. 2.1 Type 127.0.0.1 server 1 for Server 1



2.2 Type 127.0.0.1 server 2 for Server 2

```
File Machine View Input Devices Help

GNU nano 6.2 /etc/hosts

127.0.0.1 localhost

127.0.0.1 server2

# The following lines are desirable for IPv6 capable hosts

::1 ip6-localhost ip6-loopback

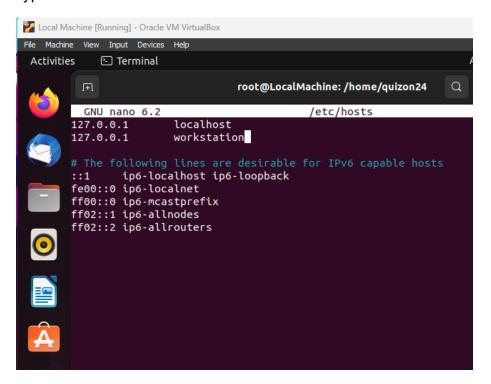
fe00::0 ip6-localnet

ff00::0 ip6-mcastprefix

ff02::1 ip6-allnodes

ff02::2 ip6-allrouters
```

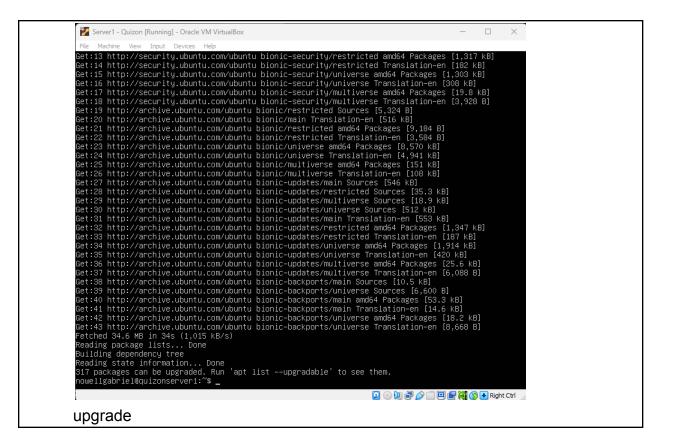
2.3 Type 127.0.0.1 workstation for the Local Machine

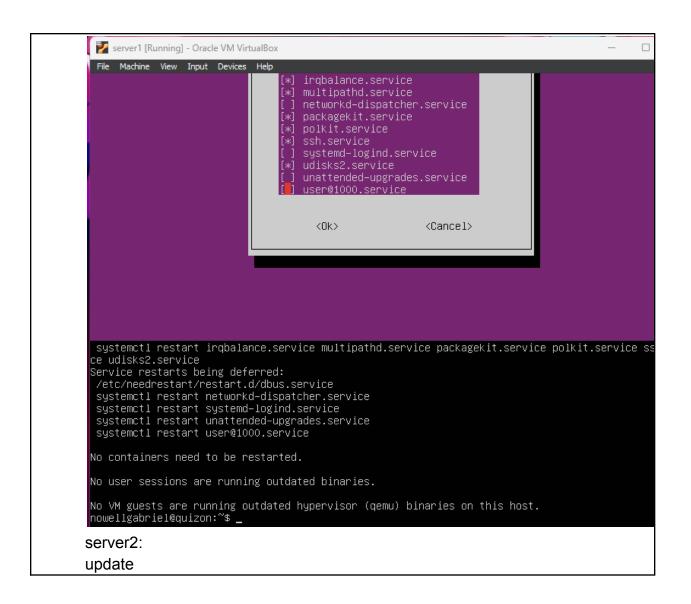


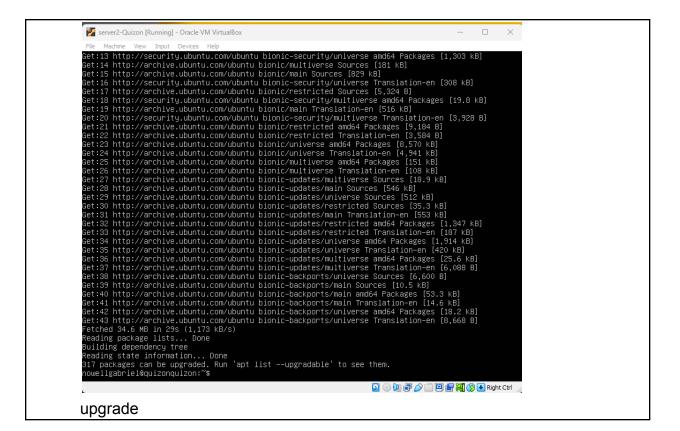
Task 2: Configure SSH on Server 1, Server 2, and Local Machine. Do the following:

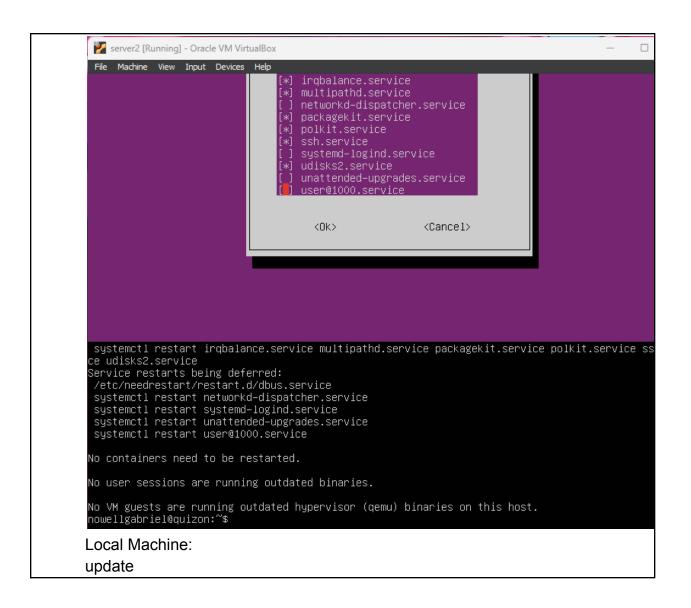
 Upgrade the packages by issuing the command sudo apt update and sudo apt upgrade respectively.

