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Activity 10: Install, Configure, and Manage Log Monitoring tools

1. Objectives

Create and design a workflow that installs, configure and manage enterprise log monitoring tools using Ansible as an Infrastructure as Code (IaC) tool.

2. Discussion

Log monitoring software scans and monitors log files generated by servers, applications, and networks. By detecting and alerting users to patterns in these log files, log monitoring software helps solve performance and security issues. System administrators use log monitoring software to detect common important events indicated by log files.

Log monitoring software helps maintain IT infrastructure performance and pinpoints issues to prevent downtime and mitigate risks. These tools will often integrate with IT alerting software, log analysis software, and other IT issue resolution products to more aptly flesh out the IT infrastructure maintenance ecosystem.

To qualify for inclusion in the Log Monitoring category, a product must:

- Monitor the log files generated by servers, applications, or networks
- Alert users when important events are detected
- Provide reporting capabilities for log files

Elastic Stack

ELK suite stands for Elasticsearch, Kibana, Beats, and Logstash (also known as the ELK Stack). Source: https://www.elastic.co/elastic-stack

The Elastic Stack is a group of open source products from Elastic designed to help users take data from any type of source and in any format, and search, analyze and visualize that data in real time. The product group was formerly known as the ELK Stack for the core products in the group -- Elasticsearch, Logstash and Kibana -- but has been rebranded as the Elastic Stack. A fourth product, Beats, was subsequently added to the stack. The Elastic Stack can be deployed on premises or made available as software as a service (SaaS). Elasticsearch supports Amazon Web Services (AWS), Google Cloud Platform and Microsoft Azure.

GrayLog

Graylog is a powerful platform that allows for easy log management of both structured and unstructured data along with debugging applications.

It is based on Elasticsearch, MongoDB, and Scala. Graylog has a main server, which receives data from its clients installed on different servers, and a web interface, which visualizes the data and allows to work with logs aggregated by the main server.

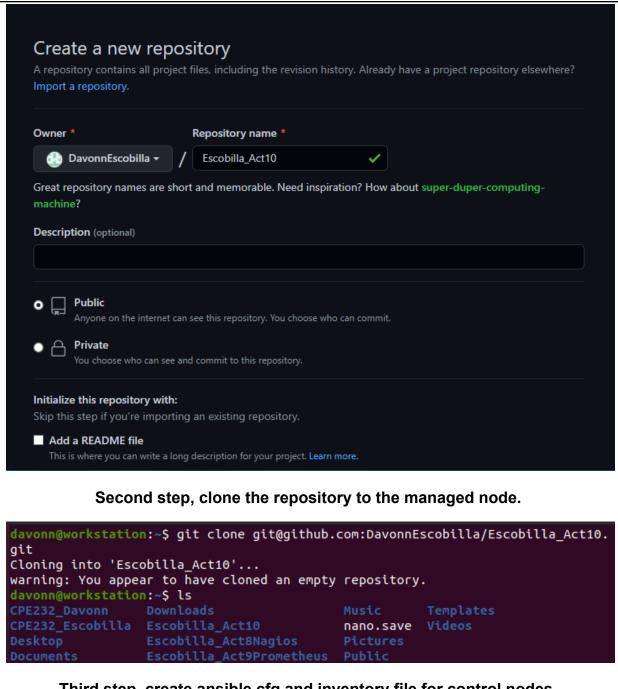
We use Graylog primarily as the stash for the logs of the web applications we build. However, it is also effective when working with raw strings (i.e. syslog): the tool parses it into the structured data we need. It also allows advanced custom search in the logs using structured queries. In other words, when integrated properly with a web app, Graylog helps engineers to analyze the system behavior on almost per code line basis.

Source: https://www.graylog.org/products/open-source

3. Tasks

- 1. Create a playbook that:
 - a. Install and configure Elastic Stack in separate hosts (Elastic Search, Kibana, Logstash)
- 2. Apply the concept of creating roles.
- 3. Describe how you did step 1. (Provide screenshots and explanations in your report. Make your report detailed such that it will look like a manual.)
- 4. Show an output of the installed Elastic Stack for both Ubuntu and CentOS.
- 5. Make sure to create a new repository in GitHub for this activity.
- 4. Output (screenshots and explanations)

First step is to create a repository for Activity 10.



