1. Which command is used for displaying contents of a file?  
a) cp  
b) rm  
c) cat  
d) mkdir

Answer: c  
Explanation: cat command is used to display the contents of a file. For displaying the contents, simply invoke the cat command with the filename (whose contents are to be displayed) as an argument.

4. Which symbol is used with cat command for creating files?  
a) >  
b) <  
c) \*  
d) /

Answer: a  
Explanation: > symbol acts as a redirection symbol and records the input entered by the user in the specified file. For example,

$ cat > file\_01

UNIX is a powerful operating system // input entered by the user

[CTRL-D]

6. Which symbol is used to append an existing file?  
a) >  
b) <  
c) >>  
d) $

Answer: c  
Explanation: cat command overwrites the existing file if we try to create another file with a similar filename as an existing file. To avoid this we can use the >> operator. For example, if file01 already exists and we want to append it, then use the following command:

$ cat >> file01

8. Which option is used with the cat command for displaying file with line numbers?  
a) -n  
b) -v  
c) -a  
d) -x

Answer: a  
Explanation: cat command supports -n option which is used for displaying file contents along with line number while -v is used for displaying nonprintable ASCII characters in the file.

1. What is the function of cp command in UNIX?  
a) list all the available files in the current directory  
b) delete a given file  
c) cp is a command used for copying files and directories  
d) change the directory

Answer: c  
Explanation: cp command is basically used for creating a copy of source file or a group of files. The syntax of the command requires at least two filenames to be specified. If both the files specified are ordinary files, the first file will be copied to the second file. The syntax of cp command is cp source\_filename destination\_filename. The contents of the source file will be copied to the destination file in the same directory.

$ cp file\_01 file\_02 // copies file\_01 to file\_02

2. What happens if the destination file specified in cp command does not exist?  
a) file will not be copied  
b) an error will be produced  
c) destination file will be automatically created  
d) none of the mentioned

Answer: c  
Explanation: If the destination file does not exist, then cp command will automatically create a file with the same name and then it copies the contents of the source file to the file which is created. If the destination file already exists, then it will be overwritten with the contents of the source file.

4. What is the correct syntax for copying multiple files with a filename starting as ‘file’ into another file named as ‘directory\_one’?  
a) cp -i file directory\_one  
b) cp -R file directory/directory\_one  
c) cp file\* directory\_one  
d) none of the mentioned

Answer: c  
Explanation: For copying multiple files with a common starting name such as (file, file001, file.txt, fileone.jpg, file-archive.zip) we use (“\*”). An asterisk (“\*”) is a wildcard – a special character which expands to match other characters. For example, cp file\* directory\_one will copy all the files whose name will be starting with ‘file’ into ‘directory\_one’ file.

5. How can we copy an entire directory under another directory?  
a) using -R option  
b) using -a option  
c) using -u option  
d) none of the mentioned

Answer: a  
Explanation: -R option is used to copy an entire directory structure into another one recursively. Here recursively means that the command can descend a directory and examine all the files in its subdirectories and then it will copy the entire structure. For example, cp -R prog\_one new\_prog. It will create a copy of contents of entire directory prog\_one to new\_prog if new\_prog does not exist. Otherwise, if new\_prog exists as a directory, then the whole structure of prog\_one will be copied under new\_prog as a subdirectory.

1. Which command is used for removing/deleting files in UNIX?  
a) rmdir  
b) rm  
c) del  
d) mv

Answer: b  
Explanation: rm command is used in UNIX to remove one or more files. It operates silently and should be used with caution. The filename of the file to be deleted is provided as an argument to rm command. For example, following command deletes abd.txt file.

$ rm abd.txt

2. We can delete multiple files using a single rm command.  
a) True  
b) False

Answer: a  
Explanation: Multiple files can be deleted in a single go using rm command. All we need to do is, provides multiple filenames as arguments to the rm command.

$ rm file1 file2 file3

3. To delete all files in a directory we use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
a) rmdir \*  
b) mv \*  
c) rm \*  
d) del \*

Answer: c  
Explanation: To delete all files in a directory, use (\*) with rm command. It acts as a meta-character and delete all files without displaying any message on the terminal. So use this command cautiously.

4. Some files cannot be deleted using rm command because of the permissions associated with it.  
a) True  
b) False

Answer: a  
Explanation: Whether we are able to remove a file depends on the permissions associated with the file/directory. So sometimes it may happen that permissions of a file won’t allow us to delete it.

6. Which option performs recursive deletion?  
a) -r  
b) -R  
c) \*  
d) -r and -R

Answer: d  
Explanation: With -r or -R option, rm performs a recursive walk in the file hierarchy and searches for every subdirectories and file within this directory, At each stage, it keeps on deleting everything it finds.

7. Which one of the following command can delete a directory which is not empty?  
a) rm -r  
b) rmdir  
c) rm \*  
d) del \*

Answer: a  
Explanation: rm command normally does not remove directories but when it is used with -r option it does. So if we invoke a command like,

$ rm -r \* // deletes all files in the current directory and all its subdirectories

9. Which command is used for removing file named -file.txt?  
a) rm -file.txt  
b) rm file.txtrm  
c) rm — -file.txt  
d) rm -f file.txt

Answer: c  
Explanation: To delete a file with filename beginning with a ” – “, we have to use ( — ) i.e. double-dash. ” — ” is used so that rm command does not misinterpret the filename as an option.

10. Which command is used for renaming files?  
a) rename  
b) mv  
c) cp  
d) move

Answer: b  
Explanation: mv command is used for renaming files. This command does not create a copy of the file, it simply renames it. To rename file1 to file2 simply type,

$ mv file1 file2

11. If the destination file does not exists, then mv command creates it.  
a) True  
b) False

Answer: a  
Explanation: If the destination file specified in the mv command does not exists it will be simply created. For example, if in the command mv file1 file2, if file2 does not exists then it will be created. Now file1 will be known as filename ‘file2’.

12. What if the destination file specified in mv command already exists?  
a) it will be deleted  
b) it will not be affected  
c) it will be overwritten  
d) an error will be produced

Answer: c  
Explanation: If the destination file already exists, then the contents of this file will be overwritten with the contents of a source file. For example, mv file01 dir01. If there already exists a file named dir01, then the contents of dir01 will be overwritten with the contents of file01.

14. The inode number associated with a file is changed after renaming it.  
a) True  
b) False

Answer: b  
Explanation: Every file has an inode number associated with it which is maintained by the kernel. This number is not disturbed even if we rename the file. It remains the same no matter how many times we rename the file.