

Lab 4: Creating, Viewing, and Editing Text Files & Using Shell Redirection, Pipes, and Variables in RHEL 9

Section 1: Save Command Output or Errors to a File with Shell Redirection

1. **Question:** Use the ls command to list the contents of the /etc directory and redirect the output to a file named etc_list.txt.

```
ls /etc > etc_list.txt
```

2. **Question:** Run the cat command on a non-existent file (nofile.txt) and redirect the **error output** to a file named error_output.txt.

```
cat nofile.txt 2> error_output.txt
```

3. **Question:** Combine the output and error from the find command into a single file named find_results.txt, searching for any files named *.log in the /var/log directory.

```
find /var/log -name "*log" &> find_results.txt
```

Section 2: Process Command Output Through Multiple Command-Line Programs Using Pipes

4. **Question:** List all files in the /var/log directory, and pipe the output to the grep command to filter only for files containing "auth" in their name

```
ls /var/log | grep auth
```

5. **Question:** Run the ps -aux command to list running processes, then pipe the output through the sort command to sort by CPU usage

```
ps aux | sort -nrk 3
```

6. **Question:** Display all lines of a file named example.txt in uppercase using a combination of cat and tr (translate).

```
cat example.txt | tr '[lower:]' '[upper:]'
```

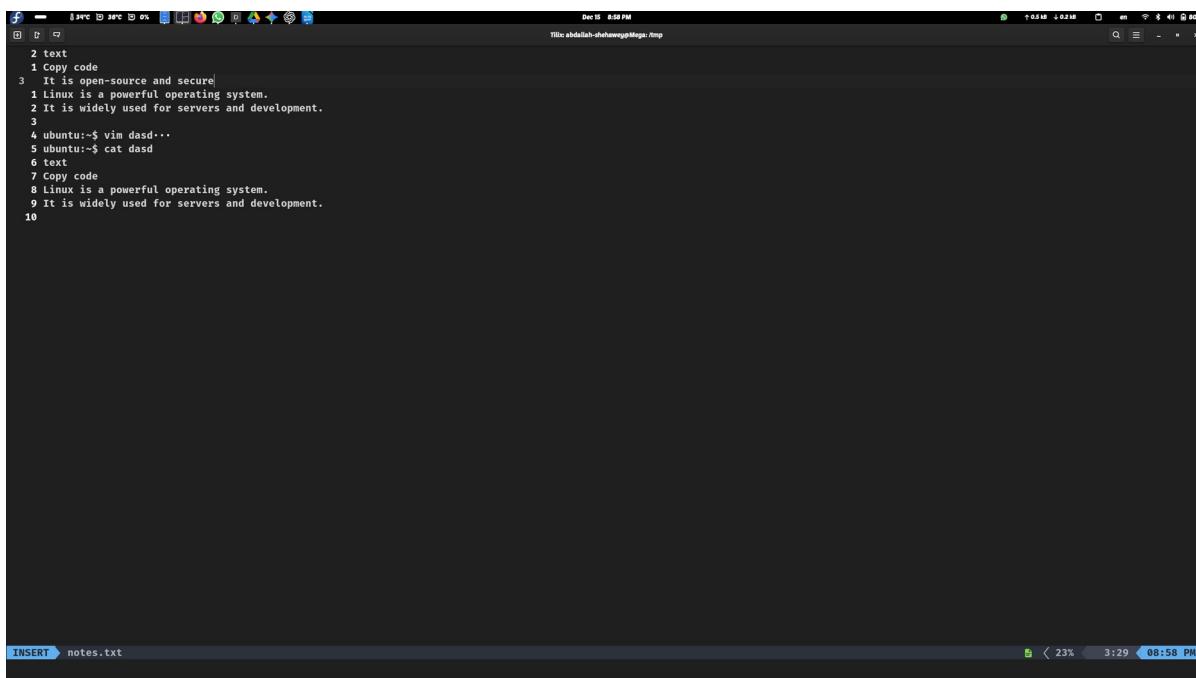
Section 3: Create and Edit Text Files Using the Vim Editor

7. **Question:** Create a new file named notes.txt using the vim editor. Add the following text to the file and save it:

```
text
Copy code
Linux is a powerful operating system.
It is widely used for servers and development.
```

```
ubuntu:~$ vim dasd
ubuntu:~$ cat dasd
text
Copy code
Linux is a powerful operating system.
It is widely used for servers and development.
```

8. **Question:** Open the notes.txt file again in vim, go to the second line, and append the text: It is open-source and secure. Save the file and exit.



The screenshot shows a terminal window with the following content:

```
2 text
1 Copy code
3 It is open-source and secure|
1 Linux is a powerful operating system.
2 It is widely used for servers and development.
3
4 ubuntu:~$ vim dasd...
5 ubuntu:~$ cat dasd
6 text
7 Copy code
8 Linux is a powerful operating system.
9 It is widely used for servers and development.
10
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates "INSERT notes.txt".

9. **Bonus Question:** In vim, search for the word "Linux" in the notes.txt file and replace it with "GNU/Linux
:`%s/Linux/GNU/Linux`
-

Section 4: Use Shell Variables to Help Run Commands

10. **Question:** Create a shell variable named MY_VAR and assign it the value "Hello, World!". Display the value of the variable.

```
MY_VAR="Hello, World!"  
echo $MY_VAR
```

11. **Question:** Run the command echo \$HOME to display your home directory. Now assign the output of this command to a variable named MY_HOME, and use echo to display the value of MY_HOME.

```
MY_HOME=$(echo $HOME)  
echo $MY_HOME
```

12. **Bonus Question:** Use a variable named DIR_NAME to dynamically change the directory when running the cd command.

```
DIR_NAME=/path/to/directory  
cd "$DIR_NAME"
```

Section 5: Edit Bash Startup Scripts to Set Shell and Environment Variables

13. **Question:** Open your .bashrc file in vim and add a line that sets an environment variable EDITOR to vim. Save the file and restart your terminal.

```
vim ~/.bashrc  
add this line  
export EDITOR=vi  
after that :wq  
source ~/.bashrc
```

14. **Question:** Add a new alias to your .bashrc file that allows you to run the ls -la command using just ll. Save the file and reload your shell.

```
alias ll='ls -la'  
source ~/.bashrc
```

15. **Bonus Question:**