Third step, create ansible.cfg and inventory file for control nodes.

```
davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10

GNU nano 4.8 ansible.cfg

[defaults]

inventory = inventory
private_key_file = ~/.ssh/ansible

davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10

GNU nano 4.8 inventory

[CentOS]
192.168.56.105

[Ubuntu]
192.168.56.103
```

Before proceeding to the next step, check the connectivity of the managed node to the control node.

```
davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10 C

davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10$ ansible -m ping all

192.168.56.105 | SUCCESS => {
    "ansible_facts": {
        "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/bin/python"
    },
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}

192.168.56.103 | SUCCESS => {
    "ansible_facts": {
        "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/bin/python3"
    },
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}
```

Fourth step, create the elsk.yml and configure the tasks.

ıπ

davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10

```
GNU nano 4.8
                                      elsk.yml
- hosts: all
 become: true
 pre_tasks:

    name: Update repository index (Ubuntu)

   tags: always
   apt:
     update_cache: yes
   changed_when: false
   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    name: Update repository index (CentOS)

   tags: always
   yum:
     update_cache: yes
   changed_when: false
   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
 - name: Install httpd on CentOS
   tags: centos, apache, httpd
   service:
        name: httpd
        state: started
```

```
J∓l
                         davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10
 GNU nano 4.8
                                       elsk.yml

    name: Update repository index (CentOS)

    tags: always
   yum:
      update_cache: yes
    changed when: false
   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    name: Install httpd on CentOS

    tags: centos, apache, httpd
    service:
        name: httpd
        state: started
   when: ansible distribution == "CentOS"
hosts: centos
 become: true
 roles:
    - centos
- hosts: ubuntu
 become: true
 roles:
    - ubuntu
```

Fifth step is to create a role and directory for Ubuntu and CentOS. Under each directory create a main.yml that contains tasks to be executed.

```
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10$ mkdir roles
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10$ cd roles
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles$ mkdir ubuntu
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles$ cd ubuntu
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/ubuntu$ mkdir tasks
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/ubuntu$ cd tasks
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/ubuntu/tasks$ nano main.yml
```

```
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        davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/ubuntu/tasks
                                                            Q
 GNU nano 4.8
                                      main.yml
- name: Install Elastic Dependencies (Ubuntu)
   name:
     - openjdk-11-jdk
     - apt-transport-https
      - curl
     - gpgv
      - gpgsm
     - gnupg-l10n
     - gnupg
     - dirmngr
   state: latest
- name: Get PGP Key (Ubuntu)
 apt_key:
   url: https://artifacts.elastic.co/GPG-KEY-elasticsearch
   state: present

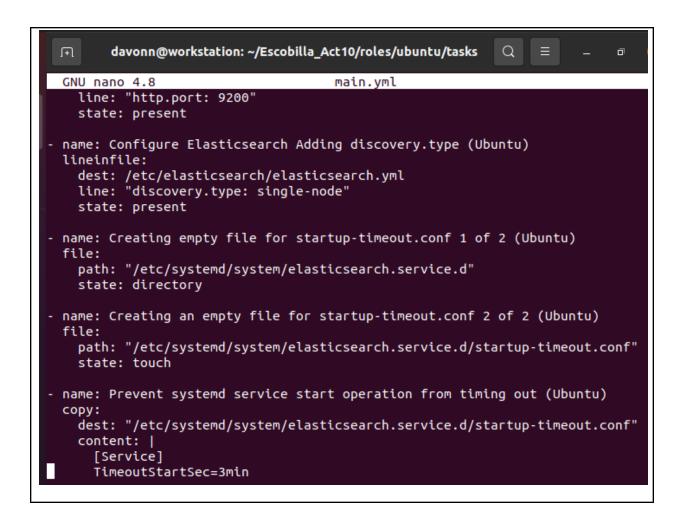
    name: Install Elasticsearch sources list (Ubuntu)

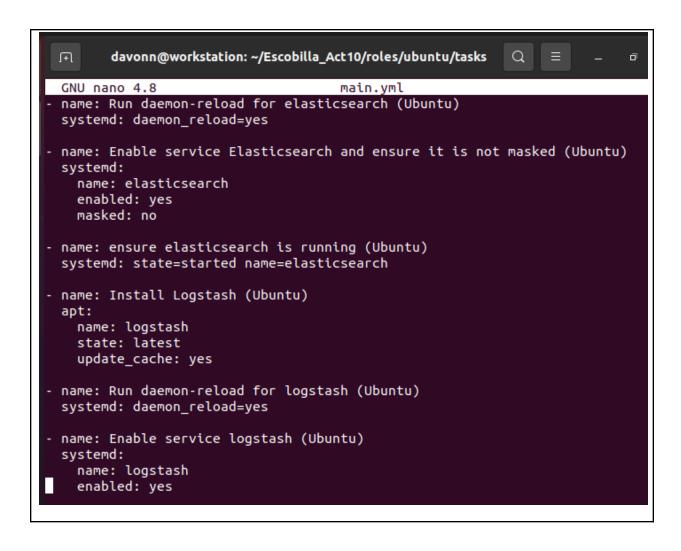
 apt_repository:
   repo: deb https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt stable main
   state: present

    name: Install Elasticsearch (Ubuntu)

 apt:
```

```
davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/ubuntu/tasks
                                                          Q
                                                                         ♂
GNU nano 4.8
                                    main.yml
  line: "http.port: 9200"
  state: present
name: Configure Elasticsearch Adding discovery.type (Ubuntu)
lineinfile:
  dest: /etc/elasticsearch/elasticsearch.yml
  line: "discovery.type: single-node"
  state: present
name: Creating empty file for startup-timeout.conf 1 of 2 (Ubuntu)
file:
  path: "/etc/systemd/system/elasticsearch.service.d"
  state: directory
name: Creating an empty file for startup-timeout.conf 2 of 2 (Ubuntu)
file:
  path: "/etc/systemd/system/elasticsearch.service.d/startup-timeout.conf"
  state: touch
name: Prevent systemd service start operation from timing out (Ubuntu)
copy:
  dest: "/etc/systemd/system/elasticsearch.service.d/startup-timeout.conf"
  content: |
    [Service]
    TimeoutStartSec=3min
```





```
davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/ubuntu/tasks
                                                             Q
 J∓l
 GNU nano 4.8
                                      main.yml

    name: ensure logstash is running (Ubuntu)

 systemd: state=started name=logstash
- name: Install Kibana (Ubuntu)
 apt:
   name: kibana
    state: latest
   update_cache: yes

    name: Configure Kibana Add server.port (Ubuntu)

 lineinfile:
    dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml
   line: "server.port: 5601"
    state: present

    name: Configure Kibana Add server.host (Ubuntu)

 lineinfile:
   dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml
   line: 'server.host: "0.0.0.0"
    state: present

    name: Configure Kibana Add server.name (Ubuntu)

 lineinfile:
    dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml
```

