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Activity 6: Targeting Specific Nodes and Managing Services

1. Objectives:

- 1.1 Individualize hosts
- 1.2 Apply tags in selecting plays to run
- 1.3 Managing Services from remote servers using playbooks

2. Discussion:

In this activity, we try to individualize hosts. For example, we don't want apache on all our servers, or maybe only one of our servers is a web server, or maybe we have different servers like database or file servers running different things on different categories of servers and that is what we are going to take a look at in this activity.

We also try to manage services that do not automatically run using the automations in playbook. For example, when we install web servers or httpd for CentOS, we notice that the service did not start automatically.

Requirement:

In this activity, you will need to create another Ubuntu VM and name it Server 3. Likewise, you need to activate the second adapter to a host-only adapter after the installations. Take note of the IP address of the Server 3. Make sure to use the command *ssh-copy-id* to copy the public key to Server 3. Verify if you can successfully SSH to Server 3.

Task 1: Targeting Specific Nodes

1. Create a new playbook and named it site.yml. Follow the commands as shown in the image below. Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
hosts: all
become: true
tasks:
- name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
  apt:
    name:
      - apache2
      - libapache2-mod-php
    state: latest
    update_cache: yes
 when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
 - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
   dnf:
     name:

    httpd

       - php
     state: latest
   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

```
[sudo] password for ken:
INPUT
            ken@controlNode:~/Buenvenida_HOA6$ sudo nano site.yml
OUTPUT
             hosts: all
              become: true
              tasks:
              - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
                apt:
                  name:
                    - apache2

    libapache2-mod-php

                  state: latest
                  update_cache: yes
                when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    name: install apache and php for CentOS servers

                dnf:
                  name:
                    - httpd
                    - php
                  state: latest
                when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

2. Edit the inventory file. Remove the variables we put in our last activity and group according to the image shown below:

```
[web_servers]
192.168.56.120
192.168.56.121

[db_servers]
192.168.56.122

[file_servers]
192.168.56.123
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.



Right now, we have created groups in our inventory file and put each server in its own group. In other cases, you can have a server be a member of multiple groups, for example you have a test server that is also a web server.

3. Edit the site.yml by following the image below:

```
hosts: all
become: true

    name: install updates (CentOS)

    update_only: yes
    update_cache: yes
 when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    name: install updates (Ubuntu)

    upgrade: dist
    update_cache: yes
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
hosts: web_servers
become: true

    name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers

  apt:
    name:
      - apache2

    libapache2-mod-php

    state: latest
 when: ansible distribution == "Ubuntu"
- name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
  dnf:
    name:

    httpd

      - php
    state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

The *pre-tasks* command tells the ansible to run it before any other thing. In the *pre-tasks*, CentOS will install updates while Ubuntu will upgrade its distribution package. This will run before running the second play, which is targeted at *web_servers*. In the second play, apache and php will be installed on both Ubuntu servers and CentOS servers.

Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

```
INPUT
            ken@controlNode:~/Buenvenida_HOA6$ sudo nano site.yml
PROCESS
             - name: install updates (CentOS)
               when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
             - name: install updates (Ubuntu)
               upgrade: dist
              when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
             hosts: web_servers
             - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
                 - apache2
                 - libapache2-mod-php
                state: latest
               update cache: ves
              when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
             - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
              dnf:

    httpd

                 - php
                 state: latest
               when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
OUTPUT
                        IOA6$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass site.yml
            kipping: [192.168.56.102]
kipping: [192.168.56.103]
k: [192.168.56.106]
```

4. Let's try to edit again the *site.yml* file. This time, we are going to add plays targeting the other servers. This time we target the *db_servers* by adding it on the current *site.yml*. Below is an example: (Note add this at the end of the playbooks from task 1.3.

```
hosts: db_servers
become: true
tasks:

    name: install mariadb package (CentOS)

    name: mariadb-server
    state: latest
 when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
  service:
    name: mariadb
    state: restarted
    enabled: true

    name: install mariadb packege (Ubuntu)

  apt:
    name: mariadb-server
    state: latest
 when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

INPUT
 ken@controlNode:~/Buenvenida_HOA6\$ sudo nano site.ym
 [sudo] password for ken:

PROCESS hosts: db_servers become: true tasks: name: install mariadb package (CentOS) name: mariadb-server state: latest when: ansible distribution == "CentOS" - name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling" service: name: mariadb state: restarted enabled: true name: install mariadb package (Ubuntu) apt: name: mariadb-server state: latest when: ansible distribution == "Ubuntu" OUTPUT ienvenida_HOA6\$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass site.yml BECOME password:

5. Go to the remote server (Ubuntu) terminal that belongs to the db_servers group and check the status for mariadb installation using the command: systemctl status mariadb. Do this on the CentOS server also.

