

Linux Management Permissions



Ana Cifuentes Romero

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Exercises about file and directory permission

1. List the permissions in your current directory, including hidden files.

\$ Is -la

The simple command of **ls -l** means, **to list files and directories**. It has an option of **-l**, which lists the contents in a long format like the picture below. It allows you to look through the file system.

-a: which list the hidden files. Hidden files and directories are those that bear in front of the name a dot. Hidden

Hidden

[illegible]

2. Create a file called perm1. Now, check the default permissions and user and group Ownership.

\$ touch perm1

```
$ ls -l perm1
```

The **touch** command is used to create an empty file and using **ls-l perm1** we can see this file created and its permissions.

```

anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ touch perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1

anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ find perm1
perm1

```

3. Change permissions of perm1 so that everyone can read and only the owner user can write.

Specify the command in all possible ways.

The **chmod** command accepts options in two forms: **symbolic** and **octal**.

SIMBOLIC: Permissions may be specified symbolically, using the symbols u (user), g (group), o (other), a (all), r (read), w (write), x (execute), + (add permission), - (take away permission) and = (assign permission).

OCTAL: Permissions may also be specified as a sequence of 3 octal digits. Each octal digit represents the access permissions for the user/owner, group and others respectively. The mappings of permissions onto their corresponding octal digits where 0 means no permissions and 7 all permissions.

\$ chmod u=rw,go=r perm1

This means that user (u) can read(r) and write (w), groups and others only can read (r) in the perm1 file.

```

anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u=rw,go=r perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-r--r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1

```

\$ chmod a=r,u+w perm1

This means that all (a) can read and user can also write in the perm1 file.

```

anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod 664 perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod a=r,u+w perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-r--r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1

```

\$ chmod a=rw,go-w perm1

This means that all (a) can read (r) and write (w) and groups and others have written (w) permission denied in the perm1 file.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod 664 perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod a=rw,go-w perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-r--r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
-rw-r--r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
```

\$ chmod 644 perm1

This means that user can read and write, groups can only read like others in the perm1 file.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod 664 perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod 644 perm1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l perm1
-rw-r--r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
-rw-r--r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
```

4. Create a file called script1.sh, including the content below. List the default permissions.

```
#!/bin/bash
clear
who
```

\$ nano script1.sh

.sh: A file with .sh extensión is a scripting language commands file that contains computer program to be run by Unix shell. It can contain a series of commands that run sequentially to carry out operations such as files processing, execution of programs and other such tasks.

The **nano** command is a simple text editor. This create and open the file and you can add content inside.

#!: its function is to indicate to the system that a set of instructions will then be presented and thus processed. The second part, /bin/bash, indicates the shell that will be used to execute the commands.

-rw-r--r--: is the default configuration when the file is created.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ nano script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l script1.sh
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 22 ene 19 11:51 script1.sh
```



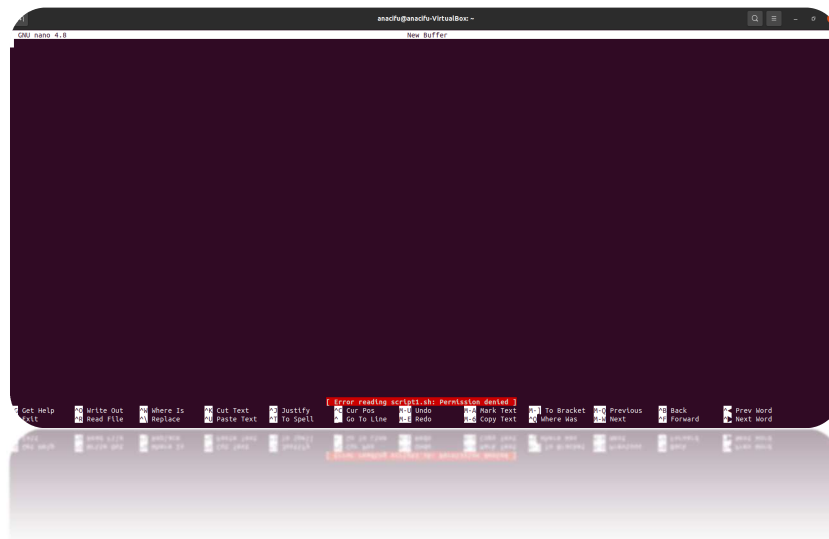
```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ nano script1.sh
GNU nano 4.8 script1.sh
#!/bin/bash
clear
who
```

5. Remove the read permission from the owner and try to open the file.

\$ chmod u-r script1.sh

This means that user have read permission denied and for that reason, you cannot open the file.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u-w script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l script1.sh
----r--r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 22 ene 19 11:51 script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ nano script1.sh
```



```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ nano script1.sh
GNU nano 4.8
Error reading script1.sh: Permission denied
```

