1. Ansible Playbook to Install Tomcat Server

```
- name: Download Tomcat8 from tomcat.apache.org
hosts: testserver
vars:
   download url:
https://dlcdn.apache.org/tomcat/tomcat-8/v8.5.83/bin/apache-tomcat-8.
5.83.tar.gz
tasks:
- name: Download Open JDK
  become: yes
 apt:
  name: openjdk-8-jre-headless
   update cache: yes
  state: present
  - name: validate if Java is availble
shell:
 java -version
- name: Create the group
become: yes
 group:
  name: tomcat
  state: present
- name: Create the user
 become: yes
user:
name: tomcat
  state: present
- name: Create a Directory /opt/tomcat8
  become: yes
  file:
  path: /opt/tomcat8
  state: directory
   mode: 0755
   owner: tomcat
  group: tomcat
  - name: Download Tomcat using unarchive
become: yes
  unarchive:
```

```
src: "{{download url}}"
    dest: /opt/tomcat8
    mode: 0755
      remote src: yes
      group: tomcat
      owner: tomcat
- name: Move files to the /opt/tomcat8 directory
become: yes
   become user: tomcat
    shell: "mv /opt/tomcat8/apache*/* /opt/tomcat8"
  - name: Creating a service file
   become: yes
   copy:
  content: |-
       [Unit]
       Description=Tomcat Service
     Requires=network.target
     After=network.target
     [Service]
    Type=forking
      User=tomcat
       Environment="CATALINA PID=/opt/tomcat8/logs/tomcat.pid"
       Environment="CATALINA BASE=/opt/tomcat8"
       Environment="CATALINA HOME=/opt/tomcat8"
       Environment="CATALINA OPTS=-Xms512M -Xmx1024M -server
-XX:+UseParallelGC"
       ExecStart=/opt/tomcat8/bin/startup.sh
       ExecStop=/opt/tomcat8/bin/shutdown.sh
       Restart=on-abnormal
      [Install]
       WantedBy=multi-user.target
     dest: /etc/systemd/system/tomcat.service
  - name: Reload the SystemD to re-read configurations
    become: yes
   systemd:
       daemon-reload: yes
  - name: Enable the tomcat service and start
   become: yes
```

```
systemd:
    name: tomcat
    enabled: yes
    state: started

- name: Connect to Tomcat server on port 8080 and check status 200
- Try 5 times
    tags: test
    uri:
        url: http://localhost:8080
    register: result
    until: "result.status == 200"
    retries: 5
    delay: 10
```

Where can this playbook be used?

This ansible-playbook is designed specifically for ubuntu or debian architecture Linux Systems.

As we are using apt package manager command to install java. You can replace it with yum if you are using this playbook for other linux distributions.

Let me know if you need any help or face any issues.

Run Using: ansible-playbook install-tomcat.yaml

2. How to send Slack Notifications using Ansible?

```
- hosts: localhost
tasks:
- name: Wait for the file to be available
register: fileexists
file:
path: /tmp/myprocess.pid
 state: file
until: fileexists is not failed
 retries: 5
 delay: 10
  ignore errors: true
- name: notify Slack that the job is failing
tags: slack
   community.general.slack:
    token: T0266NX8KPF/B03FHCHAZJM/fk4OApn8KMGilhxxVtQ
        ### StatusUpdate ###
         - -----
        `Server`: {{ansible host}}
      `Status`: Ansible File Watcher Job failed
   channel: '#ansible-notifications'
   color: good
   username: 'Ansible on {{ inventory hostname }}'
   link names: 0
     parse: 'none'
   when: fileexists is failed
   ignore errors: true
- name: notify Slack that the job is Successful
  tags: slack
   community.general.slack:
    token: T0266NX8KPF/B03FHCHAZJM/fk4OApn8KMGilhxxVtQ
     msg: |
       ### StatusUpdate ###
```

Output:

```
hello 13:26
added an integration to this channel: Ansible-Bot

Ansible-Bot APP 15:17
Hello, World!

Hello, World!

15:19  ### StatusUpdate ###

Server: 127.0.0.1
Status: Ansible File Watcher Job failed

Show less
```

3. Ansible inventory_hostnames and ansible_hostnames

we are going to see two built-in variables of ansible mostly used in Ansible playbooks and they are inventory_hostname and ansible_hostname while both these variables are to give you the hostname of the machine. they differ in a way, where it comes from.

