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Activity 7: Managing Files and Creating Roles in Ansible				

## Activity 7: Managing Files and Creating Roles in An

- 1. Objectives:
- 1.1 Manage files in remote servers
- 1.2 Implement roles in ansible

#### 2. Discussion:

In this activity, we look at the concept of copying a file to a server. We are going to create a file into our git repository and use Ansible to grab that file and put it into a particular place so that we could do things like customize a default website, or maybe install a default configuration file. We will also implement roles to consolidate plays.

# Task 1: Create a file and copy it to remote servers

1. Using the previous directory we created, create a directory, and named it "files." Create a file inside that directory and name it "default site.html." Edit the file and put basic HTML syntax. Any content will do, as long as it will display text later. Save the file and exit.

```
jessielazo@Desktop:~$ ls
Desktop
          Downloads
                           HOA6 Lazo PrelimExam Pictures Templates
Documents examples.desktop HOA7 Music
                                                  Public
                                                            Videos
jessielazo@Desktop:~$ cd HOA7
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ ls
files inventory inventory.ini site.retry site.yml site.ymlcd
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ cd files
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/files$ ls
default site.html
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/files$
```

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help

GNU nano 2.9.3 default_site.html

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
<h1> My First Heading</h1>
My first paragraph
</body>
</html>
```

- 2. Edit the *site.yml* file and just below the *web\_servers* play, create a new file to copy the default html file for site:
  - name: copy default html file for site

tags: apache, apache2, httpd

copy:

src: default\_site.html

dest: /var/www/html/index.html

owner: root group: root mode: 0644

```
GNU nano 2.9.3
                                     site.yml

    name: start httpd (CentOS)

  tags: apache,centos,httpd
  service:
    name: httpd
    state: started
 when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
- name: copy default html file for site
  tags: apache,apache2,httpd
  copy:
    src: default_site.html
    dest: /var/www/html/index.html
    owner: root
    group: root
    mode: 0644
hosts: file_servers
```

3. Run the playbook *site.yml*. Describe the changes.

no error appears.

4. Go to the remote servers (*web\_servers*) listed in your inventory. Use cat command to check if the index.html is the same as the local repository file (*default\_site.html*). Do both for Ubuntu and CentOS servers. On the CentOS server, go to the browser and type its IP address. Describe the output.

```
jessieserve@Server2:~$ cat /var/www/html/index.html
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
<h1> My First Heading</h1>
My first paragraph
</body>
</html>
jessieserve@Server2:~$
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
jessieserver2@Server2:~$ cat /var/www/html/index.html
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
<h1> My First Heading</h1>
My first paragraph
</body>
</html>
jessieserver2@Server2:~$
```

5. Sync your local repository with GitHub and describe the changes.

```
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ git init
Reinitialized existing Git repository in /home/jessielazo/HOA7/.git/
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ git add *
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ git coomit -m "first commit"
git: 'coomit' is not a git command. See 'git --help'.
The most similar command is
        commit
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ git commit -m "first commit"
[master (root-commit) a20d620] first commit
Committer: jessielazo <jessielazo@Desktop.myguest.virtualbox.org>
Your name and email address were configured automatically based
on your username and hostname. Please check that they are accurate.
You can suppress this message by setting them explicitly. Run the
following command and follow the instructions in your editor to edit
your configuration file:
    git config --global --edit
After doing this, you may fix the identity used for this commit with:
    git commit --amend --reset-author
 9 files changed, 197 insertions(+)
 create mode 100644 files/default_site.html
 create mode 100644 inventory
 create mode 100644 inventory.ini
 create mode 100644 site.retry
```

### Task 2: Download a file and extract it to a remote server

- 1. Edit the site.yml. Just before the web servers play, create a new play:
  - hosts: workstations become: true tasks:
    - name: install unzip package: name: unzip
    - name: install terraform unarchive:

src:

https://releases.hashicorp.com/terraform/0.12.28/terraform\_0.12.28\_linux\_a md64.zip

dest: /usr/local/bin remote\_src: yes mode: 0755 owner: root

group: root no error terraform has been installed. hosts: workstations become: true tasks: - name: install unzip package: name: unzip - name: install terraform unarchive: src: https://releases.hashicorp.com/terraform/0.12.28/terraform\_0. dest: /usr/local/bin remote\_src: yes mode: 0755 owner: root group: root Write Out ^W Where Is ^K Cut Text ^J Justify Get Help Uncut Text Read File ^T To Spell Exit Replace 

2. Edit the inventory file and add workstations group. Add any Ubuntu remote server. Make sure to remember the IP address.

