'sed' (stream editor) is a powerful command-line tool in Unix and Unix-like operating systems for text manipulation. It is often used for tasks such as search, find and replace, text transformation, and more. Here are some common 'sed' commands and their explanations:

1. *Substitute (s):*

- `sed 's/old_pattern/new_pattern/' filename`: Replace the first occurrence of `old_pattern` with `new_pattern` in the given file.
- `sed 's/old_pattern/new_pattern/g' filename`: Replace all occurrences of `old_pattern` with `new_pattern` in the given file.

2. *Print (p):*

- `sed -n '2p' filename`: Print the second line of the file.
- 'sed -n '2,4p' filename': Print lines 2 to 4 of the file.

3. *Delete (d):*

- 'sed '3d' filename': Delete the third line of the file.
- 'sed '2,4d' filename': Delete lines 2 to 4 of the file.

4. *Insert (i) and Append (a):*

- `sed '2i\inserted_text' filename`: Insert `inserted_text` before the second line.
- `sed '2a\appended_text' filename`: Append `appended_text` after the second line.

5. *Replace Lines (c):*

- `sed '2c\new_text' filename`: Replace the second line with `new_text`.

6. *Regular Expressions:*

- `sed '/pattern/d' filename`: Delete all lines containing `pattern`.
- `sed '/pattern/s/old/new/' filename`: Replace `old` with `new` on lines containing `pattern`.

7. *Multiple Commands:*

- You can use `sed` to apply multiple commands by separating them with semicolons. For example, `sed 's/old/new/;s/foo/bar/' filename` would replace `old` with `new` and `foo` with `bar` in the file.

8. *In-Place Editing:*

- `sed -i 's/old/new/' filename`: Edit the file in place, replacing `old` with `new`.

9. *Save Changes to a New File:*

- `sed 's/old/new/' filename > newfile`: Save the modified content to a new file called `newfile`.

These are just some of the many capabilities of `sed`. It's a versatile tool for text manipulation in Unix environments. Be cautious when using `sed` with the `-i` option, as it modifies files directly without creating backups.