After creating main.yml for Ubuntu, create another for CentOS.

```
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles$ ls
centos ubuntu
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles$ cd centos
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/centos$ mkdir tasks
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/centos$ cd tasks
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/centos/tasks$ nano main.yml
```

```
main.yml
 GNU nano 4.8
   name: elasticsearch
   state: latest
   update_cache: yes

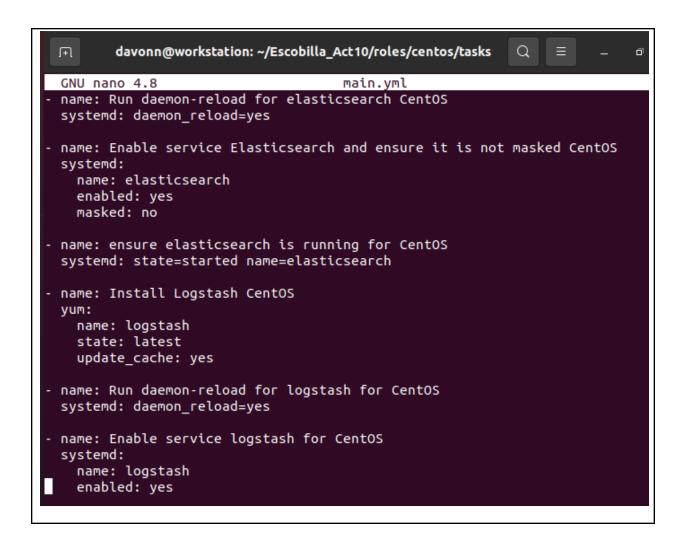
    name: Configure Elasticsearch change cluster name (CentOS)

 lineinfile:
   dest: /etc/elasticsearch/elasticsearch.yml
   line: "cluster.name: demo-elk"
   state: present
- name: Configure Elasticsearch give cluster descriptive name (CentOS)
 lineinfile:
   dest: /etc/elasticsearch/elasticsearch.yml
   line: "node.name: elk-1"
   state: present
- name: Configure Elasticsearch Add network.host (CentOS)
 lineinfile:
   dest: /etc/elasticsearch/elasticsearch.yml
   line: "network.host: 0.0.0.0"
   state: present

    name: Configure Elasticsearch Add http.port (CentOS)

 lineinfile:
   dest: /etc/elasticsearch/elasticsearch.yml
```

```
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       davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/centos/tasks
                                                          Q
                                                                         ♂
GNU nano 4.8
                                    main.yml
  line: "http.port: 9200"
  state: present
name: Configure Elasticsearch Add discovery.type (CentOS)
lineinfile:
  dest: /etc/elasticsearch/elasticsearch.yml
  line: "discovery.type: single-node"
  state: present
name: Creating an empty file for startup-timeout.conf 1 of 2 (CentOS)
file:
  path: "/etc/systemd/system/elasticsearch.service.d"
  state: directory
name: Creating an empty file for startup-timeout.conf 2 of 2 (CentOS)
file:
  path: "/etc/systemd/system/elasticsearch.service.d/startup-timeout.conf"
  state: touch
name: Prevent systemd service start operation from timing out (CentOS)
copy:
  dest: "/etc/systemd/system/elasticsearch.service.d/startup-timeout.conf"
  content: |
    [Service]
    TimeoutStartSec=3min
```



davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10/roles/centos/tasks J∓l GNU nano 4.8 main.yml systemd: state=started name=logstash - name: Install Kibana for CentOS yum: name: kibana state: latest update_cache: yes - name: Configure Kibana Add server.port for CentOS lineinfile: dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml line: "server.port: 5601" state: present - name: Configure Kibana Add server.host for CentOS lineinfile: dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml line: 'server.host: "0.0.0.0" state: present

- name: Configure Kibana Add server.name for CentOS

dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml

line: 'server.name: "demo-kibana"'

lineinfile:

```
GNU nano 4.8
                                   main.yml
lineinfile:
  dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml
  line: 'server.name: "demo-kibana"'
  state: present
name: Configure Kibana Add elasticsearch.hosts for CentOS
lineinfile:
  dest: /etc/kibana/kibana.yml
  line: 'elasticsearch.hosts: ["http://0.0.0.0:9200"]'
  state: present
name: Run daemon-reload for kibana for CentOS
systemd: daemon_reload=yes
name: Enable service Kibana for CentOS
systemd:
  name: kibana
  enabled: yes
name: Start Elasticsearch for CentOS
shell: systemctl start elasticsearch
name: Start Kibana for CentOS
shell: systemctl start kibana
```

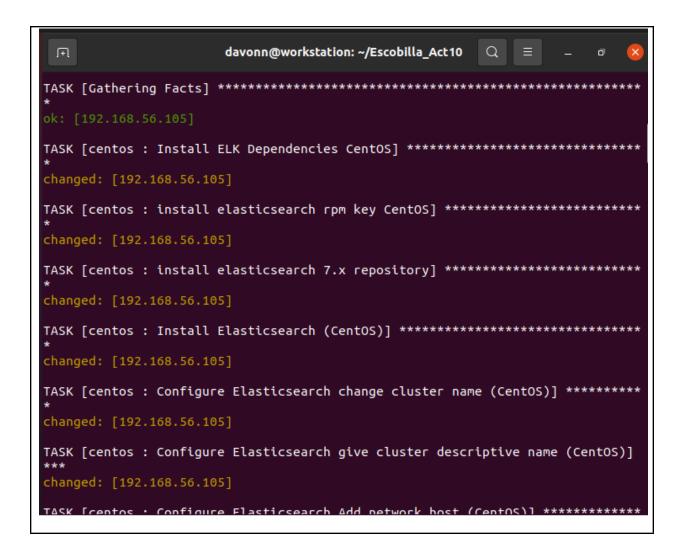
```
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10$ tree

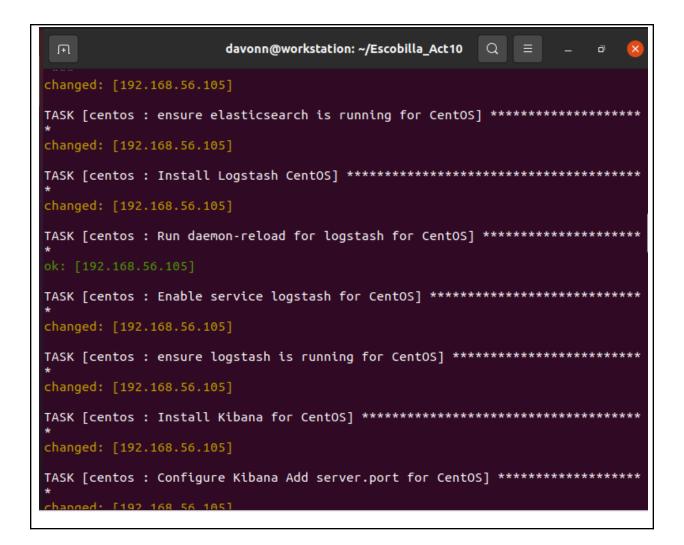
______ ansible.cfg
______ elsk.yml
______ inventory
______ roles
______ centos
______ tasks
______ main.yml
______ tasks
______ main.yml

5 directories, 5 files
```

