IT PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

Automated Network Diagnostic Script

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Ubuntu, Terminal

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This document is part of a personal project portfolio developed during the Google IT Support Certification. All simulations and analyses were performed in a controlled lab environment. These projects serve as a complement to the course and provide an initial hands-on experience applying its concepts to real-world scenarios

I. Project Overview

Automate basic connectivity and DNS resolution checks on a Linux machine to produce a single, clear report on network health (local IP, routing, reachability, DNS, HTTP).

II. Environment Setup

Component	Details
OS	Ubuntu 22.04
Network Type	enp0s3` (internet), `enp0s8` (private LAN)
Configuration	Managed via `netplan`
Diagnostic	Via Bash scripting

III. Test Setup and Process

Script Creation

A Bash script was written to test:

```
#!/bin/bash

echo "Local IP Address:"
ip a

echo -e "\nRouting Table:"
ip route

echo -e "\nGateway Reachability:"
ping -c 4 192.168.56.101

echo -e "\nPing to DNS (Google):"
ping -c 4 8.8.8.8

echo -e "\nDNS Resolution Test:"
dig google.com

echo -e "\nHTTP Test with curl:"
curl -l http://google.com
```

Saved as `diagnostic.sh`, made executable with:

• chmod +x diagnostic.sh

Manual Test Sequence for Comparison

Each command was also run manually to compare timing, output clarity, and potential errors.

Wireshark Captures

Two captures:

- `diagnostic_icmp.pcapng` contains ICMP traffic from ping tests.
- `diagnostic_dns_http.pcapng` captures DNS resolution and HTTP exchange.

> Filters used:

- `icmp`
- `dns or http`

4. Packet Capture and Analysis

Complementary Analysis – Network Error

During testing, a **network activation failure** occurred on interface `enp0s8`.

This was visible in GNOME as:

> X Échec de connexion — L'activation de la connexion réseau a échoué. (Due to my Vm being in French)

Key Findings:

Root Cause:

- The interface was not properly configured or persisted.
- DHCP not available on the host-only adapter.
- No static IP was defined, causing the interface to go DOWN between boots. I was working on enp0s8 (intnet) which doesn't have internet access, later it was resolved.

V/ Resolution / Outcome

A custom Netplan file:

```
# /etc/netplan/99-config.yaml
network:
  version: 2
  renderer: networkd
  ethernets:
    enp0s8:
    addresses: [192.168.56.102/24]
```

Applied via:

sudo netplan apply

Observed Results

- Script successfully displayed complete diagnostic info.
- Files `diagnostic_icmp.pcapng` and `diagnostic_dns_http.pcapng` contain clean captures.
- After Netplan fix, no more interface drop or connectivity errors.

Analysis

- The script accelerates repetitive tests.
- It also serves as a baseline to check for anomalies during user incidents.
- Ideal for onboarding junior IT staff in Linux troubleshooting practices.

VI/ Key Takeaways & Skills Demonstrated

- Basic Bash scripting
- Netplan configuration
- Network troubleshooting (L1/L2)
- Wireshark usage and filtering
- Understanding of interface persistence issues

VIII/ Optional Enhancements, Reflection

This project highlighted the value of scripting in repetitive diagnostics and onboarding workflows. While the current version runs effectively, future iterations could include:

- Error handling for missing tools ('dig', 'curl')
- Logging of output to a timestamped file for long-term issue tracking
- DNS resolver checks to adapt to environments where `systemd-resolved` is used

Additionally, a real connectivity failure on `enp0s8` emphasized the need for persistent static IP configuration using Netplan. In production environments, such issues could be prevented via automated provisioning tools.

Lastly, capture files (`.pcapng`) should be considered sensitive and stored securely if they contain real-world DNS or HTTP traffic.

Video Recording Link

https://youtu.be/kSSI6DuNohs