6. Remove the write permission from the owner on the file script1.sh. Add the line below. Is it possible? Why?
new line

\$ chmod u-w script1.sh

It is not possible to add anything in this file because you do not even have the possibility to read the text, the file is not accessible.

```
student@student-VirtualBox:~$ sudo chmod u-w script1.sh
student@student-VirtualBox:~$ nano script1.sh
```



7. Change the permissions on the file script1.sh so that the owner can read, write and execute, but you deny all the permissions from the group and others.

\$ chmod 700 script1.sh

The file color is displayed in green because you have permission to run it.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod 700 script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l script1.sh
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 22 ene 19 11:51 script1.sh
```

8. Add the line indicated in exercise 6, in case it was not possible. Try to run the file like a command.

\$ nano script1.sh

\$./script1.sh -> This is one of the ways to run a file like a command from the current directory. In this case it is not possible.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cat script1.sh
#!/bin/bash
clear
who
new line
```

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ./script1.sh
/bin/bash: ./script1.sh: Permission denied
```


\$ bash script1.sh -> This is another option to run the file. In this case it is not possible.

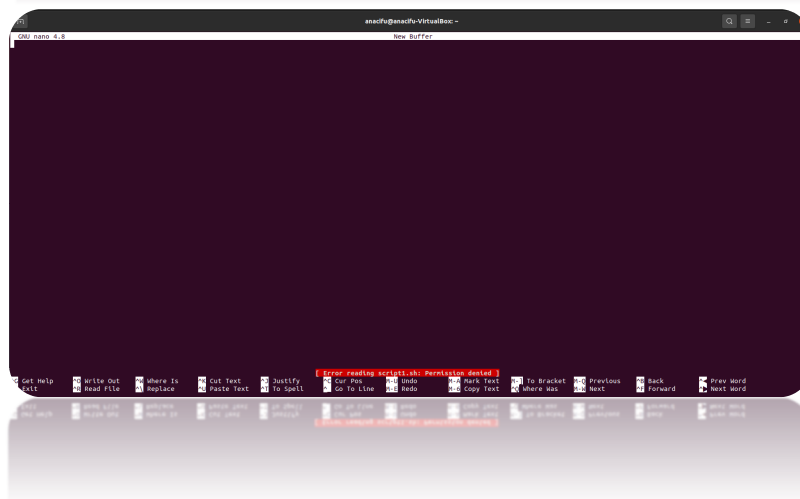
```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ bash script1.sh
bash: script1.sh: Permission denied
```

9. Remove the read permission from the owner on the file script1.sh. Try to run the file. Is it possible?

\$ chmod u-r script1.sh -> This is one way to deny read permission in one file.

\$ ls -l script1.sh -> This permit to see the permissions.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u-r script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l script1.sh
--WX----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 12:08 script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ nano script1.sh
```



10. Create a directory called "systems". Remove the write permission from it and try to copy script1.sh inside.

\$ mkdir systems1 -> The mkdir command is used to create a directory.