Verification for directories on roles using tree command.







```
Ŧ
          davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10
TASK [centos : Configure Kibana Add server.host for CentOS] *********
changed: [192.168.56.105]
changed: [192.168.56.105]
TASK [centos : Configure Kibana Add elasticsearch.hosts for CentOS] *********
changed: [192.168.56.105]
changed: [192.168.56.105]
changed: [192.168.56.105]
changed: [192.168.56.105]
```

```
davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla_Act10
 Ħ
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu : Configure Elasticsearch Adding network.host (Ubuntu)] ********
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu : Configure Elasticsearch Adding http.port (Ubuntu)] ********
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu : Configure Elasticsearch Adding discovery.type (Ubuntu)] *******
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu : Creating empty file for startup-timeout.conf 1 of 2 (Ubuntu)] **
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu : Creating an empty file for startup-timeout.conf 2 of 2 (Ubuntu)]
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu : Prevent systemd service start operation from timing out (Ubuntu)
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu: Run daemon-reload for elasticsearch (Ubuntu)] *******
```

```
davonn@workstation: ~/Escobilla Act10
                                       Q
TASK [ubuntu : Configure Kibana Add elasticsearch.hosts (Ubuntu)] **********
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [ubuntu : Run daemon-reload for kibana (Ubuntu)] *******************
TASK [ubuntu : Enable service Kibana (Ubuntu)] *********************************
changed: [192.168.56.103]
changed: [192.168.56.103]
changed: [192.168.56.103]
192.168.56.103
                         changed=25 unreachable=0
                                             failed=0
skipped=2 rescued=0
                 ignored=0
192.168.56.105
                         changed=25 unreachable=0
                                             failed=0
                 ignored=0
skipped=1 rescued=0
```

The playbook ran smoothly and successfully executed all the tasks without error. The last procedure is to check all the installed programs on control nodes.

OUTPUT ON UBUNTU:

Elastic Search

```
JSON Raw Data Headers
"elk-1"
 cluster_name:
                                     "demo-elk"
                                     "Ns9KarmeSUWI fGdkSLhXYQ"
 cluster_unid:
▼ version:
                                    "7.17.7"
   build_flavor:
                                    "default"
   build_type:
                                     "deb"
   build_hash:
                                     "78dcaaa8cee33438b91eca7f5c7f56a70fec9e80"
                                   "2022-10-17T15:29:54.167373105Z"
   build date:
   build_snapshot:
   lucene_version:
                                     "8.11.1"
   minimum_wire_compatibility_version:
                                     *6.8.0*
   minimum_index_compatibility_version: "6.0.0-betal"
                                     "You Know, for Search"
```

Kibana JSON Raw Data Headers Save Copy Collapse All Expand All Trilter JSON ▼ error: ▼ root_cause: type: "index_not_found_exception" reason: "no such index_found_exception" w 0: reason: resource.type: "h... resource.id: "kibana" index_uuid: "_na_" index: "kibana" type: "index_not_found_exception" reason: "no such index [kibana]" resource.type: "index_or_alias" resource.id: "kibana" index_uuid: "_na_" index: "kibana" 404