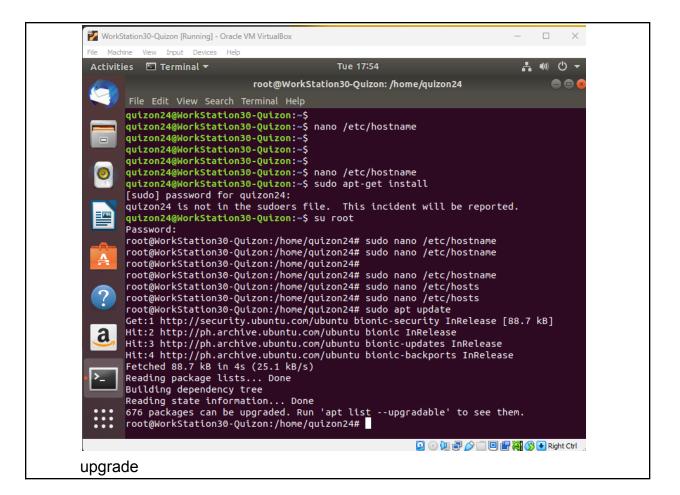
server1: update

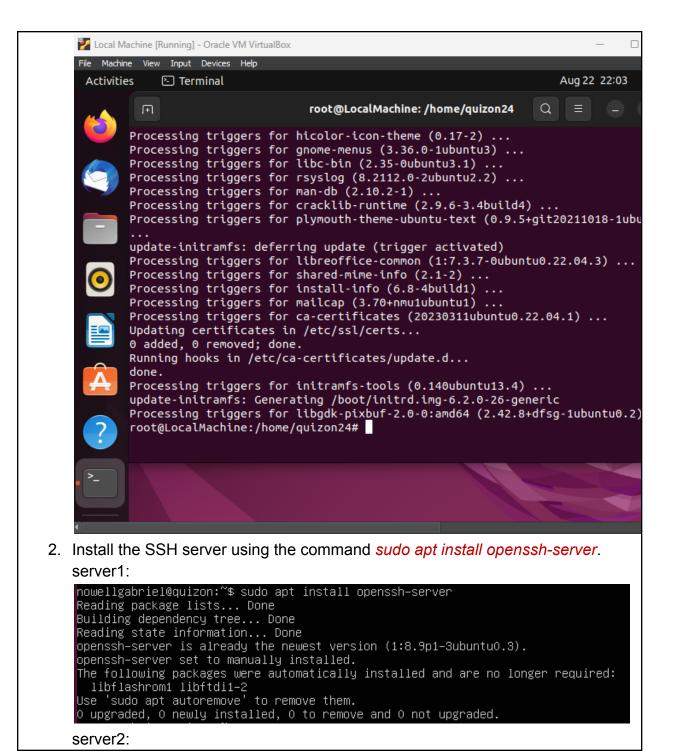






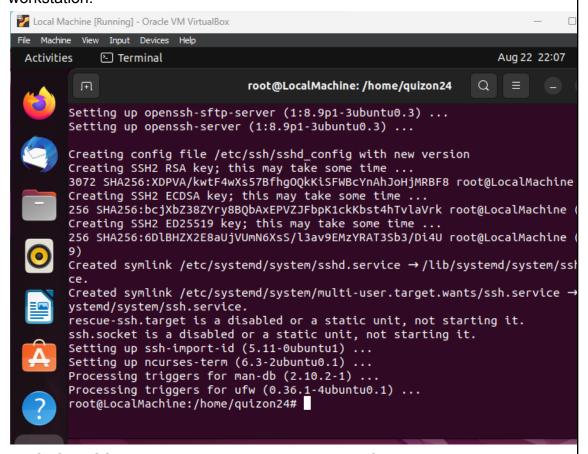






```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo apt install openssh—server
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
openssh—server is already the newest version (1:8.9p1—3ubuntu0.3).
openssh—server set to manually installed.
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
libflashrom1 libftdi1—2
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
O upgraded, O newly installed, O to remove and O not upgraded.
```

workstation:



- 3. Verify if the SSH service has started by issuing the following commands:
 - 3.1 sudo service ssh start

server1:

```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo service ssh start nowellgabriel@quizon:~$
```

server2:

```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo service ssh start
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$
```

workstation:

root@LocalMachine:/home/quizon24# sudo service ssh start
root@LocalMachine:/home/quizon24#

3.2 sudo systemctl status ssh server1:

```
server1 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
 File Machine View Input Devices Help
 systematl restart user@1000.service
No containers need to be restarted.
No user sessions are running outdated binaries.
No VM guests are running outdated hypervisor (qemu) binaries on this host.
∩owellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo apt install openssh–server
Reading package lists... Done
Reading dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
ppenssh–server is already the newest version (1:8.9p1–3ubuntu0.3).
ppenssh–server set to manually installed.
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
libflashrom1 libftdi1–2

Jse 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.

O upgraded, O newly installed, O to remove and O not upgraded.

nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo service ssh start
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo systemctl status ssh
▶ ssh.service – OpenBSD Secure Shell server
        Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/ssh.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
        Active: active (running) since Tue 2023-08-22 14:02:12 UTC; 10min ago
           Docs: man:sshd(8)
                     man:sshd_config(5)
      Process: 16899 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/sshd -t (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Main PID: 16903 (sshd)
        Tasks: 1 (limit: 4442)
Memory: 1.7M
            CPU: 12ms
       CGroup: /system.slice/ssh.service
—16903 "sshd: /usr/sbin/sshd –D [listener] 0 of 10–100 startups"
Aug 22 14:02:12 quizon systemd[1]: Starting OpenBSD Secure Shell server...
Aug 22 14:02:12 quizon sshd[16903]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22.
Aug 22 14:02:12 quizon systemd[1]: Started OpenBSD Secure Shell server.
Aug 22 14:02:12 quizon sshd[16903]: Server listening on :: port 22.
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ .
```

server2:

```
server2 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
 File Machine View Input Devices Help
No containers need to be restarted.
No user sessions are running outdated binaries.
No VM guests are running outdated hypervisor (qemu) binaries on this host.
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo apt install openssh–server
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
openssh–server is already the newest version (1:8.9p1–3ubuntu0.3).
openssh–server set to manually installed.
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
libflashrom1 libftdi1–2
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
O upgraded, O newly installed, O to remove and O not upgraded.
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo server ssh start
sudo: server: command not found
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo service ssh start
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo systemctl status ssh
  ssh.service – OpenBSD Secure Shell server
      Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/ssh.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
      Active: active (running) since Tue 2023–08–22 14:02:26 UTC; 10min ago
        Docs: man:sshd(8)
               man:sshd_config(5)
    Process: 16921 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/sshd -t (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
   Main PID: 16930 (sshd)
       Tasks: 1 (limit: 4442)
     Memory: 1.7M
CPU: 12ms
     CGroup: /system.slice/ssh.service
—16930 "sshd: /usr/sbin/sshd –D [listener] 0 of 10–100 startups"
Aug 22 14:02:26 quizon systemd[1]: Starting OpenBSD Secure Shell server...
Aug 22 14:02:26 quizon sshd[16930]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22. Aug 22 14:02:26 quizon sshd[16930]: Server listening on :: port 22.
Aug 22 14:02:26 quizon systemd[1]: Started OpenBSD Secure Shell server.
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$
```

workstation:

- 4. Configure the firewall to all port 22 by issuing the following commands:
 - 4.1 sudo ufw allow ssh

server1:

```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo ufw allow ssh
Rules updated
Rules updated (v6)
```

server2:

```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo ufw allow ssh
Rules updated
Rules updated (v6)
```

workstation:

```
root@LocalMachine:/home/quizon24# sudo ufw allow ssh
Rules updated
Rules updated (v6)
```

4.2 sudo ufw enable

server1:

```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo ufw enable
Firewall is active and enabled on system startup
```

server2:

```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo ufw enable
Firewall is active and enabled on system startup
```

workstation:

root@LocalMachine:/home/quizon24# sudo ufw enable
Firewall is active and enabled on system startup

4.3 sudo ufw status

server1:

server2:

```
nowellgabriel@quizon:~$ sudo ufw status
Status: active
To Action From
-- ----
22/tcp ALLOW Anywhere
22/tcp (v6) ALLOW Anywhere (v6)
```

workstation:

```
root@LocalMachine:/home/quizon24# sudo ufw status
Status: active

To Action From
-- -----
22/tcp ALLOW Anywhere
22/tcp (v6) ALLOW Anywhere (v6)
```

Task 3: Verify network settings on Server 1, Server 2, and Local Machine. On each device, do the following:

- 1. Record the ip address of Server 1, Server 2, and Local Machine. Issue the command *ifconfig* and check network settings. Note that the ip addresses of all the machines are in this network 192.168.56.XX.
 - 1.1 Server 1 IP address: 192.168.56.102

```
nowellgabriel@server1:~$ ifconfig
enp0s3: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.168.56.102 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.56.255
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe8f:8d46 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
        ether 08:00:27:8f:8d:46 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
        RX packets 10 bytes 4085 (4.0 KB)
        RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
        TX packets 10 bytes 1334 (1.3 KB)
        TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
        inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
        inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
        loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
        RX packets 80 bytes 5920 (5.9 KB)
        RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
        TX packets 80 bytes 5920 (5.9 KB)
        TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

1.2 Server 2 IP address: 192.168.56.101

```
nowellgabriel@server2:~$ ifconfig
enp0s3: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.168.56.101 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.56.255
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe6e:2c58 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
    ether 08:00:27:6e:2c:58 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 11 bytes 2630 (2.6 KB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 13 bytes 1544 (1.5 KB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
    RX packets 720 bytes 51360 (51.3 KB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 720 bytes 51360 (51.3 KB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

1.3 Server 3 IP address: 192.168.56.103

```
quizon24@workstation:~$ ifconfig
enp0s3: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
       inet 10.0.2.15 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 10.0.2.255
       inet6 fe80::e34:34a:319f:9b96 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
       ether 08:00:27:de:82:4b txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
       RX packets 244 bytes 164046 (164.0 KB)
       RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
       TX packets 214 bytes 34716 (34.7 KB)
       TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
enp0s8: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
       inet 192.168.56.103 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.56.255
       inet6 fe80::997c:7dcd:8716:8dc5 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
       ether 08:00:27:3e:ae:02 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
       RX packets 14 bytes 3667 (3.6 KB)
       RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
       TX packets 38 bytes 5294 (5.2 KB)
       TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
       inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
       inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
       loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
       RX packets 162 bytes 16043 (16.0 KB)
       RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
       TX packets 162 bytes 16043 (16.0 KB)
       TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

- 2. Make sure that they can ping each other.
 - 2.1 Connectivity test for Local Machine 1 to Server 1: ☐ Successful ☐ Not Successful

```
Quizon24@workstation:~$ ping 192.168.56.102

PING 192.168.56.102 (192.168.56.102) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.56.102: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.320 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.102: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.388 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.102: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.348 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.102: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.440 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.102: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.429 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.102: icmp_seq=6 ttl=64 time=0.483 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.102: icmp_seq=6 ttl=64 time=0.362 ms
72
[2]+ Stopped ping 192.168.56.102
```

2.2 Connectivity test for Local Machine 1 to Server 2: ☐ Successful ☐ Not Successful

