Computer Networks Assignment #2

Router On A Stick

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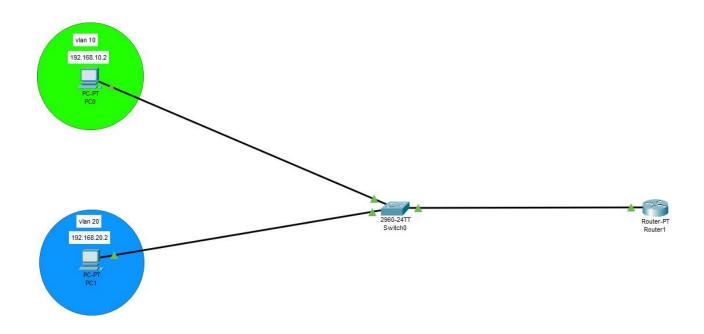
What Is A "Router On A Stick"

Purpose of the Setup

The "Router on a Stick" configuration is used to enable communication between multiple VLANs using a single router. It is a cost-effective and efficient method to manage inter-VLAN routing. In this topology:

- VLAN 10 (192.168.10.0/24): Assigned to devices on Fa0/1 of the switch.
- VLAN 20 (192.168.20.0/24): Assigned to devices on Fa0/2 of the switch.
- The router (R1) is used for inter-VLAN routing, which allows devices in VLAN 10 and VLAN 20 to communicate.

<u>Topology:</u>

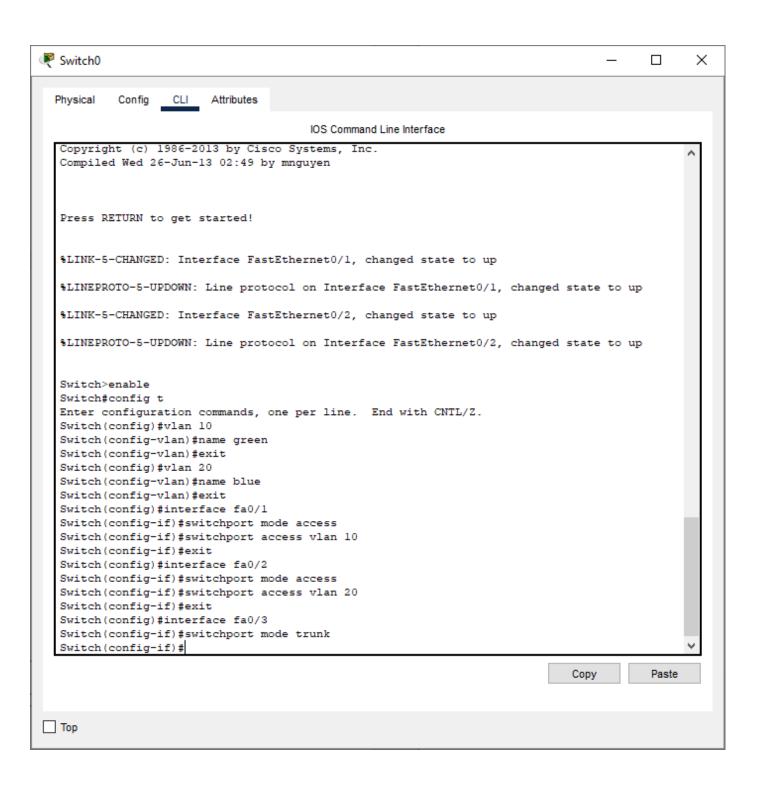


Switch Configuration

VLAN Creation: VLAN 10 and VLAN 20 are created and named for identification.

Port Assignment: Specific switch ports are assigned to their respective VLANs. Devices connected to these ports become part of their respective VLAN.

Trunk Configuration: Fa0/3 is configured as a trunk to carry traffic for both VLANs to the router.