Logstash

```
JSON Raw Data Headers
Save Copy Collapse All Expand All Trilter JSON
▼ error:
   ▼ root_cause:
            type: "index_not_found_exception"
reason: "no such index [logstash]"
             resource.type: "index_or_alias"
     resource.type: "index_or_alias"
resource.id: "logstash"
index_uuid: "_na_"
index: "logstash"

type: "index_not_found_exception"
reason: "no such index [logstash]"
resource.type: "index_or_alias"
resource.id: "logstash"
index_uuid: "_na_"
index: "logstash"
itatus: 404
                                           404
   status:
```

OUTPUT ON CENTOS:

Elastic Search

```
O Centos ⊕ Wiki ⊕ Documentation ⊕ Forums
JSON Raw Data Headers
Save Copy Collapse All Expand All 🗑 Filter JSON
                                        "elk-1"
 cluster_name:
                                       "demo-elk"
                                      "pg9oLja2QmW4_9skskLe0Q"
 cluster_uuid:
▼ version:
                                     "7.17.7"
                                     "default"
   build flavor:
                                   "rpm"
"78dcaaa8cee33438b9leca7f5c7f56a70fec9e80"
"2022-10-17T15:29:54.1673731052"
false
  build_type:
  build_hash:
   build_date:
  build_snapshot:
                                      "8.11.1"
  lucene_version:
  minimum_wire_compatibility_version: "6.8.0"
   minimum_index_compatibility_version: "6.0.0-betal"
 tagline:
                                       "You Know, for Search"
Kibana
JSON Raw Data Headers
Save Copy Collapse All Expand All Trilter JSON
werror:
 ▼ root_cause:
   ▼ 0:
                    "index_not_found_exception"
"no such index [kibana]"
       type:
       resource.type: "index_or_alias"
       resource.id: "kibana"
index_uuid: "_na_"
index: "kibana"
       index:
   type:
                         "index_not_found_exception"
                         "no such index [kibana]"
   reason:
  resource.type:
resource.id:
                          "index_or_alias"
                         "kibana"
                         "_na_"
   index_uuid:
   index:
                        "kibana"
 status:
                         484
```

Logstash

```
JSON Raw Data Headers
Save Copy Collapse All Expand All Tritter JSON
 ▼ root_cause:
   Ψ θ:
                "index_not_found_exception"
                      "no such index [logstash]"
     resource.type: "index_or_alias"
      resource.id: "logstash"
      index_uuid: "_na_-
"logstash"
                     "index_not_found_exception"
   type:
                     "no such index [logstash]"
   reason:
                    "index_or_alias"
  resource.type:
                     "logstash"
  index_uuid:
                      " na "
                      "logstash'
   index:
                      404
```

All of the output from each control node has successfully appeared, meaning that the installation is finalized.

Do not forget to save the work on the repository by executing the commands.

```
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10$ git add -A
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla Act10$ git commit -m "Manage Log"
[master (root-commit) b37f0f6] Manage Log
 5 files changed, 340 insertions(+)
 create mode 100644 ansible.cfg
create mode 100644 elsk.yml
 create mode 100644 inventory
 create mode 100644 roles/centos/tasks/main.yml
 create mode 100644 roles/ubuntu/tasks/main.yml
davonn@workstation:~/Escobilla_Act10$ git push
Enumerating objects: 12, done.
Counting objects: 100% (12/12), done.
Compressing objects: 100% (7/7), done.
Writing objects: 100% (12/12), 2.26 KiB | 772.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 12 (delta 1), reused 0 (delta 0)
remote: Resolving deltas: 100% (1/1), done.
To github.com:DavonnEscobilla/Escobilla Act10.git
* [new branch]
                     master -> master
```

Reflections:

Answer the following:

What are the benefits of having a log monitoring tool?
 Having a log monitoring tool saves time to access the scanned and log files from the servers, application, and networks. It can be used to inform the users about

the log files. It can be also used to properly handle security problems and performance issues. Upon detecting the problems, it can mitigate the downtime and risks.

Conclusions:

Upon performing the activity, I have difficulties finding references to properly handle the tasks implemented on each server. The playbook became very long since there are a lot of tasks that need to be implemented. Also, the installation on the control nodes takes a lot of time to finish since my computer is not that strong. Even so, I have managed to properly perform the activity and get the desired output.