

sed command

sed stands for Stream Editor

With the help of SED command we can do following operations

- 1) We can print particular line data or multiple lines data
- 2) We can delete particular line or multiple lines
- 3) We can replace one word with another word
- 4) We can insert data before line
- 5) We can insert data after line

Syntax :

```
sed option 'action' file_name
```

Another syntax : If we are using SED command with another command

```
command | sed option 'action'
```

Note : Where we are using sed command in combination with another command then we no need to specify file name because input for sed command is getting from another command

Example :

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '1p' Sample.txt
```

This file name is not required
if we specify then also no probelm but
input is taken from file not from
another command out put

First Create dummy file for /etc/passwd as below then perform operations of dummy file

```
cat /etc/passwd > Sample.txt
```

1) Action 1: print data

-> To print data we need to use p character

Example: print 10th line data from Sample.txt file

```
Ans : sed -n '10p' /etc/passwd  
      or  
      cat -n /etc/passwd | sed -n '10p'
```

While printing data we need to -n option. if we are not specifying -n option then specified line number data get printed twice and rest of lines also get printed

Example : Print header from Sample.txt

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '1p'
```

Example : print 33rd line from Sample.txt

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '33p'
```

Example : print line number 10, line number 15 , line number 25

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '10p;15p;25p'
```

Example : print line number 5,20, 30 and 15 from Sample.txt

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '5p;20p;30p;15p'
```

Example : print line number 5 to 10

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '5,10p' --> valid
```

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '5p,10p' -> invalid
```

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '5p,10' -> invalid
```

Example : Print line numbers 10 to 15

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '10,15p'
```

Example : print footer from Sample.txt
(footer means last line)

```
Ans: sed -n '$p' Sample.txt
```

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '$p'
```

Example : print every line two times from Sample.txt

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed 'p'
```

Example : print line number 5,10,15 and line number from 20 to 25
and line number 30 to 35

```
cat -n Sample.txt | sed -n '5p;10p;15p;20,25p;30,35p'
```

Operation 2 : delete operation

For delete we need to 'd' character

Example : delete 5th line from Sample.txt

```
Ans : cat -n Sample.txt | sed '5d'
```

Note: Don't use -n option while deleting lines

Example : delete 10th line from Sample.txt file

```
Ans : cat -n Sample.txt | sed '10d'
```

Example : delete lines from 5 to 10 of Sample.txt

```
Ans : cat -n Sample.txt | sed '5,10d'
```

Example : delete line number 5,10, 15 and lines from 20 to 30 and 35 to 40

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '5d;10d;15d;20,30d;35,40d'`

Example : delete header of Sample.txt file

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '1d'`

Example : delete footer of Sample.txt file

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '$d'`

Operation 3: insert data before particular line number

-> To insert data before particular line number character 'i' is used

Example : Insert message 'Good morning' before 3rd line of Sample.txt

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '3i Good Morning'`

Operation 4: insert data after particular line number

-> To insert data after particular line number charcater 'a' is used

Example : Insert message 'Good Morning' after 3rd line of Sample.txt file

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '3a Good Morning'`

Operation : replace /subtitute

For subtitute operation character 's' is used

Example : Find "root" and replace with "NETWORK"

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed 's/root/NETWORK/'` This forward slash is mandatory

subtitute Word

What to find?

Note: by default subtitution is take place only for first occurance

Example : replace all occurrences of "root" with "Network"

Ans: `cat -n Sample.txt | sed 's/root/NETWORK/g'`

Here g stands for global

Example : replace only second occurrence of "root" with "Network"

Ans: `cat -n Sample.txt | sed 's/root/Network/2g'`

Example : replace second occurrence of "usr" with "Admin", only from second line

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '2s/usr/Admin/2g'`

Example : replace "usr" with "Admin", only from line number 2 to 10 and only for 3rd occurrence

Ans: `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '2,10s/usr/Admin/3g'`

Example : replacement by ignoring case

-> If we want to perform replacement by ignoring case then use i character

Ans : `cat -n Sample.txt | sed '2,10s/Usr/Admin/i'`

Example : Add # symbol to the beginning of every line

Ans: `cat -n Sample.txt | sed 's/^/#/'`

Note : in sed command all changes take place only onscreen, actual file not get modified. if we want to make changes in the original file then we need to use -i option

Example : Add # symbol to start of every line

`cat -n Sample.txt | sed -i 's/^/#/'`

Example : Remove # from the beginning of every line

Ans : `sed -i 's/^#/' Sample.txt`

IQ. Suppose I have one script, from that script I want to comment lines from 5 to 10. How will you do this?

Ans : we can do this by using sed command as below

`sed -i '5,10s/^#/' Sample.txt`

If we want to replace multiple words then use -e option

Example replace "root" with "Network", "usr" with "Admin" and bin with "Rabit"

Ans: `sed -e 's/root/Network/' -e 's/usr/Admin/' -e 's/bin/Rabit/'`

or

`sed 's/root/Network/;s/usr/Admin/;s/bin/Rabit/'`