ansible_hostname	inventory_hostname
Ansible_hostname takes the hostname from the facts collected during the gather_facts this would mostly match to the uname -n or hostname command that you run on the remote machine	inventory_hostname takes the hostname from the inventory configuration or the hosts file. this may not match the hostname configuration of the remote system. this could just be a local identity mentioned on the control machine
If the Gather_facts is set to NO the ansible_facts variable would not be available to use in your playbook	inventory_hostname would always be available to use in your playbook.
Since the data taken from the configuration file. this may not match the uname -n or hostname command output of the remote machine	Since this is taken from the facts collected at runtime this would have the same hostname defined in system configuration like /etc/hostname and match the output of uname -n and hostname
As this is based on the Gather_facts step. ansible_hostname not available in ad_hoc command	Available for both playbook and ad hoc command

A Simple playbook to demonstrate the inventory_hostname and ansible_hostname

```
---
- name: "Playbook to test the inventory_hostname
and ansible_hostname"
  hosts: testserver
  tasks:

- name: What is my inventory_hostname
  debug: var={{inventory_hostname}}

- name: What is my ansible_hostname
  debug: var={{ansible_hostname}}
```

Ansible Get IP Address of Current Host or Target

Method 1: Get IP Used by Ansible master to connect

n this method, we are going to use the IP address used by Ansible master to connect to the Remote Host.

Sometimes, we would use the public IP to connect to the remote host in such cases we would want to use this method.

This is the method I have been using for a while and It never failed

me. The /etc/hosts update post tagged above has also implemented

with this method.

So in this method. to get the remote IP address with ansible we are

relying on the SSH connectivity between the Ansible Master and

remote host(target)

If you know already, ansible Gather facts collects all the information

about the remote hosts and it provides a various lot of information

about the remote host including the IP address being used for SSH

connection.

The following playbook would show how to get the IP address of the

remote target or host using the SSH Connection between the ansible

master and the host.

- hosts: all

gather facts: yes

tasks:

- debug:

var=hostvars[inventory_hostname]['ansible_env'].SSH_CONNECTION.split(' ')[2]

How to Use Find in Ansible Examples

```
- name: Ansible Find Example
hosts: testserver
tasks:
  - name : Find files older than 30 days
    find:
        paths: /var/log
        patterns: '*.log'
        age: 30d
        age_stamp: mtime
    register: output

- debug: var=item.path
    with_items: "{{ output.files }}"
```

Find All directories excluding few, as a list

```
- name: Ansible Find Example
 hosts: testserver
 vars:
   Files: []
  tasks:
  - name : Find files bigger than 100mb in size
    become: true
    find:
      paths: /var/log
      file type: directory
      recurse: no
       excludes: 'nginx, mysql'
     register: output
   - name: Adding Files to the LIST
    no_log: true
    set fact:
       Files: "{{ Files + [item.path]}}"
     with items: "{{ output.files }}"
```

```
- debug: var=Files
```

Find Files with a Regex Pattern in Ansible find

```
- name: Ansible Find Example
 hosts: testserver
 vars:
   Files: []
 tasks:
  - name : Find files bigger than 100mb in size
    become: true
    find:
      paths: /var/log
      file type: file
      patterns: '^[a-z]*[0-9]{8}\\.log$'
      size: 100m
      use_regex: yes
    register: output
  - name: Adding Files to the LIST
    no log: true
    set fact:
      Files: "{{ Files + [item.path]}}"
    with items: "{{ output.files }}"
  - debug: var=Files
```

Ansible Find and Delete the files

```
---
- name: Ansible Find Example
hosts: testserver
tasks:
  - name : Find files older than 30 days
become: yes
find:
    paths: /var/log
    patterns: '*.log'
```

```
age: 30d
  age_stamp: mtime
register: output

- name: Delete the files matching
become: yes
file:
  path: "{{item.path}}"
  state: absent
with_items: "{{ output.files }}"
```

Ansible Command Module Examples

```
- name: Check the remote host uptime
   hosts: testservers
   tasks:
   - name: Execute the Uptime command
over Command module
   register: uptimeoutput
   command: "uptime"

- debug:
   var: uptimeoutput.stdout lines
```

Example2: Get the Hostname and Version of remote servers with UNAME



```
- name: Check the remote host Hostname,
Version, Distribution with UNAME
  hosts: testservers
  tasks:
  - name: Execute the UNAME command
    register: unameout
    command: "uname -a"

  - debug:
    var: unameout.stdout lines
```

