

Kubernetes & DevOps Commands Cheatsheet with Real-World Analogies

kubectl get pods

Meaning: Shows all running application containers.

Analogy: Like checking which workers are currently working in a factory.

kubectl get deployments

Meaning: Shows deployment controllers managing pods.

Analogy: Like checking managers supervising workers.

kubectl get hpa

Meaning: Shows Horizontal Pod Autoscaler status.

Analogy: Like seeing if the company is hiring more workers based on workload.

kubectl top pods

Meaning: Displays CPU & memory usage of pods.

Analogy: Like seeing how much energy each worker is spending.

kubectl top nodes

Meaning: Displays CPU & memory usage of nodes.

Analogy: Like checking workload on the whole factory building.

kubectl apply -f k8s/

Meaning: Applies all Kubernetes configuration files.

Analogy: Like telling the manager to update instructions and workforce settings.

kubectl logs -f

Meaning: Shows live application logs.

Analogy: Like watching CCTV footage of a worker performing tasks.

kubectl describe pod

Meaning: Shows detailed info and events for a pod.

Analogy: Like a doctor's report showing detailed worker health and performance issues.

kubectl rollout restart deployment backend-deployment

Meaning: Restarts the backend app pods safely.

Analogy: Like sending workers home and bringing them back fresh without firing them.

watch kubectl get hpa

Meaning: Live■monitors autoscaling activity.

Analogy: Like watching HR hire or release workers in real-time based on workload.

kubectl get svc

Meaning: Shows services & external IP to access app

Analogy: Like checking main gate/door to enter factory/public area.

kubectl run loadtest --image=busybox ...

Meaning: Generates load to test autoscaling

Analogy: Like increasing customer orders to see if company hires more workers.

kubectl delete pod loadtest

Meaning: Stops load testing

Analogy: Like stopping heavy incoming requests/orders.