Linux Server - Linux Basics And Networking

1. View running processes with ps

You can check the active processes on a Linux system using the **ps** command.
Examples:

- ps – lists processes running in the current shell.
- ps -e or ps aux – shows all running processes with details such as PID, user, CPU, and memory usage.

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2. Terminate processes with kill

To stop a process, first find its PID using **ps** or **top**, then run:

- kill <PID> – sends a default TERM signal to stop the process safely.
- kill -9 <PID> – forcefully ends a process when it does not respond to the normal signal.

Example:
kill 2451

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3. Use top or htop to monitor system resources and processes

These tools provide real-time information on CPU usage, memory consumption, load average, and running tasks.

- top – available on most Linux systems by default.
- htop – a more interactive version (requires installation on some systems). It allows sorting, searching, and killing processes directly from the interface.

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4. Configure a lab computer to boot to the CLI using systemd, then reboot

To switch a Linux system from graphical mode to the command-line interface at startup, change the default systemd target.

Steps:

1. Check the current target:
   systemctl get-default
2. Set the system to boot into multi-user mode (CLI mode):
   sudo systemctl set-default multi-user.target
3. Reboot the system to apply the change:
   sudo reboot

After reboot, the machine will start directly into the terminal instead of the graphical desktop.