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Powerful Unix-Tools - cat, head, tail, and less command

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cat - command

Purpose:

concatenate files and print them on standard output.

- Examples:
 - concatenate file a.txt and b.txt and write result to STDOUT
 cat a.txt b.txt
 - Concatenate all files in the given directories and prints them to STDOUT
 cat d:/data/bbc/*/*.txt
 - Add line numbers to file porter.cpp and prints it to STDOUT
 cat -n porter.cpp





head command

Purpose:

Output the first part of a file.

- Examples:
 - View first 20 lines of file stopwords.txt
 head -n20 stopwords.txt
 - View all, but the last 20 lines of file stopwords.txt (remove trailers)
 head -n -20 stopwords.txt





tail command

Purpose:

Output the last part of a file.

- Examples:
 - View last 10 lines of file stopwords.txt
 tail -n10 stopwords.txt
 - Print the content of file stopwords.txt, starting from line 20 (remove headers)
 tail -n +20 stopwords.txt





less - command

• Purpose:

tool for paging through a file. Also supports forward/backward search and filtering.

- Examples:
 - View file a.txt (see man less for commands)
 less a.txt
 - View file stopwords.txt with line numbers
 less -N stopwords.txt