Example3: Check the Disk Usage of Remote server

```
---
- name: Check the disk usage of all the file system in the remote servers hosts: testservers tasks:
- name: Execute the df command register: dfout command: "df -h"

- debug:
var: dfout.stdout_lines
```

Example4: Restart Apache Server using Ansible Command Module

```
---
- name: restart apache web server
hosts: testservers
tasks:
- name: restartapache
register: httpdresout
become: yes
command: "httpd -k restart"
when: ansible_hostname ==
"mwiweb02"

- debug:
var: httpdresout.stdout_lines
```

Example5: Execute a command when a file exists or not exists

```
---
---
- name: "Validate if a file is present or
not present using Ansible Command module"
   hosts: testservers
   tasks:
```

```
- name: "Create a file if it does not
exist"
      command: "touch /tmp/latestfile"
      args:
         creates: "/tmp/latestfile"
      register: createif
    - name: "Display the file to make sure
its created"
      command: "ls -lrt /tmp/latestfile"
      register: displayif
      when: createif is changed
    - debug: var=displayif.stdout
    - name: "Remove the file if it exist"
      command: "rm -rf /tmp/latestfile"
      args:
         removes: "/tmp/latestfile"
      register: removeif
```

Ansible Unarchive Module Examples

Playbook without Unarchive

```
- name: Playbook to copy file and uncompress
 hosts: appservers
 vars:
   - userid : "weblogic"
   - oracle home: "/opt/oracle"
   - jdk instl file: "server-jre-8u191-linux-x64.tar.gz"
 tasks:
 - name : Copy the Java JDK files
   become: yes
   become user: "{{ userid }}"
   tags: app, cpbinaries
   copy:
     src: "{{ item }}"
     dest: "{{ oracle home }}"
     mode: 0755
   with items:
      - "{{ jdk_instl_file }}"
 - name: Install java
   become: yes
   become user: "{{ userid }}"
   tags: javainstall
   shell: "tar xvfz {{ oracle home }}/{{ jdk instl file }}"
   args:
     chdir: "{{ oracle home }}"
   register: javainstall
```

Playbook with Unarchive:

```
---
- name: Playbook to copy file and uncompress
hosts: appservers
vars:
   - userid : "weblogic"
   - oracle home: "/opt/oracle"
```

```
- jdk_instl_file: "server-jre-8u191-linux-x64.tar.gz"

tasks:
- name : Copy and Install Java
  become: yes
  become_user: "{{ userid }}"
  tags: javainstall
  unarchive:
    src: "{{ item }}"
    dest: "{{ oracle_home }}"
    mode: 0755
  with_items:
    - "{{ jdk_instl_file }}"
```

Download a Zip file from remote URL and decompress using unarchive

```
- name: Playbook to download and install tomcat8
 hosts: appservers
 tasks:
  - name: install Java
   become: yes
      name: java-1.8.0-openjdk-devel
      state: present
  - name: crate a directory
   become: yes
   file:
     path: "/opt/tomcat8"
     state: directory
     mode: 0755
  - name : Download and install tomcat
   become: yes
   tags: installtc
   unarchive:
```

```
"http://apachemirror.wuchna.com/tomcat/tomcat-8/v8.5.49/bin/apache-to
mcat-8.5.49.tar.gz"
    dest: "/opt/tomcat8/"
    mode: 0755
    remote_src: yes
    register: "tcinstall"

- name: Start the tomcat instance
    become: yes
    shell:
        "./startup.sh"
    args:
        chdir: "/opt/tomcat8/apache-tomcat-8.5.49/bin"
```

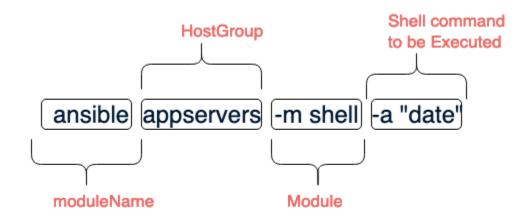
What is this remote_src in ansible unarchive module

ву this time you would have understood what is this remote_src is but if you are still having a question. This is what it is. remote_src tells the unarchive module to look for the source file on the remote server unless otherwise unarchive would check for the file on the control machine and try to copy it.

Ansible unarchive is by default designed to copy the file mentioned in the src from the control machine (where Ansible is installed) to the remote server. Sometimes we do not want to copy the files or our files would somehow be already present on the remote target server. in that case, you can use this remote_src option.

