COURSE: CLOUD AND NETWORK SECURITY ENGINEER

NAME: DENISE SOPHY ONDISO MUTAYI

STUDENT NO: CS-CN-09-29047

INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMY ON HACK THE BOX

Introduction

This report captures my journey through the *Intro to Academy* module on Hack The Box (HTB) Academy—a learning space crafted for aspiring ethical hackers and cybersecurity enthusiasts. The goal of this assignment was to explore the platform, understand its structure, and complete the introductory module as a foundational step in my cybersecurity learning path.
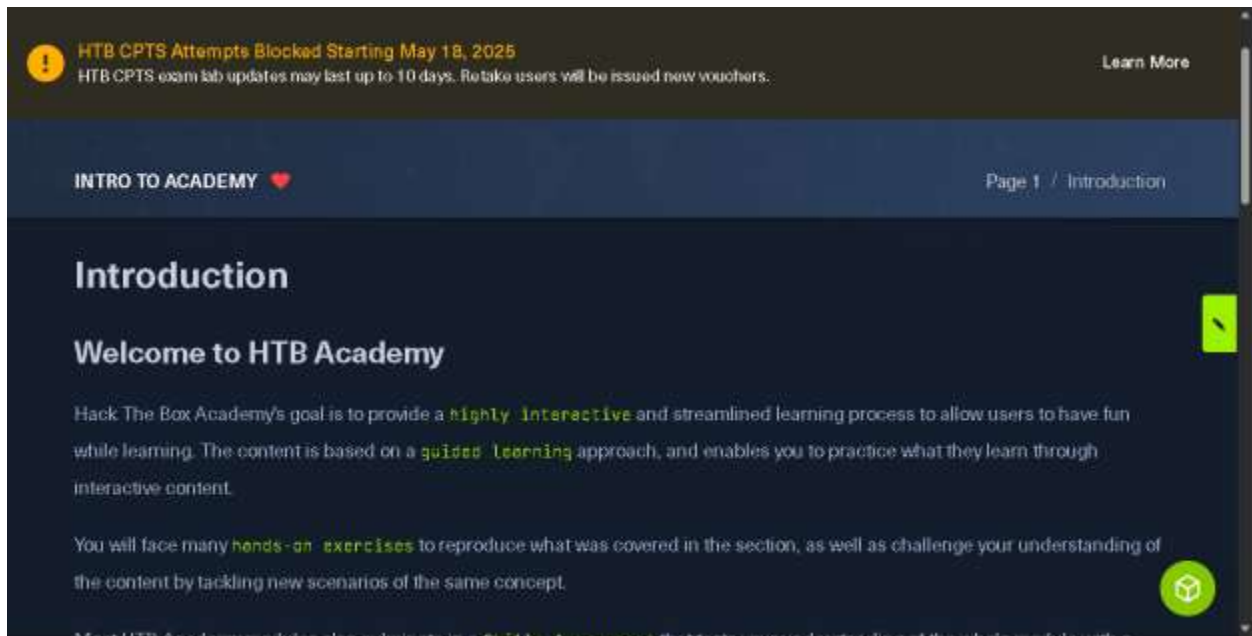
At first glance, the HTB platform felt vast—almost overwhelming. But with careful attention to the instructions, I found myself smoothly navigating through the sections, gaining clarity with each step. The module does a fantastic job of easing beginners into this new and complex world. It speaks to learners like me—curious, ambitious, but just getting started—as if we already belong in this space.

Completing this module wasn't just a requirement; it was a milestone. It marked the beginning of building my personal brand in cybersecurity, where every lab solved and every concept understood adds a brick to my future in this field.

Introduction to HTB Academy

What is Hack The Box Academy and how does it differ from the main Hack The Box platform?
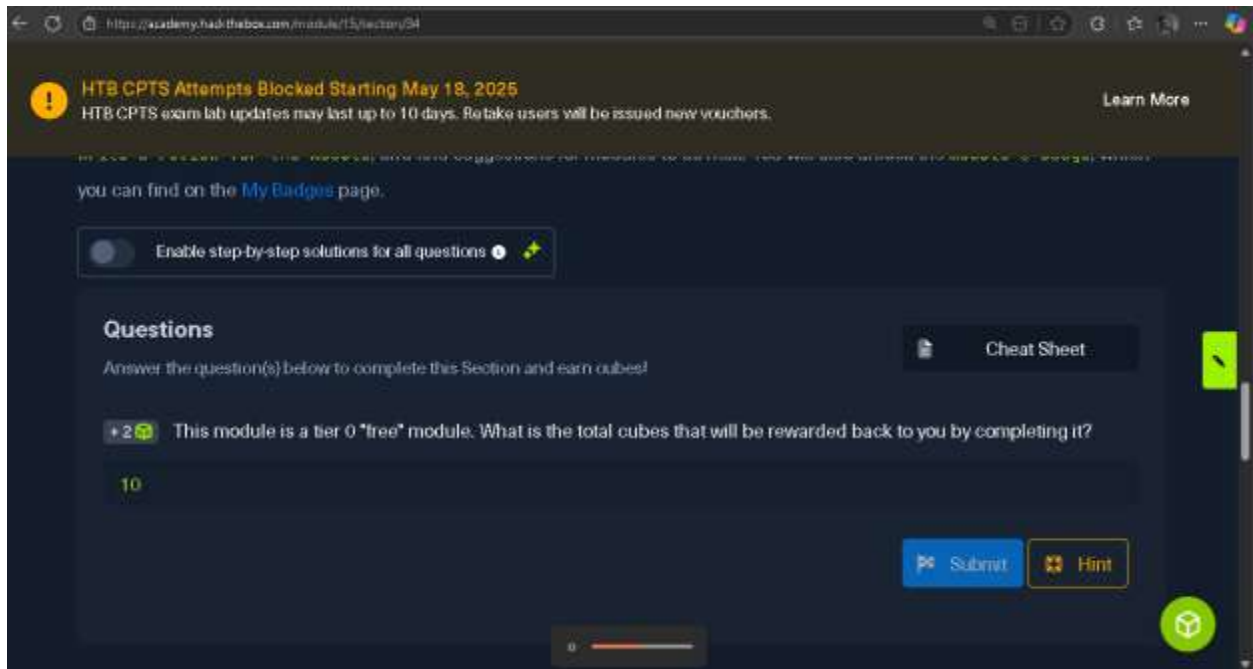
Hack The Box Academy is an educational platform designed to teach cybersecurity concepts in a structured and beginner-friendly way. Unlike the main HTB platform which focuses on Capture The Flag (CTF)-style hacking challenges and labs, the Academy offers guided learning paths and modules with progressive difficulty, quizzes, and practical labs.

