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# Red Hat Enterprise Linux Automation with Ansible

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# Lab: Deploying Ansible



In this review, you will install Ansible on workstation, use it as a control node, and configure it for connections to the managed hosts servera and serverb. Use ad hoc commands to perform actions on managed hosts.

## Outcomes

You should be able to:

Install Ansible.

Use ad hoc commands to perform actions on managed hosts.

Log in to workstation as student using student as the password.

On workstation, run the `lab review-deploy start` command. This script ensures that the managed hosts, servera and serverb, are reachable on the network. The script creates a lab subdirectory named review-deploy in the student's home directory.

```
[student@workstation ~]$ lab review-deploy start
```

## Procedure 10.1. Instructions

Install Ansible on workstation so that it can serve the control node.

```
[student@workstation ~]$ sudo yum install ansible
[sudo] password for student:
Loaded plugins: langpacks, search-disabled-repos
Resolving Dependencies
--> Running transaction check
...output omitted...
Is this ok [y/d/N]: y
...output omitted...
```

HIDE SOLUTION

On the control node, create an inventory file, `/home/student/review-deploy/inventory`, containing a group called dev. This group should consist of the managed hosts `servera.lab.example.com` and `serverb.lab.example.com`.

2.1. Change directory into the Ansible project directory, `/home/student/review-deploy`, created by the setup script.

```
[student@workstation ~]$ cd ~/review-deploy
```

2.2. Create the inventory file with the following content.

```
[dev]
servera.lab.example.com
serverb.lab.example.com
```

HIDE SOLUTION

Create the Ansible configuration file in `/home/student/review-deploy/ansible.cfg`. The configuration file should reference the `/home/student/review-deploy/inventory` inventory file.

Add the following entries to configure the inventory file `./inventory` as the inventory source. Save the changes and exit the text editor.

```
[defaults]
inventory=./inventory
```

HIDE SOLUTION

Execute an ad hoc command using privilege escalation to modify the contents of the `/etc/motd` file on `servera` and `serverb` to contain the string `Managed by Ansible\n`. Use `devops` as the remote user.

```
[student@workstation review-deploy]$ ansible dev -m copy \
> -a 'content="Managed by Ansible\n" dest=/etc/motd' -b -u devops
servera.lab.example.com | CHANGED => {
  "ansible_facts": {
    "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/libexec/platform-python"
  },
  "changed": true,
  "checksum": "4458b979ede3c332f8f2128385df4ba305e58c27",
  "dest": "/etc/motd",
  "gid": 0,
  "group": "root",
  "md5sum": "65a4290ee559756ad04e558b0e0c4e3",
  "mode": "0644",
  "owner": "root",
  "secontext": "unconfined_u:object_r:etc_t:s0",
  "size": 19,
  "src": "/home/devops/.ansible/tmp/...output omitted...",
  "state": "file",
  "uid": 0
}
serverb.lab.example.com | CHANGED => {
  "ansible_facts": {
    "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/libexec/platform-python"
  },
  "changed": true,
  "checksum": "4458b979ede3c332f8f2128385df4ba305e58c27",
  "dest": "/etc/motd",
  "gid": 0,
  "group": "root",
  "md5sum": "65a4290ee559756ad04e558b0e0c4e3",
  "mode": "0644",
  "owner": "root",
  "secontext": "system_u:object_r:etc_t:s0",
  "size": 19,
  "src": "/home/devops/.ansible/tmp/...output omitted...",
  "state": "file",
  "uid": 0
}
```

HIDE SOLUTION

Execute an ad hoc command to verify that the contents of the `/etc/motd` file on `servera` and `serverb` are identical.

```
[student@workstation review-deploy]$ ansible dev -m command -a "cat /etc/motd"
servera.lab.example.com | CHANGED | rc=0 >>
Managed by Ansible

serverb.lab.example.com | CHANGED | rc=0 >>
Managed by Ansible
```

HIDE SOLUTION

## Evaluation

On workstation, run the `lab review-deploy grade` command to confirm success on this exercise. Correct any reported failures and rerun the command until successful.

```
[student@workstation ~]$ lab review-deploy grade
```

## Finish

On workstation, run the `lab review-deploy finish` command to clean up this exercise.

```
[student@workstation ~]$ lab review-deploy finish
```

This concludes the lab.

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