Comparing File Contents

We can compare two files' data by using following commands

1) cmp command

2) diff command

3) sdiff command

4) vimdiff command

5) comm command

```
1) cmp command

-> This command is used to compare two files data

-> This command compare byte by byte

-> Syntax : cmp File1  File2

-> If content are same then we don't get any output

-> If content is different then it provides information about only
   first difference and in the information we get byte number and
   line number is provided

Example cmp F1.txt F2.txt

root@DESKTOP-1VT9LL4:~# cmp F2.txt F3.txt
cmp: EOF on F2.txt after byte 26, line 4


Note : cmp command don't show all differences, it shows only first
difference, so real time this command is not usedfull
```

```
2) diff command

-> This command is used to compare two files data

-> This command shows all differences in the content

-> Syntax : diff Fil1 Fil2

-> If both file content are same then we don't get any output

-> If contents are different then it shows all differences

-> Example : diff F2.txt F3.txt
```

```
Options of diff command

1) -q shows message when files are different

2) -s show message when files are same

3) -y show comparison line by line (Parallel comparison)

4) If we want to suppress common lines then we should use
   --suppress-commom-lines option with -y option
```

```
root@DESKTOP-1VT9LL4:~# diff -q F2.txt F3.txt
Files F2.txt and F3.txt differ
```

```
root@DESKTOP-1VT9LL4:~# diff -s F2.txt F3.txt
5,7c5,7
< aaa
< bbb
< ccc
---
> AAA
> BBB
> CCC
```

```
root@DESKTOP-1VT9LL4:~# diff -y F2.txt F3.txt
Mango                                                          Mango
Apple                                                          Apple
Banana                                                         Banana
Grapes                                                         Grapes
aaa                                                          | AAA
bbb                                                          | BBB
ccc                                                          | CCC
```

```
root@DESKTOP-1VT9LL4:~# diff -y --suppress-common-lines F2.txt F3.txt
aaa                                                          | AAA
bbb                                                          | BBB
ccc                                                          | CCC
```

3)sdiff command

-> This command is used to compare two files data

-> We can use this command for side by side comparison(parallel
   comparison)

-> sdiff command and diff command with -y option are same

-> sdiff Fil1 Fil2

```
root@DESKTOP-1VT9LL4:~# sdiff F2.txt F3.txt
Mango                                                          Mango
Apple                                                          Apple
Banana                                                         Banana
Grapes                                                         Grapes
aaa                                                          | AAA
bbb                                                          | BBB
ccc                                                          | CCC
```

5) comm command

-> This command is used to compare two files data

-> Syntax : comm Fil1 File2

-> when this command get executed then result will be displayed
   in three columns

-> Column 1: Data present in the first File but not present in second file

-> Column 2: Data present in the second file but not present in the First File

-> Column 3: common data from both files

```
options of comm command

1) -1 option  : If we don't want to display column 1

2) -2 option : If we don't want to display column 2

3) -3 option : If we don't want to display column 3

4) -12 option : If we don't  want to display column 1 and 2
```

```
root@DESKTOP-1VT9LL4:~# comm F2.txt F3.txt
                        Mango
                        Apple
                        Banana
                        Grapes

                AAA
                BBB
                CCC
aaa
bbb
ccc
```