Assisted Lab: Configuring Controls

Scenario

In this lab, you will learn about several types of security controls, including preventive, detective, directive, and corrective.

As a cybersecurity analyst, you are working to discover weaknesses and vulnerabilities that your organization, Structureality Inc., needs to mitigate throughout its internal network. This lab focuses on ensuring you understand the nature of the various types of security controls by having you configure and use or test them. This will facilitate your recommendations as an analyst on what remediations to implement to resolve discovered security weaknesses.

Your cybersecurity analyst (CySA) workstation, running Windows Server 2019, is located in Structureality's server subnet.

Understand your environment

You will be working from a virtual machine named PC10 hosting Windows Server 2019, which is serving as a client in this lab environment.

Objectives

This activity is designed to test your understanding of and ability to apply content examples in the following CompTIA CySA+ objectives:

- 1.1 Explain the importance of system and network architecture concepts in security operations.
- 2.5 Explain concepts related to vulnerability response, handling, and management.

Assisted Lab: Configuring Controls

57 Minutes Remaining

Instructions Resources Help 100%

Configure and test preventive controls

A preventive control attempts to stop an unwanted activity from taking place. In this exercise, you will first perform an unwanted activity. Next, you will implement a preventive control to block that activity. And finally, you will attempt the unwanted activity again to test the preventive control.

- [x] 1. Select the PC10 VM. Send Ctrl+Alt+Delete and, if needed, sign in as T Rene using T Pa$$w0rd as the password.

  Since *Jaime* may be set as the default account, you will need to select **Other user**, then enter T Rene followed by T Pa$$w0rd as the password.

  Select the T Type Text icon to enter the associated text into the virtual machine.

  Since this will be the first time this account logs into this system, it may take a few moments for the Desktop to appear.

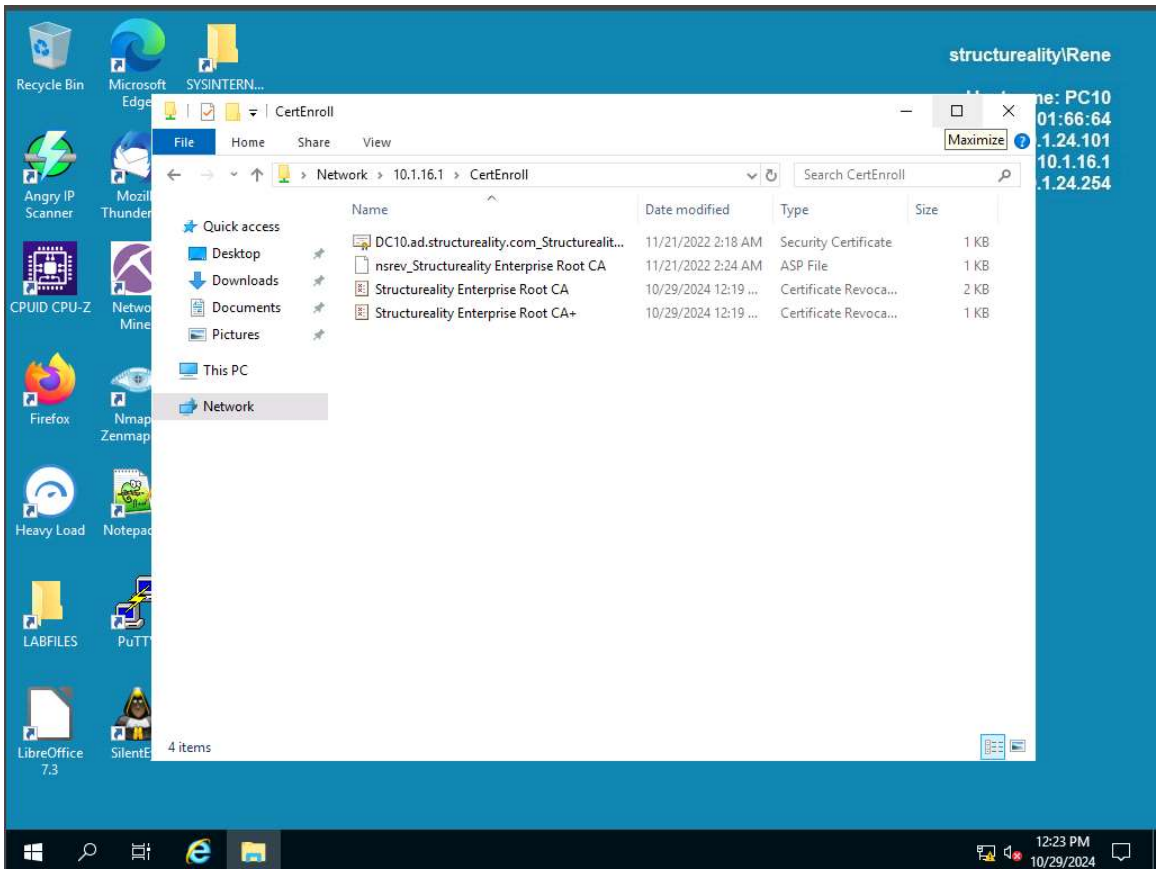
- [x] 2. Select **Type here to search** from the taskbar, type T file, then select **File Explorer** from the results.
- [x] 3. In the File Explorer address bar enter T \\10.1.16.1\CertEnroll.