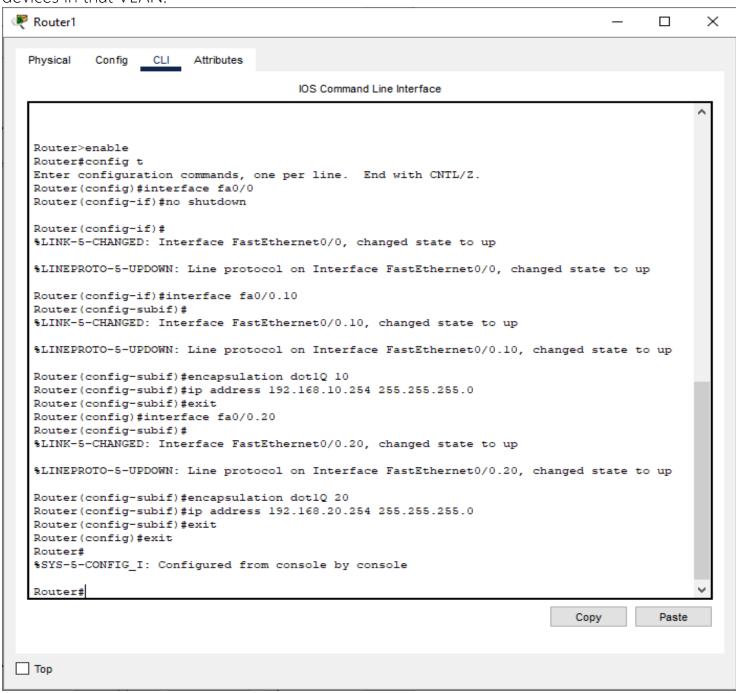


Router Configuration

Sub-Interfaces: These virtual interfaces allow the router to handle traffic for multiple VLANs. Each sub-interface corresponds to a VLAN.

Encapsulation dot1Q: Specifies the VLAN ID for each sub-interface and enables 802.1Q encapsulation on the trunk link.

IP Address: Each VLAN is assigned a unique IP address, which acts as the default gateway for devices in that VLAN.