Ansible Shell Module Examples

Here is the quick Syntax of Ansible Shell module in ADHOC manner.



Example 1: Execute a Single Command with Ansible Shell

 name: Shell Examples hosts: testservers

tasks:

- name: Check Date with Shell command

shell: "date"

register: datecmd tags: datecmd

- debug: msg="{{datecmd.stdout}}"

Example 2: Execute a Command with Pipe and Redirection

 name: Shell Examples hosts: testservers

tasks:

- name: Dir list and write to file

shell:

" Is -Irt /apps|awk '{print \$9}'|sed '/^\$/d' > /tmp/dirlist.txt "

register: Isout tags: Isout

 name: Display the file shell: cat /tmp/dirlist.txt register: displaylist

- debug: msg="{{displaylist.stdout_lines}}"

Example 3: Execute a Shell Script with Shell command

 name: Shell Examples hosts: testservers

tasks:

- name: Start tomcat

become: yes

become_user: tomcat

async: 10 poll: 0 shell:

"./startup.sh"

args:

chdir: "/apps/tomcat/tomcat8/bin"

register: datecmd tags: datecmd

- name: Validate if tomcat is UP

tags: tomvalidate

wait_for:

host: "localhost" port: 8080 delay: 10 timeout: 30 state: started

msg: "Tomcat server is not running"

How to use Ansible with Windows Host - Ansible Windows Example

ow to Setup Windows machine for Ansible to be able to connect or remote login just like SSH in Linux.

While there is a way to use SSH in windows which can be further leveraged by ansible for windows connectivity and automation.

There is a better way and more stable way to do it with Windows Remote Manager (WinRM)

So we are going to see how to use **WinRM** and connect to remote windows machine from Ansible control machine.

How to Setup WinRM in Windows Machine to Prepare for Ansible

The First step for us to be able to connect to the windows machine is to install this WinRM properly on our Windows machine.

Thanks to Ansible team. they have created a PowerShell script that does the required configuration on the windows machine for us.

Do not worry about downloading the Powershell script file. Just run the following powershell command in your PowerShell terminal

This downloads the script automatically and runs it in your terminal.

iex(iwr

https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ansible/ansible/devel/examples/scripts/ConfigureRemotingForAnsible.ps1).Content

If the installation is done right, you can see that your WinRM is UP and running and would be listening in port 5986

here is a quick command to for you to check if winrm listens on the port 5986

netstat -anp|findstr 5986

Thats all.

One more thing is pending. If you are on a cloud,

Consider opening this port to ansible control machine. So the Ansible can connect this machine from control machine. (It is same like Opening up port 22 for linux to allow SSH)

If you are using Ansible with Python 2 use PIP to install this package

pip install pywinrm

If you are using Ansible with Python3 use PIP3 to install pywinrm

pip3 install pywinrm

once the pywinrm package is installed we are all good and we can go and do a quick health check with ping.

But I would recommend you can use telnet or nc command (whichever available) to make sure that the network connectivity is there to the remote machine

```
nc -w 3 -v <remote windows server ip/hostname> 5986
(or)
telnet <remote windows server ip/hostname>:5986
```

This would give you an additional confidence that your connection is OK.

Create or Update ansible hosts inventory file

Before you can connect to the remote machine with Ansible.

you need to let Ansible know about this machine, as usual you need to add this machine to any hostgroup. In my case the host group name is win

```
[win]
192.9.12.122
```

You can keep the IP or the hostname which ever is reachable from your ansible control machine

Additionally, since this is windows, we need to provide some more variables at the hostgroup level.

```
[win:vars]
ansible_connection=winrm
ansible_user=administrator
ansible_password=r$eBQNgc5U&A2at8kDwpWo.KzLT5NvHd
ansible_winrm_server_cert_validation=ignore
```

- ansible_connection=winrm to define the connection is not SSH should use winrm
- ansible_user what ever the username you have created in the windows machine
- ansible_password password for that user (the same one you use for RDP)
- ansible_winrm_server_cert_validation this is fine in DEV/TEST environment to tell ansible to ignore hostkey/server cert validation.

The complete inventory file is given below for your reference

```
[win]

192.9.12.122

[win:vars]
```

```
ansible_connection=winrm
ansible_user=administrator
ansible_password=r$eBQNgc5U&A2at8kDwpWo.KzLT5NvHd
ansible_winrm_server_cert_validation=ignore
```

I have saved this file in my custom directory where I would create my playbooks and named this as ansible_hosts

Ansible ping is to check the connection from control machine to remote linux machine.