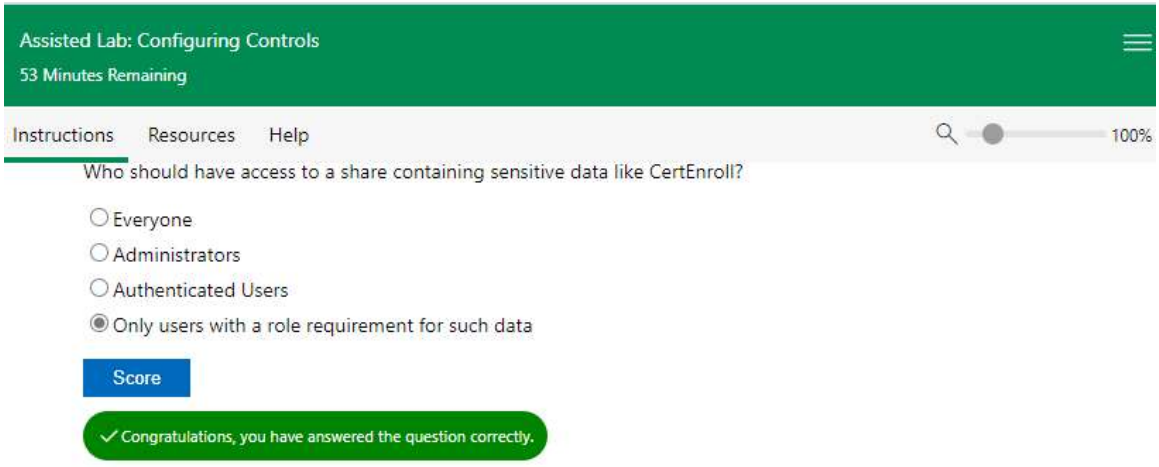
  When an instruction reads "enter" it is informing you to type in the **bolded** and/or "quoted" item, then press **Enter** on your keyboard.

- [x] 4. You should see the contents of the *CertEnroll* share.

  This is a problem as these files are for administrative use only. Rene is not an administrator and should not have access. You need to implement a prevention control so that Rene and other non-administrators cannot access this share.

  If a Networks display pop up, always type Yes to allow.

