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cut command

-> cut command is used to to cut data from a file based on your requirement.

-> We can cut data character by character

-> We can cut data on the basis of seperator
   like space, : ;  / ? ~ or any other character

-> Syntax of cut command

    cut <option> file_name

  or when we use cut command in combination with another command

  command | cut <option>

-> options of cut command
  1) -c  -> -c is used to cut data character by character

  2) -f  -> -f is used to cut data based on filed (column)

  3) -d ->  -d is used to specify delimeter(seperator)
Note: -f and -d option always come in pair.i.e when we use -d then we need to use -f
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  Examples of cut command

  To practice on cut command first create a CutDemo.txt file as below

  cat /etc/passwd | head -10 | CutDemo.txt

A) To Cut data character by character

1) Display only first character from every line of CutDemo.txt

Ans : cut -c1 CutDemo.txt

2) Display only second character from every line of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : cut -c2 CutDemo.txt

3) Display only fifth character from every line of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : cut -c5 CutDemo.txt

4) Display only tenth characeter from every line of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : cut -c10 CutDemo.txt
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5) Display only fifth character from first 5 lines of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : cut -c5 CuDemo.txt | head -5

6) Display only second character from line number 2,5 and 7 of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : sed -n '2p;5p;7p' CutDemo.txt | cut -c2

7) Display fifth character from header and footer of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : sed -n '1p;$p' CutDemo.txt | cut -c5

8) Display first five characters from every line of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : cut -c1-5 CutDemo.txt

9) Display first 10 characters from every line of CutDemo.txt file

Ans : cut -c1-10 CutDemo.txt

10) Display third to fifth characters from every line of CutDemo.txt File

Ans : cut -c3-5 CutDemo.txt

Note: To specify range of character, we need to use hypen symbol

11) Display second character,fifth character and 10 to 15 characters from every line of CutDemo.txt

Ans : cut -c2,5,10-15 CutDemo.txt

Or

cut -c 2,5,10-15 CutDemo.txt

Note: one space is considered as single character

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B) cut data based on seperator

To specify delimeter(seperator) we need to use -d option

To specify field(column) we need to use -f option

Example : seperate data based on :| and display first field

Ans: cut -d: -f 1 CutDemo.txt

1) seperate data based on : and display second field

Ans : cut -d: -f 2 CutDemo.txt

2) seperate data based on : and display fifth field

cut -d: -f 5 CutDemo.txt

3) seperate data based on : and display fields from first to third

Ans : cut -d: -f 1-3 CutDemo.txt

4) seperate data based on : and display fields 1, 3 5

Ans : cut -d: -f 1,3,5 CutDemo.txt

5) seperate data based on : and display field 1 and fields from 3 to 5

Ans : cut -d: -f 1,3-5
6) sepeate data based on space and print second field

Ans : df |cut -d' ' -f1

Note: df command is used to know how much disk is free