Likewise, Ansible win_ping is to check the connectivity from Control machine to Windows.

It is like a Hello world of programming language we can say.

So we are going execute the following command

```
ansible win -m win_ping -i ansible_hosts
```

here the win is our host group name and with -m we are telling ansible to use win_ping module

Validate Other Ansible AD Hoc commands and Playbooks

Once the win_ping is green. you can execute some other modules and commands either as ad_hoc or as playbook to test it

here is a quick playbook you can use which executes a command on the remote server

```
- name: Windows Test Playbook
hosts: win

tasks:
- name: Remote Execute the mqsc files

win_shell: |
hostname

Get-Date

register: scriptoutput

- name: Script output

debug: var=scriptoutput.stdout
```

The same playbook can be executed as two ansible ad hoc commands

```
ansible win -m win_shell -a "hostname" -i ansible_hosts
```

Ansible delegate_to Examples - Run task on specific host

Ansible Delegate_to module helps us to execute a specific task in our playbook to run in other host or machine.

This process of handing over the control of execution to another host (or) executing a task in another machine is called as delegation and the module delegate_to helps you to configure it properly and achieve the desired result.

While we have already written various playbooks in Devops Junction with delegate to directive.

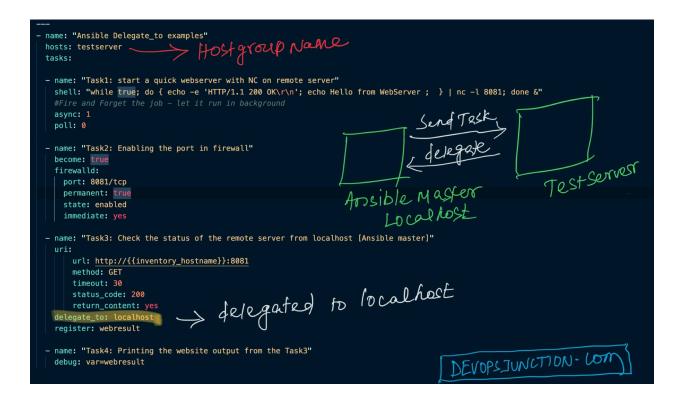
As ansible delegate_to is a directive, not an individual module, It integrates with other modules and it controls the task execution by deciding which host should run the task at runtime.

Refer to the following snapshot of the playbook, there are few tasks.

If you look at the Task3, you can see there is a delegate_to used to change the control of execution back to the ansible master from the remote host where the task was supposed to run.

this is a simple delegation where the control of execution transferred from remote host to the master.

You can write playbooks to change the control between the remote servers as well. which is already covered in our aforementioned articles. We will take a look in detail shortly.



The Playbook to execute tasks in another host with delegate_to

```
- name: "Ansible Delegate to examples"
 hosts: testserver
tasks:
- name: "Task1: start a quick webserver with NC on remote
server"
   shell: "while true; do { echo -e 'HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n'; echo
Hello from WebServer ; } | nc -1 8081 > /tmp/serverout.log ;
done &"
   #Fire and Forget the job - let it run in background
  async: 1
 poll: 0
 - name: "Task2: Enabling the port in firewall"
  become: true
   firewalld:
     port: 8081/tcp
     permanent: true
     state: enabled
     immediate: yes
- name: "Task3: Check the status of the remote server from
localhost [Ansible master]"
   uri:
       url: http://{{inventory hostname}}:8081
       method: GET
        timeout: 30
        status code: 200
        return content: yes
   delegate to: localhost
   register: webresult
 - name: "Task4: Printing the website output from the Task3"
   debug: var=webresult
```

How to use ansible with S3 - Ansible aws_s3

Ansible S3 List Objects in a Bucket

```
---
- name: AWS S3 Bucket List - Ansible
hosts: localhost
tasks:
- name: List keys or Objects
   amazon.aws.aws_s3:
     profile: personal
     bucket: devopsjunction
     mode: list
   register: listresult
- debug: msg={{listresult.s3 keys}}
```

Ansible S3 List Objects using the prefix

```
---
- name: AWS S3 Bucket List - Ansible hosts: localhost
```

```
tasks:
  - name: List keys/Objects
  amazon.aws.aws_s3:
    profile: personal
    bucket: devopsjunction
    mode: list
    prefix: "2021/12"
    max_keys: 400
    register: listresult

- debug: msg={{listresult.s3_keys}}
```