Describe the output.

INPUT & OUTPUT

```
ken@controlNode2:~$ sudo systemctl status mariadb
 mariadb.service - MariaDB 10.6.12 database server
Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/mariadb.service; enabled; vendor prese>
        Active: active (running) since Mon 2023-10-02 20:54:46 PST; 2min 24s ago
         Docs: man:mariadbd(8)
      https://mariadb.com/kb/en/library/systemd/
Process: 5046 ExecStartPre=/usr/bin/install -m 755 -o mysql -g root -d /var>
Process: 5047 ExecStartPre=/bin/sh -c systemctl unset-environment _WSREP_ST>
Process: 5049 ExecStartPre=/bin/sh -c [ ! -e /usr/bin/galera_recovery ] && >
Process: 5091 ExecStartPost=/bin/sh -c systemctl unset-environment _WSREP_S>
Process: 5093 ExecStartPost=/etc/mysql/debian-start (code=exited, status=0/>
     Main PID: 5078 (mariadbd)
Status: "Taking your SQL requests now..."
         Tasks: 10 (limit: 4599)
        Memory: 61.0M
           CPU: 299ms
        CGroup: /system.slice/mariadb.service

-5078 /usr/sbin/mariadbd
[ken@localhost ~]$ sudo systemctl status mariadb
[sudo] password for ken:
  mariadb.service - MariaDB 10.3 database server
    Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/mariadb.service; enabled; vendor pre>
    Active: active (running) since Mon 2023-10-02 20:54:47 PST; 3min 58s ago
      Docs: man:mysqld(8)
               https://mariadb.com/kb/en/library/systemd/
  Process: 56226 ExecStartPost=/usr/libexec/mysql-check-upgrade (code=exited, s
Process: 56157 ExecStartPre=/usr/libexec/mysql-prepare-db-dir mariadb.service
  Process: 56132 ExecStartPre=/usr/libexec/mysql-check-socket (code=exited, sta>
 Main PID: 56194 (mysqld)
    Status: "Taking your SQL requests now...
     Tasks: 30 (limit: 10927)
    Memory: 64.8M
    CGroup: /system.slice/mariadb.service
└─56194 /usr/libexec/mysqld --basedir=/usr
Oct 02 20:54:46 localhost.localdomain systemd[1]: Starting MariaDB 10.3 databas
Oct 02 20:54:47 localhost.localdomain mysql-prepare-db-dir[56157]: Database Mar
Oct 02 20:54:47 localhost.localdomain mysql-prepare-db-dir[56157]: If this is n
Oct 02 20:54:47 localhost.localdomain mysqld[56194]: 2023-10-02 20:54:47 0 [Not
<u>Oct 02 20:54:47 loca</u>lhost.localdomain systemd[1]: Started MariaDB 10.3 database
lines 1-20/20 (END)
```

6. Edit the *site.yml* again. This time we will append the code to configure installation on the *file_servers* group. We can add the following on our file.

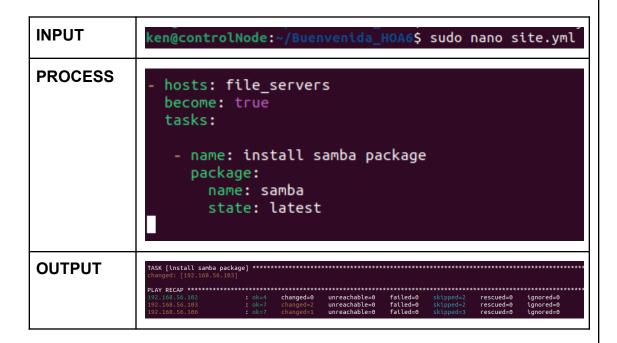
```
    hosts: file_servers
        become: true
        tasks:

            name: install samba package
            package:
                name: samba
                state: latest
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

The testing of the *file_servers* is beyond the scope of this activity, and as well as our topics and objectives. However, in this activity we were able to show that we can target hosts or servers using grouping in ansible playbooks.



Task 2: Using Tags in running playbooks

In this task, our goal is to add metadata to our plays so that we can only run the plays that we want to run, and not all the plays in our playbook.

1. Edit the *site.yml* file. Add tags to the playbook. After the name, we can place the tags: *name_of_tag*. This is an arbitrary command, which means you can use any name for a tag.