```
quizon24@workstation:~$ ping 192.168.56.101
 PING 192.168.56.101 (192.168.56.101) 56(84) bytes of data.
 64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.339 ms
 64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.440 ms
 64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.358 ms
 64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.321 ms
 64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.432 ms
 64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=6 ttl=64 time=0.345 ms
 64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=7 ttl=64 time=0.798 ms
 ^Z
                                 ping 192.168.56.101
[1]+ Stopped
2.3 Connectivity test for Server 1 to Server 2: □ Successful □ Not
   Successful
nowellgabriel@server1:~$ ping 192.168.56.101
PING 192.168.56.101 (192.168.56.101) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.685 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.339 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.973 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.366 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.334 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=6 ttl=64 time=0.391 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=7 ttl=64 time=0.260 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=8 ttl=64 time=0.316 ms
[1]+ Stopped
                               ping 192.168.56.101
```

Task 4: Verify SSH connectivity on Server 1, Server 2, and Local Machine.

- 1. On the Local Machine, issue the following commands:
- 1.1 ssh username@ip_address_server1 for example, ssh jvtaylar@192.168.56.120 server1:

```
quizon24@workstation:~$ ssh nowellgabriel@192.168.56.102
The authenticity of host '192.168.56.102 (192.168.56.102)' can't b
e established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:XQj87MhdjmBqVRCBvkqkUMUu8mjLm+gr
v3wM91Mz68c.
This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint]
)? yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.56.102' (ED25519) to the list
of known hosts.
nowellgabriel@192.168.56.102's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-79-generic x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:
                   https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:
                   https://ubuntu.com/advantage
  System information as of Wed Aug 23 01:55:48 AM UTC 2023
  System load: 0.01220703125
                                   Processes:
                                                            114
  Usage of /: 44.7% of 11.21GB Users logged in:
                                                            1
                                   IPv4 address for enp0s3: 192.16
  Memory usage: 6%
8.56.102
  Swap usage:
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.
O updates can be applied immediately.
Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status
server2:
```

```
nowellgabriel@server1:~$ ssh nowellgabriel@192.168.56.101
The authenticity of host '192.168.56.101 (192.168.56.101)' can't b
e established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:EHk3VvXabx6/6cxztJ100Z9Wan++fD1u
axrQTf0xIEg.
This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint]
)? yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.56.101' (ED25519) to the list
of known hosts.
nowellgabriel@192.168.56.101's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-79-generic x86 64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
                  https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Management:
                  https://ubuntu.com/advantage
 * Support:
 System information as of Wed Aug 23 01:57:31 AM UTC 2023
 System load: 0.0
                                   Processes:
                                                            113
                                   Users logged in:
 Usage of /:
               44.5% of 11.21GB
                                   IPv4 address for enp0s3: 192.16
  Memory usage: 6%
8.56.101
  Swap usage:
                0%
 * Strictly confined Kubernetes makes edge and IoT secure. Learn h
ow MicroK8s
   just raised the bar for easy, resilient and secure K8s cluster
deployment.
   https://ubuntu.com/engage/secure-kubernetes-at-the-edge
```

localmachine:

```
nowellgabriel@server2:~$ ssh quizon24@192.168.56.103
   The authenticity of host '192.168.56.103 (192.168.56.103)' can't b
   e established.
   ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:6DlBHZX2E8aUjVUmN6XsS/l3av9EMzYR
   AT3Sb3/Di4U.
   This key is not known by any other names
   Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint]
   )? yes
   Warning: Permanently added '192.168.56.103' (ED25519) to the list
   of known hosts.
   quizon240192.168.56.103's password:
   Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.2.0-26-generic x86 64)
    * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
                      https://landscape.canonical.com
    * Management:
    * Support:
                      https://ubuntu.com/advantage
   Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.
   1 update can be applied immediately.
   To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable
    Trash ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
   See nctps://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status
   The programs included with the Ubuntu system are free software;
   the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
   individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.
   Ubuntu comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted
   by
1.2 Enter the password for server 1 when prompted
   quizon24@workstation:~$ ssh nowellgabriel@192.168.56.102
   nowellgabriel@192.168.56.102's password:
1.3 Verify that you are in server 1. The user should be in this format user@server1.
  For example, ivtaylar@server1
   nowellgabriel@server1:~$
2. Logout of Server 1 by issuing the command control + D.
   nowellgabriel@server1:~$
   logout
   Connection to 192.168.56.102 closed.
   quizon24@workstation:~$
Do the same for Server 2.
```

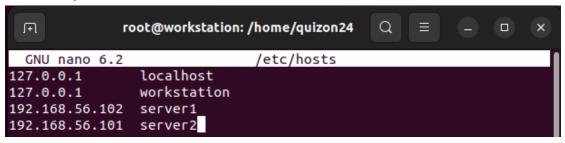
```
quizon24@workstation:~$ ssh nowellgabriel@192.168.56.101
The authenticity of host '192.168.56.101 (192.168.56.101)' can't b
e established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:EHk3VvXabx6/6cxztJ100Z9Wan++fD1u
axrQTf0xIEg.
This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes\
Please type 'yes', 'no' or the fingerprint: yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.56.101' (ED25519) to the list
of known hosts.
nowellgabriel@192.168.56.101's password:
```

nowellgabriel@server2:~\$

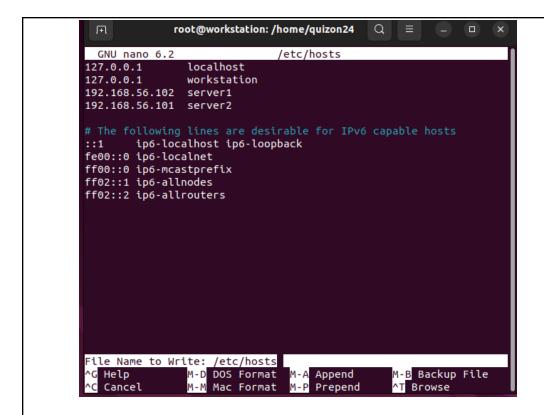
```
nowellgabriel@server2:~$
logout
Connection to 192.168.56.101 closed.
quizon24@workstation:~$
```

- 4. Edit the hosts of the Local Machine by issuing the command *sudo nano* /etc/hosts. Below all texts type the following:
- 4.1 IP_address server 1 (provide the ip address of server 1 followed by the hostname)

4.2 IP_address server 2 (provide the ip address of server 2 followed by the hostname)



4.3 Save the file and exit.



5. On the local machine, verify that you can do the SSH command but this time, use the hostname instead of typing the IP address of the servers. For example, try to do *ssh jvtaylar@server1*. Enter the password when prompted. Verify that you have entered Server 1. Do the same for Server 2.

server1:

```
quizon24@workstation:~$ ssh nowellgabriel@server1
The authenticity of host 'server1 (192.168.56.102)' can't be estab
lished.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:XQj87MhdjmBqVRCBvkqkUMUu8mjLm+gr
v3wM91Mz68c.
This host key is known by the following other names/addresses:
    ~/.ssh/known_hosts:1: [hashed name]
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint]
)? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'server1' (ED25519) to the list of know
n hosts.
nowellgabriel@server1's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-79-generic x86 64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:
                  https://landscape.canonical.com
                  https://ubuntu.com/advantage
 * Support:
 System information as of Wed Aug 23 02:20:32 AM UTC 2023
  System load: 0.0
                                                           119
                                  Processes:
 Usage of /: 44.7% of 11.21GB Users logged in:
  Memory usage: 6%
                                  IPv4 address for enp0s3: 192.16
8.56.102
  Swap usage:
               0%
```

Last login: Wed Aug 23 02:02:50 2023 from 192.168.56.103 nowellgabriel@server1:~\$

server2:

```
quizon24@workstation:~$ ssh nowellgabriel@server2
The authenticity of host 'server2 (192.168.56.101)' can't be estab
lished.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:EHk3VvXabx6/6cxztJ100Z9Wan++fD1u
axrQTf0xIEg.
This host key is known by the following other names/addresses:
   ~/.ssh/known_hosts:4: [hashed name]
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint]
)? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'server2' (ED25519) to the list of know
n hosts.
nowellgabriel@server2's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
nowellgabriel@server2's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-79-generic x86 64)
* Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
* Management:
                  https://landscape.canonical.com
* Support:
                  https://ubuntu.com/advantage
 System information as of Wed Aug 23 02:22:35 AM UTC 2023
 System load: 0.0
                                                           117
 Usage of /: 44.5% of 11.21GB Users logged in:
                                  IPv4 address for enp0s3: 192.16
 Memory usage: 6%
 .56.101
```

```
Last login: Wed Aug 23 02:06:32 2023 from 192.168.56.103 nowellgabriel@server2:~$
```

Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 1. How are we able to use the hostname instead of IP address in SSH commands? I think this because of the edits done on the /etc/hosts file. We assigned the host name on the IP addresses of the 2 servers; that's why it was possible to use the hostname for the SSH commands.
- 2. How secured is SSH?

All connection from client to server which includes file transfers, authentication, outputs, and commands are encrypted that's how secured SSH is.