Logstash configuration and error message:

1) Can you validate JSON formatting with JSON Lint online JSON Lint - The Best Json Validator Look for '<' in the APT29 file, logstash is complaining that '<' is not proper JSON formatting. We may need a JSON filter to parse the '<' out for ingest.

> JSON Lint - The Best Json Validator
> Online best free JSON Beautifier is a tool to easily Json editor, Json viewer and Json formatter online. JSON is displayed in a clear, treeview and in formatted plain text. you can also edit json data.
> jsonlint.online

2) Validate the configuration for host is "localhost" without port 9200
Unexpected character ('<' (code 60)) - Elastic Stack / Logstash - Discuss the Elastic Stack

> Unexpected character ('<' (code 60)) - Logstash - Discuss the Elastic Stack
> This was exactly the issue, thanks! Changed hosts => "http://localhost:5601" to just hosts => "localhost"
> discuss.elastic.co

3) One last item, try to use this article to test your logstash installation with basic "hello world" files.

Testing Logstash configuration with JSON input/output | by Mike Rogers | Medium
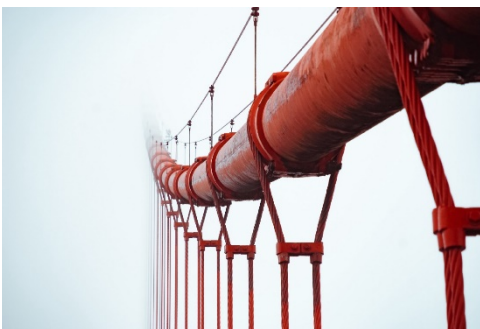
> Testing Logstash configuration with JSON input/output | by Mike Rogers | Medium
> Logstash is a data processing pipeline that allows you to collect data from various sources, then transform and send it to a destination. It is most commonly used to send data to Elasticsearch (an...
> medium.com

Logstash Error:
[2021-03-15T17:10:10,673][ERROR][logstash.javapipeline   ][apt29] Pipeline error
{:pipeline_id=>"apt29", :exception=>#<LogStash::Json::ParserError: Unexpected character ('<' (code 60)): expected a valid value (number, String, array, object, 'true', 'false' or 'null') at [Source: (byte[])"<!DOCTYPE html><html lang="en"><head><meta charSet="utf-8"/><meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge,chrome=1"/><meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width"/><title>Elastic</title><style>

To help you get going.

Ensure that you have json formatted files.
You can run logstash at the command line as well: *>logstash -f /path/to/logstash/config/file*

And the basic config file:

```
input {
        file {
                path => [ "path/to/file/to/ingest" ]   # this is an array, so you can specify multiple files OR file patterns/wildcards like *.json
                sincedb_path => "/dev/null"          # the sincedb file will track the current position in the file. But since this is just one file, piped to /dev/null
                start_position => "beginning"          # where to start reading the file from; the default behavior is the end (like a stream)
                codec => "json"
        }
}

filter {                                        # filter is empty because didn't transform/enrich
}

output {
        elasticsearch {
                hosts => ["127.0.0.1:9200"]        # where you are running the logstash; assume on your laptop (locally)
        }
}
```