\$ chmod u-w systems1 -> This is used to remove the user's write permission

\$ cp script1.sh systems1 -> The **cp** command is used to copy a file or directory.

In this case we do not have read permission so, it is not possible to copy.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ mkdir systems
mkdir: cannot create directory 'systems': File exists
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ mkdir systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u-r systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l systems1
ls: cannot open directory 'systems1': Permission denied
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cp script1.sh systems1
cp: cannot open 'script1.sh' for reading: Permission denied
```

I made a mistake when I wrote the command so I correct it.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u-w systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cp script1.sh systems1
```

11. If you were not able to copy the file, add the write permission again and copy the file inside.

\$ chmod u-w systems1 -> This is used to deny write permission in a file or directory.

\$ cp script1.sh systems1 -> The **cp** command is used to copy a file or directory.

I am not able to copy the file because I made a mistake when I wrote the command and now it is fixed.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u-r systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l ~
total 100
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 79 dic 8 18:55 actors
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 dic 8 14:41 actors.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 276 dic 8 18:54 awards.txt
drwxrwxr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 18 13:39 config
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 ene 18 11:36 Desktop
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 80 dic 8 18:56 directors
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Documents
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Downloads
drwxrwxr-x 6 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 25 22:45 exercises
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1529 dic 9 07:34 inform
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 last
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1137 dic 9 07:41 list
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1118 dic 8 19:36 list.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 luggage
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Music
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 78 dic 8 19:12 people2.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 138 dic 8 19:11 people3.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 56 dic 8 19:12 people_s.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 194 dic 8 19:06 people.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Pictures
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Public
--wx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 12:08 script1.sh
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student1.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student2.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student.txt
drwxrwxr-x 3 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 25 21:49 systems
d-wxrw-r-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 ene 19 12:36 systems1
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Templates
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 5 dic 9 07:38 test1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 5 dic 9 07:38 test2
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Videos
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cp script1.sh systems1
cp: cannot open 'script1.sh' for reading: Permission denied
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l script1.sh
--wx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 12:08 script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u+r script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l script1.sh
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 12:08 script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cp script1.sh systems1
```

This is the result after correction:


```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod u+r systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l ~
total 100
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 79 dic 8 18:55 actors
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 dic 8 14:41 actors.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 276 dic 8 18:54 awards.txt
drwxrwxr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 18 13:39 config
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 ene 18 11:36 Desktop
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 80 dic 8 18:56 directors
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Documents
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Downloads
drwxrwxr-x 6 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 25 22:45 exercises
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1529 dic 9 07:34 inform
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 last
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1137 dic 9 07:41 list
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1118 dic 8 19:36 list.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 luggage
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Music
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 78 dic 8 19:12 people2.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 138 dic 8 19:11 people3.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 56 dic 8 19:12 people_s.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 194 dic 8 19:06 people.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Pictures
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Public
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 12:08 script1.sh
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student1.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student2.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student.txt
drwxrwxr-x 3 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 25 21:49 systems
dr-xrwxr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 ene 19 13:08 systems1
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Templates
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 5 dic 9 07:38 test1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 5 dic 9 07:38 test2
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Videos
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cp script1.sh systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ tree systems1
systems1
├── script1.sh
0 directories, 1 file
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$
```

12. Remove the read permission from the user on the directory “systems” and try to list its contents.

\$ chmod u-r systems1

\$ cat systems1 -> The **cat** command is commonly used to view the contents of a file, to redirect, create and concatenate files. The access in this case is denied.

\$ ls -l */ -> This is a command to list all the directories. The access in this case is denied.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l */
ls: cannot open directory 'systems1/': Permission denied

anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cat scritp1.sh
cat: scritp1.sh: No such file or directory
```

13. Change the permissions from “systems” so that the owner can read, write and execute, but the group and others can only read.