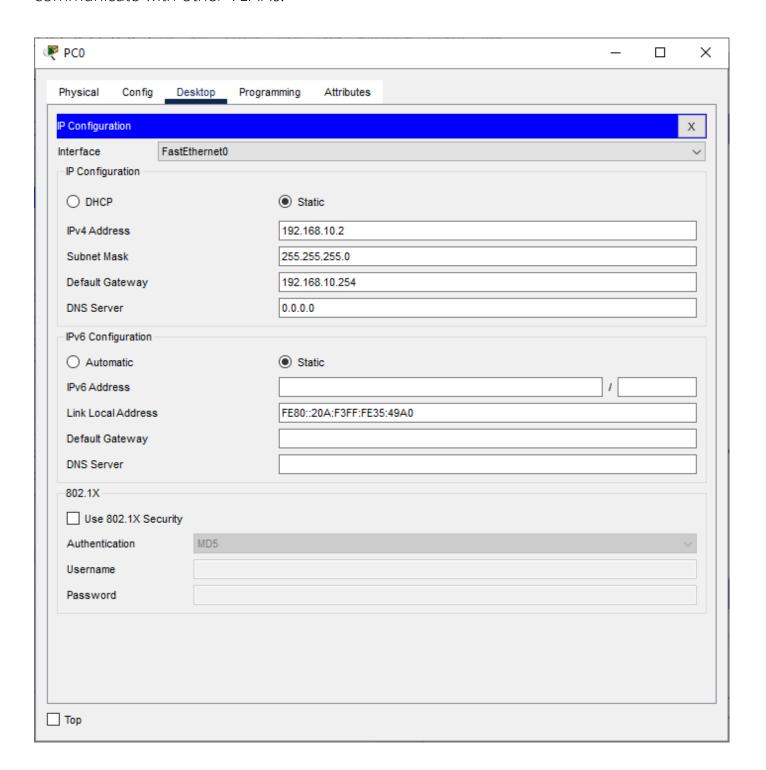


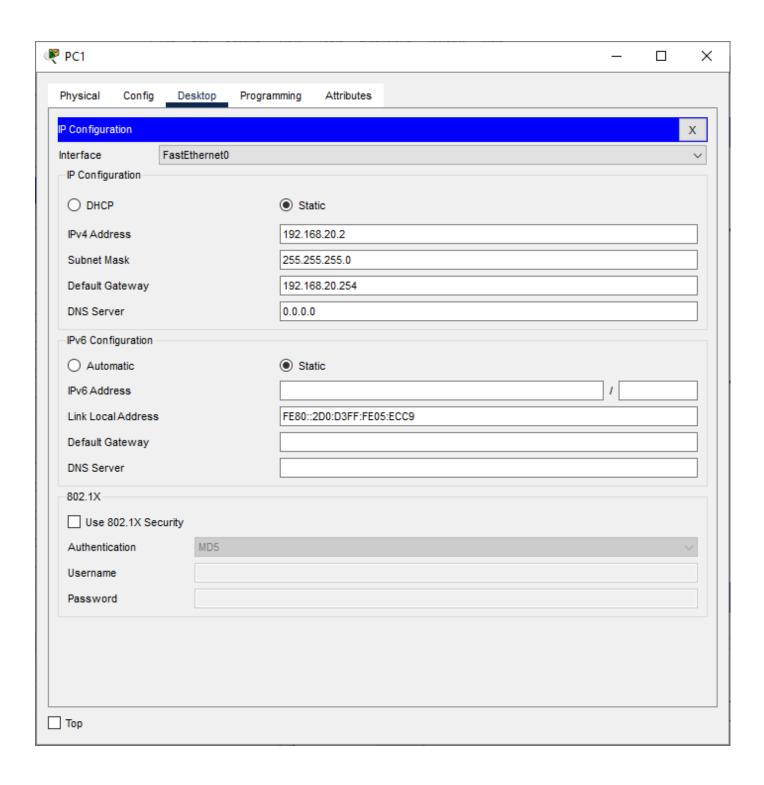
PC Configuration

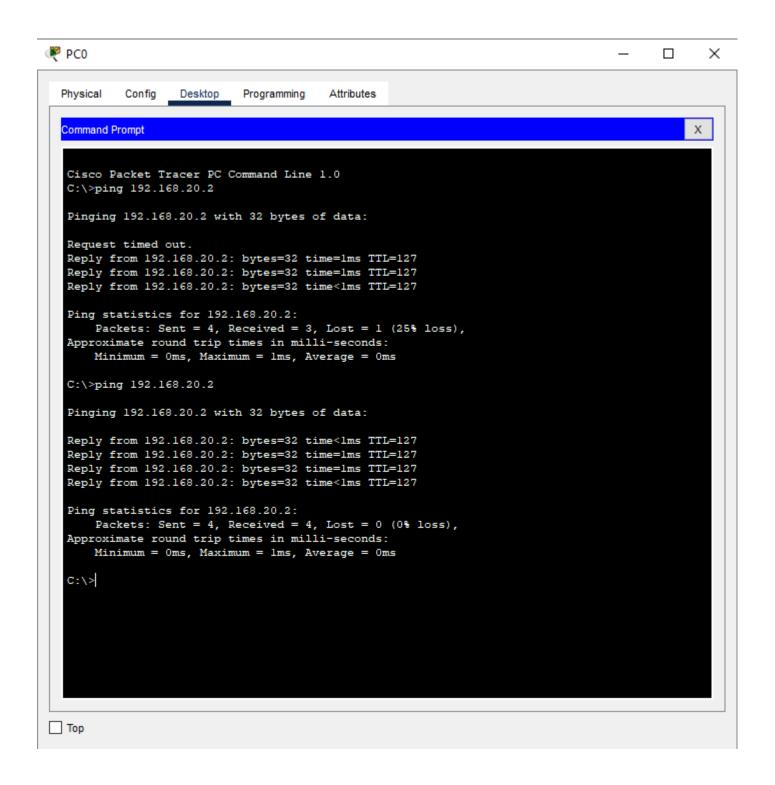
IP Address: Each PC gets a unique IP address from its VLAN subnet.

Subnet Mask: Defines the subnet range.

Default Gateway: Points to the router's sub-interface for the VLAN, allowing the PC to communicate with other VLANs.