Ansible S3 Upload / PUT example

```
---
- name: AWS S3 Bucket Upload - Ansible
hosts: localhost
tasks:
  - name: Upload/PUT file to S3 bucket
  amazon.aws.aws_s3:
    profile: personal
    bucket: devopsjunction
    mode: put
```

Ansible Pre Tasks and Post Tasks Example

Ansible pretask is a conditional execution block that runs before running the play. It can be a task with some prerequisites check (or) validation

Some examples we can think where ansible pre-task would be helpful

- To install dependency packages before running the actual application npm install or pip install -r requirements.txt
- To validate if the environment meets sufficient criteria like memory, OS version etc before installing a software
- configuring SSH key prior so that you can log in
- Server provisioning steps like creating user, group etc before the installation or setup begin

Just like ansible pre_tasks but this is executed after the actual play or task is completed.

this is mostly useful for post validation or assertion to make sure things are in the right shape or the result is matching our expectations.

Some examples we can think of are listed below

- To validate if things were installed properly and the playbook executed fine.
- To send emails or Slack notifications after successful completion of a playbook

- Running some other task or for accessing some API or external service upon playbook completion like webhook
- Starting the application after the installation and configuration is completed

We can keep this list going with more and more use cases for ansible post_tasks

Simply put, ansible post_tasks is to conditionally execute a block or play upon the successful completion of the playbook. it can be used for post validation, post-execution automation.

Let us see how to use ansible pre_tasks and post_tasks in the ansible-playbook practically.

In this playbook, we are going to perform the following tasks

- Install necessary commands and tools using apt module - pre_tasks
- Validate the nodejs installation is successful and print version using debug and assert

- Create a directory to download the nodejs application
- Download the nodejs codebase from GIT repousing Tokenized URL
- Tokens are saved and retrieved from the Secrets file named gitsecrets.yml
- Do npm installonce the code is downloaded
- Start the nodejs application
- Validate if the port is open and Node js is accepting requests
- Send Slack notification using ansible slack modulepost_tasks

```
---
- name: Install and Launch the Simple
NodeJS Application
hosts: testserver
vars_files:
- gitsecrets.yml
vars:
- destdir: /apps/sampleapp
```

```
pre tasks:
```

```
- name : install dependencies before
starting
        become: yes
        register: aptinstall
        apt:
           name:
            - nodejs
            - npm
            - git
           state: latest
           update cache: yes
      - name : validate the node;s
installation
        debug: msg="Installation of node is
Successfull"
        when: aptinstall is changed
    tasks:
       - name: Version of Node and NPM
         shell:
            "npm -v && nodejs -v"
         register: versioninfo
       - name: Validate if the installation
is intact
         assert:
```

```
that: "versioninfo is changed"
       - name: Create Dest Directory if not
exists
         become: yes
         file:
          path: "{{ destdir }}"
          state: directory
          owner: vagrant
          group: vagrant
          mode: 0755
       - name: Download the NodeJS code
from the GitRepo
         become: yes
         git:
            repo:
'https://{{gittoken}}@github.com/AKSarav/Sa
mpleNodeApp.git'
            dest: "{{ destdir }}"
       - name: Change the ownership of the
directory
         become: yes
         file:
           path: "{{destdir}}"
```

```
owner: "vagrant"
         register: chgrpout
       - name: Install Dependencies with
NPM install command
         shell:
            "npm install"
         args:
            chdir: "{{ destdir }}"
         register: npminstlout
       - name: Debug npm install command
         debug:
msg='{{npminstlout.stdout lines}}'
       - name: Start the App
         async: 10
         poll: 0
         shell:
            "(node index.js > nodesrv.log
2>&1 &)"
         args:
           chdir: "{{ destdir }}"
         register: appstart
       - name: Validating the port is open
```

```
tags: nodevalidate
         wait for:
           host: "localhost"
           port: 5000
           delay: 10
           timeout: 30
           state: started
           msg: "NodeJS server is not
running"
    post tasks:
        - name: notify Slack that the
servers have been updated
          tags: slack
          community.general.slack:
            token:
T026*****PF/B02U*****N/WOa7r*******Ao0i
nWn
            msg: |
                ### StatusUpdate ###
                `Server`: {{ansible host}}
                `Status`: NodeJS Sample
Application installed successfully
```

```
channel: '#ansible'
color: good
username: 'Ansible on {{
inventory_hostname }}'
link_names: 0
parse: 'none'
delegate to: localhost
```