\$ chmod 744 systems1

\$ ls -l */ -> This is a command to list all the directories. The access is now authorized.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod 744 systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l */

systems1/:
total 4
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 13:27 script1.sh
```

14. Remove the execute permission from "systems". Can you execute systems/script1.sh? Is it possible to access the directory to execute the file?

\$ chmod u-x systems1

\$ systems1/script1.sh

It is not possible to execute the file

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ systems1/script1.sh
bash: systems1/script1.sh: Permission denied
```

15. Assign the execute permission to the directory again

\$ chmod u+x systems1

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ ls -l
total 100
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 79 dic 8 18:55 actors
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 dic 8 14:41 actors.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 276 dic 8 18:54 awards.txt
drwxrwxr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 18 13:39 config
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 ene 18 11:36 Desktop
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 80 dic 8 18:56 directors
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Documents
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Downloads
drwxrwxr-x 6 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 25 22:45 exercises
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1529 dic 9 07:34 Inform
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 last
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1802 ene 19 13:45 list
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 1118 dic 8 19:36 list.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 luggage
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Music
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 79 dic 8 19:12 people2.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 138 dic 8 19:11 people3.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 56 dic 8 19:12 people_s.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 194 dic 8 19:06 people.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 11:37 perm1
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Pictures
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Public
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 12:08 script1.sh
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student1.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student2.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 nov 18 12:15 student.txt
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 ene 19 13:08 systems1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 templates
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 5 dic 9 07:38 test1
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 5 dic 9 07:38 test2
drwxr-xr-x 2 anacifu anacifu 4096 nov 1 15:03 Videos
```

16. Create two files called "lucy" and "charles" into "systems". Change permissions of "charles", so that others can write and execute.

```
$ touch systems1/lucy
```

```
$ touch systems1/Charles
```

```
$ cd systems1
```

```
$ chmod o+wx charles
```

We use the **touch** command to create empty files inside systems1. Then, you must access inside systems1 directory (**cd systems1**) in order to change the permissions of Charles file.

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ touch systems1/lucy
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ touch systems1/charles
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ chmod o+wx charles
chmod: cannot access 'charles': No such file or directory
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~$ cd systems1
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~/systems1$ chmod o+wx charles
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~/systems1$ ls -l
total 4
-rw-rw-rwx 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 14:38 charles
-rw-rw-r-- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 14:38 lucy
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 13:27 script1.sh
```

17. Change permissions of "lucy" so that the owner can read and execute, the group can read and write and others can only write. Specify the command in all possible ways.

```
$chmod u+rw,g+rw,o+w lucy
```

```
$chmod 562 lucy
```

```
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~/systems1$ ls -l
total 4
-rw-rw-rwx 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 14:38 charles
-r-xrw--w- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 14:38 lucy
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 13:27 script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~/systems1$
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~/systems1$ chmod u+rx,g+rw,o+w lucy
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~/systems1$ ls -l
total 4
-rw-rw-rwx 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 14:38 charles
-r-xrw--w- 1 anacifu anacifu 0 ene 19 14:38 lucy
-rwx----- 1 anacifu anacifu 31 ene 19 13:27 script1.sh
anacifu@anacifu-VirtualBox:~/systems1$
```

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18. Log in as root. Change the ownership of "charles" to "root". Exit the root session. Now, try to change the permission so that others cannot read and execute. Is it possible? Why?

19. Change the permissions of "charles" so that everybody can do everything

20. Change the permissions of "lucy" so that the group can read and write, but the owner and others cannot do anything. Can you open the file?

21. Create a group called "newgroup". Set the group as the owner of the file "lucy" and "root" as the owner user.

22. Add your user to the secondary group "newgroup". Try to open the file "lucy" now. Is it possible?

23. Change permissions of "lucy" so that everybody can read.

24. Do exercise 13 again, but this time granting permissions to the folder "systems" including files and subfolders

25. Change the group owner of "systems" to "root" including files and subfolders