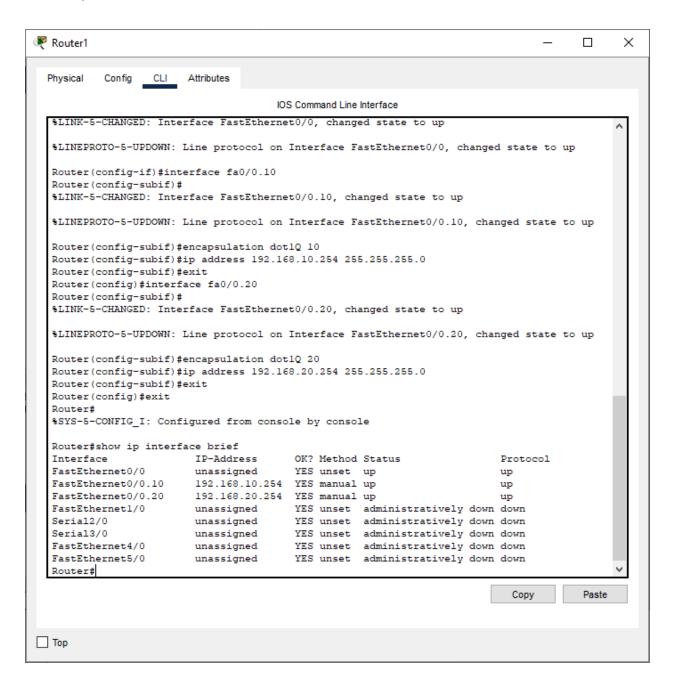


The router correctly routed the traffic between VLAN 10 and VLAN 20 using its sub-interfaces, confirming that the "Router on a Stick" configuration is working as expected.

For verifications we can use commands like:

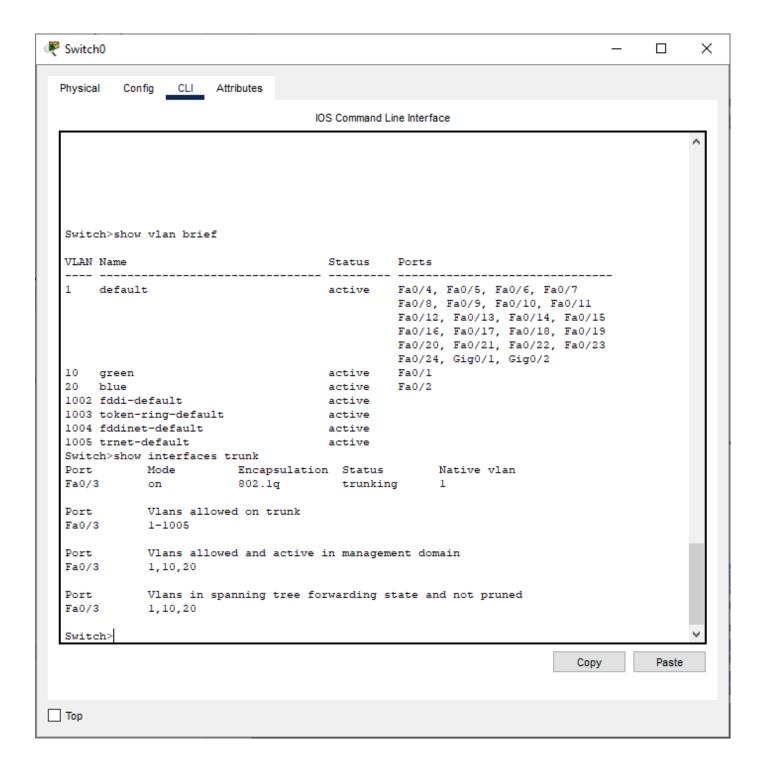
On Router:

show ip interface brief



On Switch:

show vlan brief show interfaces trunk



Benefits:

- Cost-Efficient: Avoids the need for a Layer 3 switch or multiple physical interfaces on the router.
- Easy Management: All inter-VLAN routing is handled by the router, making management simpler.

Limitations:

- Performance Risk: The single physical interface can become a bottleneck if there is high traffic between VLANs.
- Scalability: Not suitable for large-scale networks with extensive inter-VLAN communication requirements.