```
    Terminal ▼

                                      Mon 10:21
                              jessielazo@Desktop: ~/HOA7
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
 GNU nano 2.9.3
                                     inventory.ini
192.168.56.101 ansible_user=jessieserve
192.168.56.102 ansible user=jessieserver2
192.168.56.108 ansible user=lazoserver3
[centos servers]
192.168.56.108
[web servers]
192.168.56.101 ansible python interpreter=/usr/bin/python3
192.168.56.102 ansible_python_interpreter=/usr/bin/python3
[db servers]
192.168.56.108 ansible python interpreter=/usr/bin/python3
[file servers]
192.168.56.108 ansible python interpreter=/usr/bin/python3
[workstations]
192.168.56.101 ansible python interpreter=/usr/bin/python
```

3. Run the playbook. Describe the output.

no error, terraform has been installed.

4. On the Ubuntu remote workstation, type terraform to verify installation of terraform. Describe the output.

### Task 3: Create roles

1. Edit the site.yml. Configure roles as follows: (make sure to create a copy of the old site.yml file because you will be copying the specific plays for all groups)

```
hosts: all
become: true
pre_tasks:
- name: update repository index (CentOS)
  tags: always
  dnf:
    update_cache: yes
  changed_when: false
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    name: install updates (Ubuntu)

  tags: always
  apt:
    update_cache: yes
  changed when: false
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
hosts: all
become: true
roles:
  - base
hosts: workstations
become: true
roles:
  - workstations
hosts: web_servers
become: true
roles:
  web_servers
hosts: db_servers
become: true
roles:

    db_servers

hosts: file_servers
become: true
roles:
  - file_servers
```

```
- hosts: all
 become: true
 pre_tasks:
 - name: update repository index (CentOS)
   tags: always
   yum:
     update_cache: yes
   changed when: false
   when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
 - name: install updates (Ubuntu)
   tags: always
   apt:
     update_cache: yes
   changed_when: false
   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    hosts: all

 become: true
 roles:
```

```
rile Edit view Search Terminal Help
  GNU nano 2.9.3
                                        site.yml
  name: install updates (Ubuntu)
   tags: always
    apt:
      update_cache: yes
    changed_when: false
   when: ansible distribution == "Ubuntu"
  hosts: all
 become: true
  roles:

    base

 hosts: web servers
 become: true
 roles:
    web_servers
 hosts: db_servers
 become: true
  roles:

    db_servers

 hosts: file_servers
               ^O Write Out
                               ^W Where Is
^G Get Help
                                               ^K Cut Text
^X Exit
               ^R Read File
                                  Replace
                                               ^U Uncut Text
```

Save the file and exit.

Under the same directory, create a new directory and name it roles. Enter the
roles directory and create new directories: base, web\_servers, file\_servers,
db\_servers and workstations. For each directory, create a directory and name it
tasks.

```
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ ls
default_site.html files inventory inventory.ini README.md roles site.yml
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7$ cd roles
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$ ls
base db_servers file_servers temp web_servers workstations
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$
```

3. Go to tasks for all directory and create a file. Name it main.yml. In each of the tasks for all directories, copy and paste the code from the old site.yml file. Show all contents of main.yml files for all tasks.

```
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$ ls
base db_servers file_servers temp web_servers workstations
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$ cd base
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/base$ ls
tasks
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/base$ cd ...
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$ cd db_servers
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/db_servers$ ls
tasks
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/db_servers$ cd ...
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$ cd file servers
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/file_servers$ ls
tasks
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/file_servers$ cd ...
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$ cd web_servers
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/web_servers$ ls
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/web_servers$ cd ...
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles$ cd workstations
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/workstations$ ls
jessielazo@Desktop:~/HOA7/roles/workstations$
```

I have already created the directories and now just showing all of the directories that were made by using mkdir.

4. Run the site.yml playbook and describe the output.

Upon making a lot of configurations and directories, the playbook successfully runs without errors.

### Reflections:

Answer the following:

1. What is the importance of creating roles?

The importance of making roles is that it promotes a more organized management of files and commands for each existing group and role.

2. What is the importance of managing files?

Imagine making a playbook file with so much contents, package installation, and a lot of different machines. When you do not manage files and organize codes with roles, it is much more difficult to debug for errors and find where you are lacking and which line is the source of conflict error.