Week 1: Linux CPU & Process Failures

Learn

- ■ Load average vs CPU utilization
- ■ Run queue and scheduler behavior
- ■ Zombie vs orphan processes
- ■ CPU throttling vs contention

Break

- ■ Create CPU saturation inside a pod
- ■ Apply low CPU limits
- ■ Observe throttling behavior

Investigate

- ■ Compare node CPU vs pod CPU
- ■ Inspect cgroup CPU stats
- ■ Validate throttling evidence

Fix

- ■ Adjust CPU limits or requests
- ■ Confirm latency improvement

Reflect

- ■ Why metrics were misleading
- ■ Guardrail to prevent recurrence

Postmortem Worksheet

Incident Summary: What happened?

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Impact: What was the user or system impact?

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Detection: How was the issue first noticed?

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Root Cause: What was the true underlying cause?

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Contributing Factors: What made this worse?

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Resolution: What fixed the issue?

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Time to Recovery: How long did it take?

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Prevention: What guardrail will prevent recurrence?

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Key Lesson: What will you remember next time?

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