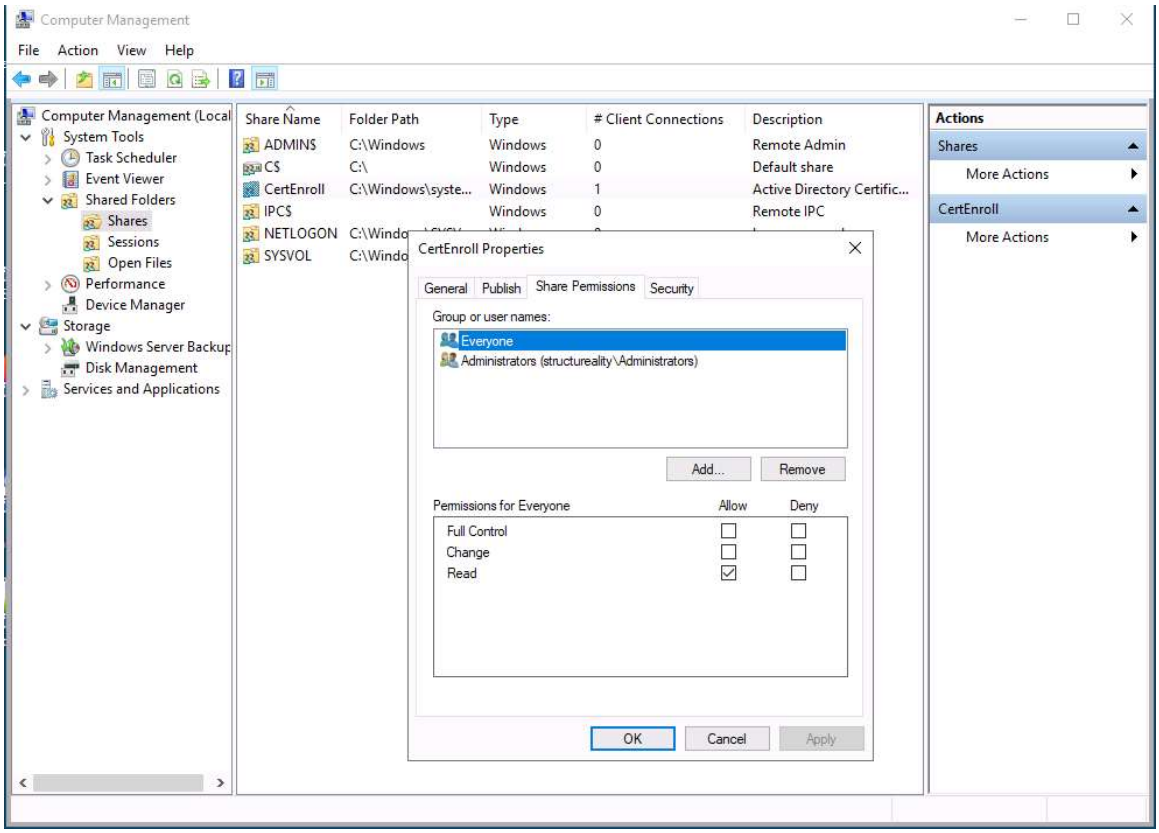

structureality\Rene
CertEnroll
File
Home
Share
View
Maximize
Network › 10.1.16.1 › CertEnroll
Search CertEnroll
Quick access
Desktop
Downloads
Documents
Pictures
This PC
Network
Name
Date modified
Type
Size
DC10.ad.structureality.com_Structurealit...
11/21/2022 2:18 AM
Security Certificate
1 KB
nsrev_Structureality Enterprise Root CA
11/21/2022 2:24 AM
ASP File
1 KB
Structureality Enterprise Root CA
10/29/2024 12:19 ...
Certificate Revoca...
2 KB
Structureality Enterprise Root CA+
10/29/2024 12:19 ...
Certificate Revoca...
1 KB
4 items
Recycle Bin
Microsoft Edge
SYSINTERN...
Angry IP Scanner
CPUID CPU-Z
Firefox
Heavy Load
LABFILES
LibreOffice 7.3
12:23 PM
10/29/2024



- [x] 5. Close **File Explorer**.
- [x] 6. Select the DC10 VM. Send Ctrl+Alt+Delete and, if needed, sign in as T Structureality\Administrator using T Pa$$w0rd as the password.
- [x] 7. Minimize or close **Server Manager** if it appears. It will not be used in this lab.
- [x] 8. Select **Type here to search** from the taskbar, type T computer, then select **Computer Management** from the results.
- [x] 9. Double-click **Shared Folders** from the left pane of Computer Management to expand its contents.
- [x] 10. Select **Shares** from the expanded *Shared Folders*.
- [x] 11. Right-click the **CertEnroll** folder from the right pane, then select **Properties**.
- [x] 12. Select the **Share Permissions** tab on the *CertEnroll Properties* window.
- [x] 13. Select **Everyone** in the *Group or user names:* area of the *Share Permissions* tab.
- [x] 14. Select **Remove** to remove the *Everyone* group from the object's ACL entirely.

> The default privilege over objects in Windows is *no access*. Thus, without an explicitly defined *allow*, users will have a default or implicit *deny*.

> It is important not to implement an explicit *deny* at this juncture as it may have unintended consequences. For example, administrators are users, so they are automatically members of the Domain Users and Everyone groups. Setting *deny* for one of these groups would also deny access to the administrators who need access.