```
---
- hosts: all
become: true
pre_tasks:
- name: install updates (CentOS)
tags: always
dnf:
    update_only: yes
    update_cache: yes
    when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
- name: install updates (Ubuntu)
tags: always
apt:
    upgrade: dist
    update_cache: yes
    when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

```
- hosts: web_servers
 become: true
 tasks:
 - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
   tags: apache, apache2, ubuntu
   apt:
     name:
        - apache2
        - libapache2-mod-php
     state: latest
   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
 - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
   tags: apache,centos,httpd
   dnf:
     name:
       - httpd
       - php
      state: latest
   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

```
hosts: db_servers
 become: true
 tasks:

    name: install mariadb package (CentOS)

    tags: centos, db, mariadb
   dnf:
     name: mariadb-server
      state: latest
   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
 - name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
    service:
     name: mariadb
      state: restarted
     enabled: true
  - name: install mariadb packege (Ubuntu)
    tags: db, mariadb,ubuntu
    apt:
     name: mariadb-server
      state: latest
   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
hosts: file_servers
 become: true
 tasks:
 - name: install samba package
   tags: samba
    package:
     name: samba
      state: latest
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.
Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

INPUT

ken@controlNode:~/Buenvenida_HOA6\$ sudo nano site.yml

```
PROCESS
               - hosts: all
                 become: true
                pre_tasks:
                 name: install updates (CentOS)
                   tags: always
                   dnf:
                     update_only: yes
                     update_cache: yes
                   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
                 name: install updates (Ubuntu)
                   tags: always
                   apt:
                     upgrade: dist
                     update_cache: yes
                   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
               - hosts: web_servers
                 become: true
                 tasks:
                 - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
                   tags: apache, apache2, ubuntu
                   apt:
                    name:
                       - apache2
                       - libapache2-mod-php
                     state: latest
                   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
                 - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
                   tags: apache, centos, httpd
                   dnf:
                    name:
                       - httpd
                       - php
                     state: latest
                   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

```
hosts: db_servers
become: true

    name: install mariadb package (CentOS)

  tags: centos, db, mariadb
    name: mariadb-server
     state: latest
   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    name: install mariadb package (Ubuntu)

  tags: db, mariadb, ubuntu
  apt:
    name: mariadb-server
     state: latest
   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
 - name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
   service:
    name: mariadb
     state: restarted
     enabled: true
hosts: file_servers
become: true
 - name: install samba package
  tags: samba
  package:
     name: samba
     state: latest
```

```
      Ken@controlNode:-/Buenventda_HOA6$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass site.yml

      PLAY [all]

      TASK [Cathering Facts]

      ok: [192.168.56.102]

      ok: [192.168.56.103]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      TASK [Install updates (CentoS)]

      skipping: [192.168.56.103]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      TASK [Install updates (Ubuntu)]

      skipping: [192.168.56.106]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      TASK [Cathering Facts]

      ok: [192.168.56.102]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      TASK [Install apache and php for Ubuntu servers]

      skipping: [192.168.56.106]

      TASK [Install apache and php for CentOS servers]

      skipping: [192.168.56.102]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      TASK [Install apacke and php for CentOS servers]

      skipping: [192.168.56.106]

      TASK [Install apacke and php for CentOS servers]

      skipping: [192.168.56.106]

      ok: [192.168.56.106]

      changed: [192.168.56.106]
```

```
TASK [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.106]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.106]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)]
skipping: [192.168.56.106]
ok: [192.168.56.106]

TASK [Mariado Restarting/Enabling]
changed: [192.168.56.103]
changed: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [File_servers]

PLAY [File_servers]

PLAY [File_servers]

PLAY [File_servers]

PLAY [File_servers]

PLAY [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [File_servers]

PLAY [File_servers]

PLAY [File_servers]

Falled=0 skipped=3 rescued=0 ignored=0 i
```

- 2. On the local machine, try to issue the following commands and describe each result:
 - 2.1 ansible-playbook --list-tags site.yml

2.2 ansible-playbook --tags centos --ask-become-pass site.yml

```
ken@controlNode:~/Buenvenida_HOA6$ ansible-playbook --tags centos --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.106]
changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2
                      rescued=0
                          ignored=0
                failed=0
         changed=0
            unreachable=0
                       rescued=0
                          ignored=0
         changed=0
            unreachable=0
                failed=0
                       rescued=0
                          ignored=0
  2.3 ansible-playbook --tags db --ask-become-pass site.yml
```

```
ken@controlNode:~/Buenvenida_HOA6$ ansible-playbook --tags db --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
: ok=3 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=1 rescued=0
       changed=0
         unreachable=0
             failed=0
                 rescued=0
                    ignored=0
       changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0
                    ignored=0
 2.4 ansible-playbook --tags apache --ask-become-pass site.yml
```