Learning Methodology

How modules structured

Modules in HTB Academy are divided into theoretical sections, practical labs, and quizzes. This modular and hands-on approach helps learners grasp concepts and immediately apply them. The gamified progress tracking also keeps learners motivated.
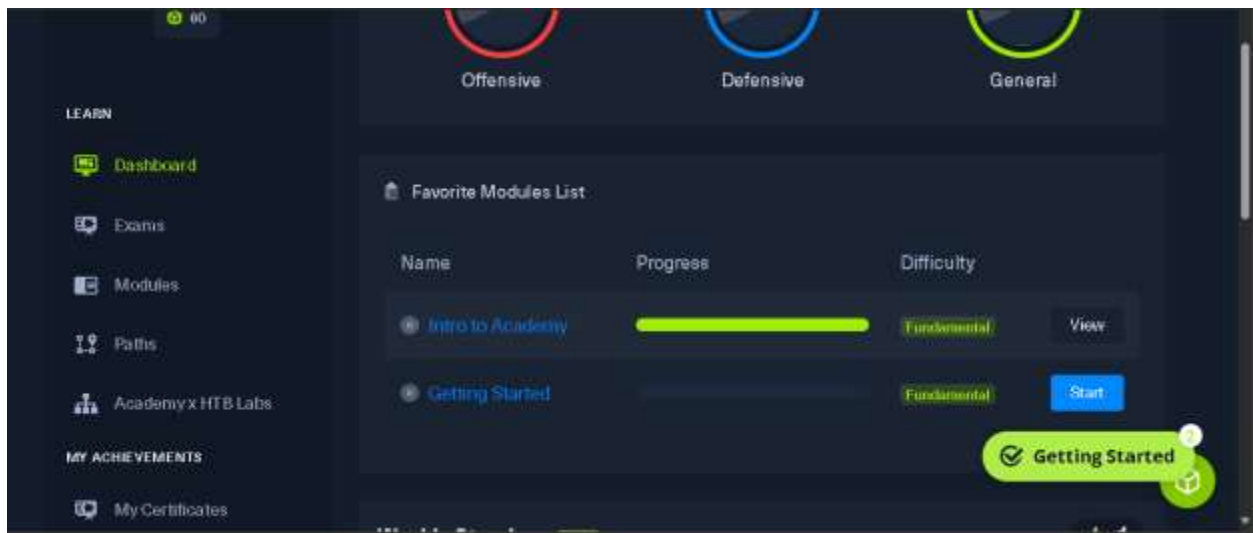
Interface and Navigation

What are the key areas of the platform interface?

The key areas include:

- **Dashboard**: My learning overview.
- **Modules**: Where you select your learning topics.
- **Paths**: Structured roadmaps based on career goals.
- **Labs**: Practical hacking environments.
- **Progress Tracker**: See how far one come.

Final Proof of Completion

CONCLUSION

Completing the *Intro to Academy* module on Hack The Box has been more than just a walkthrough—it's been a mindset shift. What started off as unfamiliar territory quickly became a space where I felt challenged, yet capable. Through structured guidance, interactive labs, and real-world context, I've gained a deeper understanding of what lies ahead in the field of cybersecurity.

This module didn't just teach me how to use the platform—it introduced me to a way of thinking like a hacker: curious, analytical, and relentless. It helped me embrace the idea that every command line, every challenge, and even every mistake is part of the learning process.

More importantly, this experience lit a spark. It reaffirmed my decision to walk this path and reminded me that building a brand in cybersecurity isn't about being perfect—it's about showing up, learning out loud, and continuously pushing past what I thought was possible.

This is just the beginning. But it's a strong one.

Link post to my hack the box work: https://github.com/Denise-Sophy/Hack-the-box/tree/main