**Discuss how the use of virtual machines has impacted you personally**

Prior to this course, myonly experience with a virtual machine was having played with a devops tutorial on Udacity just for fun. That short exposure to VMs was all that was needed to give me the confidence to use one for last week’s programming assignment. As I have mentioned else where, I use a device running Windows, whereas the assignment required Unix or Mac OS. Using Virtual Box, I was able to build a Linux VM on my device and install the gcc program, so that my work environment would closely match the one the textbook described/recommended. Once the VM was set up correctly, I was able to complete the programming assignment in no time. In fact, the programming task would have been more complicated on my host OS, because I would have to interface with github to do version control. Using the VM, I was quickly able to take snapshots of my work for version control, this was much simpler than making commits on github. I'm sure there are other ways I could benefit from using a virtual machine as my “main” device ( Bhartiya, August 10, 2015). I could protect my host OS from malware and I could backup my VM with snapshots in case it ever gets corrupted. Moreover, since I am hoping to work in IT in some capacity, it will be a good resource for learning new platforms.

References

Bhartiya, S. (August 10, 2015). “Why, When, and How To Use a Virtual Machine”. Linux.com:

News for the Open Source Professional Retrieved from <https://www.linux.com/learn/why-when-and-how-use-virtual-machine>