```
BECOME password:
ok: [192.168.56.106]
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] *******************************
TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] *******************************
: ok=4 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0
                          ianored=0
         changed=0
            unreachable=0
                 failed=0
                       rescued=0
                          ignored=0
         changed=0
            unreachable=0
                 failed=0
                          ignored=0
                       rescued=0
  2.5 ansible-playbook --tags "apache,db" --ask-become-pass site.yml
```

```
:en@controlNode:~/Buenvenida_HOA6$ ansible-playbook --tags "apache,db" --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
skipping: [192.168.56.106]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.106]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.106]
skipping: [192.168.56.106]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
changed=0
              unreachable=0
                    failed=0
                           rescued=0
                               ignored=0
           changed=0
               unreachable=0
                    failed=0
                           rescued=0
                               ignored=0
                    failed=0
           changed=0
               unreachable=0
                           rescued=0
                               ignored=0
```

Task 3: Managing Services

1. Edit the file site.yml and add a play that will automatically start the httpd on CentOS server.

```
- name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
  tags: apache,centos,httpd
  dnf:
      name:
      - httpd
      - php
      state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: start httpd (CentOS)
  tags: apache, centos,httpd
  service:
      name: httpd
      state: started
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Figure 3.1.1 Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
- name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
tags: apache, centos, httpd
dnf:
    name:
        - httpd
        - php
        state: latest
when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: start httpd (CentOS)
tags: apache, centos, httpd
service:
    name: httpd
    state: started
when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

You would also notice from our previous activity that we already created a module that runs a service.

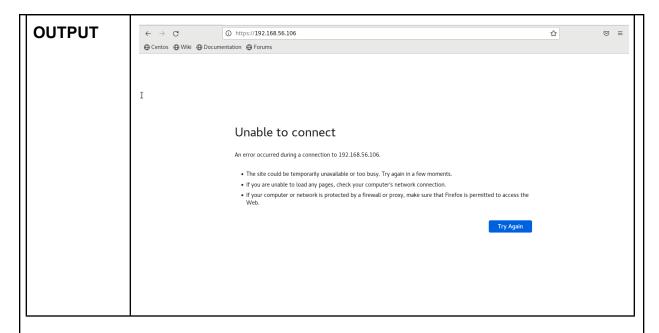
Figure 3.1.2

This is because in CentOS, installed packages' services are not run automatically. Thus, we need to create the module to run it automatically.

2. To test it, before you run the saved playbook, go to the CentOS server and stop the currently running httpd using the command <u>sudo systemctl stop httpd</u>. When prompted, enter the sudo password. After that, open the browser and enter the CentOS server's IP address. You should not be getting a display because we stopped the httpd service already.

INPUT

[ken@localhost ~]\$ sudo systemctl stop httpd [sudo] password for ken:



3. Go to the local machine and this time, run the *site.yml* file. Then after running the file, go again to the CentOS server and enter its IP address on the browser. Describe the result.

To automatically enable the service every time we run the playbook, use the command *enabled: true* similar to Figure 7.1.2 and save the playbook.

```
PLAY [db_servers]

TASK [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.108.56.103]
ok: [192.108.56.106]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)]
sktpptng: [192.108.56.108]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)]
sktpptng: [192.108.56.106]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)]
sktpptng: [192.108.56.108]

TASK [Mariadb Restarting/Enabling]
changed: [192.108.56.103]

TASK [Mariadb Restarting/Enabling]
changed: [192.108.56.103]

TASK [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.108.56.103]

TASK [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.108.56.103]

TASK [Gathering Facts]
ok: [192.108.56.103]

TASK [Install samba package]
ok: [192.108.56.103]

PLAY RECAP

192.108.56.102 : oke4 changed=0 unreachable=0 falled=0 sktipped=3 rescued=0 tignored=0 ligo.108.56.103

192.108.56.103 : oke7 changed=1 unreachable=0 falled=0 sktipped=2 rescued=0 tignored=0 ligo.108.56.106 : oke8 changed=2 unreachable=0 falled=0 sktipped=3 rescued=0 tignored=0 ligo.108.56.106
```

Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 1. What is the importance of putting our remote servers into groups?
 - The importance of putting the remote servers into groups is when we run a playbook we can specify what group we are going to focus or run the playbook into.
- 2. What is the importance of tags in playbooks?
 - It is to specify a task in a playbook by using the tags given to the groups, you can
- 3. Why do think some services need to be managed automatically in playbooks?
 - because some services can be managed automatically by using the task just like we did earlier in this activity, where I can restart and start the mariadb.

Conclusion

• In conclusion, I learned a lot in this activity by using the tags function and grouping function where I can specify what I will run in the playbook such as mariadb, apache, and samba. I also learned that I can separate the groups of my inventory where all my servers ip addresses are residing. I have also learned that I can enable by using the enable task in a playbook.