Computer Management
File Action View Help
Computer Management (Local
System Tools
Task Scheduler
Event Viewer
Shared Folders
Shares
Sessions
Open Files
Performance
Device Manager
Storage
Windows Server Backup
Disk Management
Services and Applications
Share Name
Folder Path
Type
Client Connections
Description
ADMIN$ C:\Windows Windows 0 Remote Admin
C$ C:\ Windows 0 Default share
CertEnroll C:\Windows\syste... Windows 1 Active Directory Certific...
IPC$ Windows 0 Remote IPC
NETLOGON
SYSVOL
Actions
Shares
More Actions
CertEnroll
More Actions
CertEnroll Properties
General
Publish
Share Permissions
Security
Group or user names:
Everyone
Administrators (structureality\Administrators)
Add...
Remove
Permissions for Everyone
Allow
Deny
Full Control
Change
Read
OK
Cancel
Apply

Assisted Lab: Configuring Controls

51 Minutes Remaining

Instructions Resources Help 100%

Which of the following would be an effective method to directly block access to Rene and other similar users from accessing an admin-only resource?

- ○ Create a new domain for non-administrative users
- ◉ Create the Nonadmin group and make all non-admins a member
- ○ Set deny Full Control on the Everyone group
- ○ Create a clone object and set Deny on the Domain Users group

Score

✓ Congratulations, you have answered the question correctly.

- [x] 15. Select **OK** to close the *CertEnroll Properties* window.
- [x] 16. Switch back to the PC10 VM and, if needed, sign in as T Rene using T Pa$$w0rd as the password.
- [x] 17. Select **Type here to search** from the taskbar, type T file, then select **File Explorer** from the results.
- [x] 18. In the File Explorer address bar enter T \\10.1.16.1\CertEnroll.
- [x] 19. You should see a *Network Error* message indicating that you do not have access to this resource.

Select the **Score** button to validate this task:

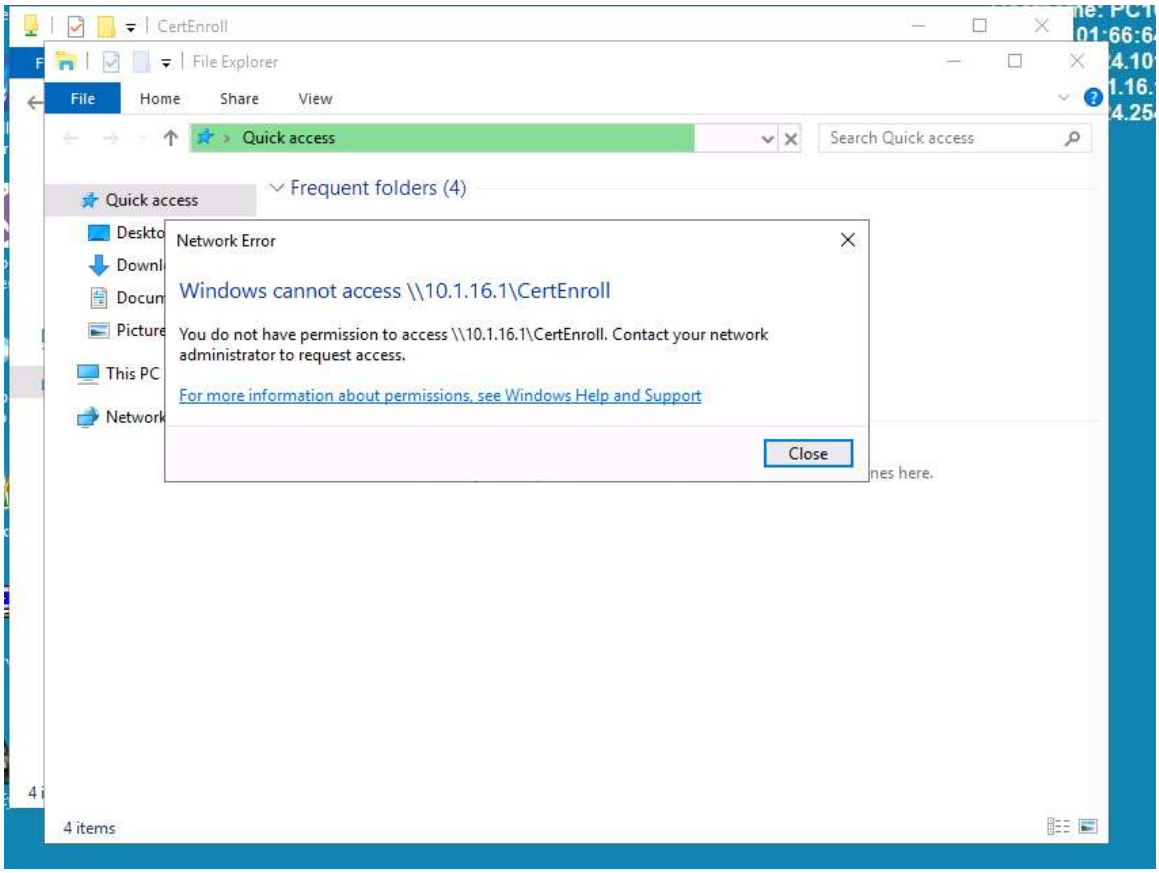
Score

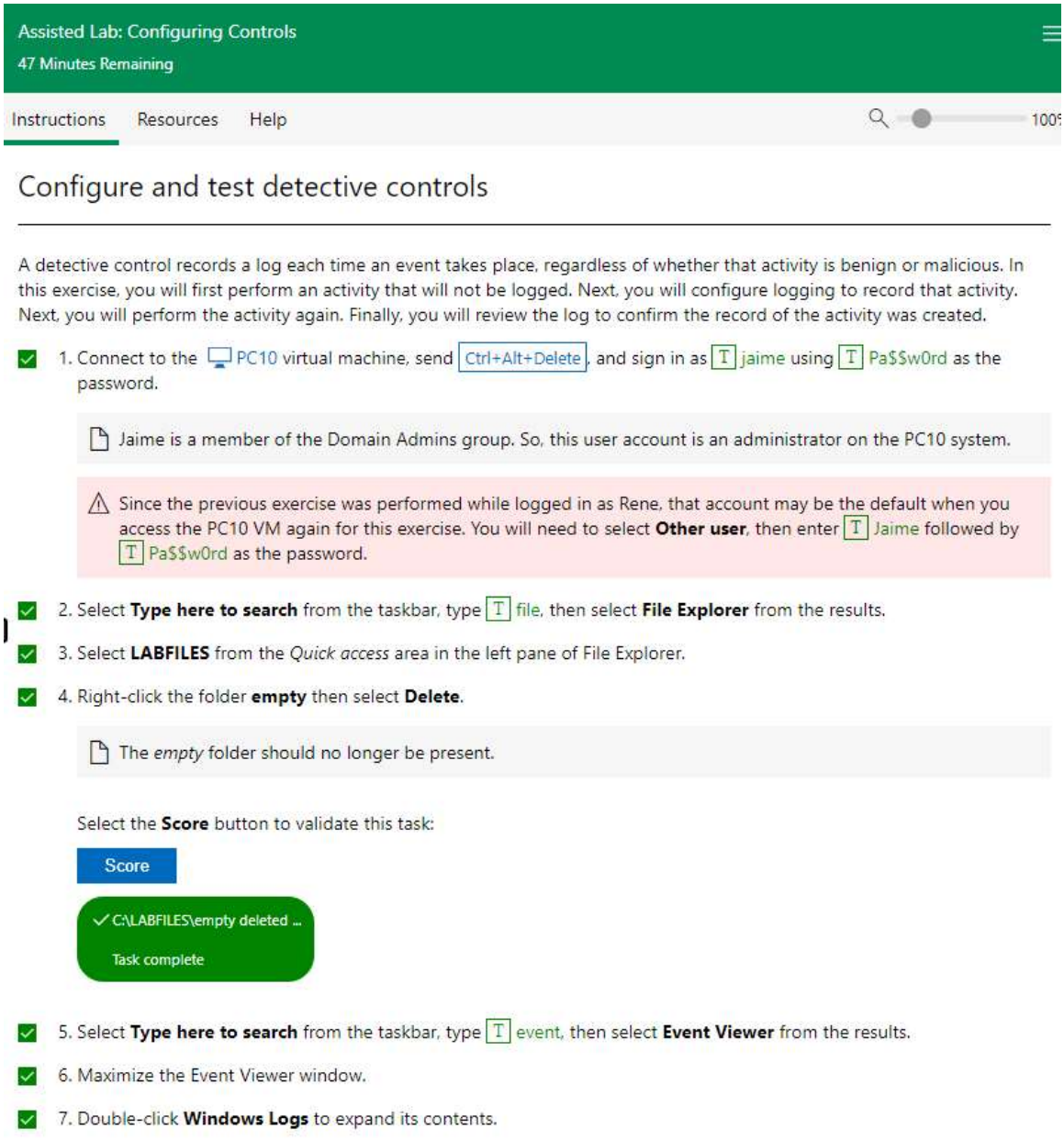
✓ No access for 'Everyone' to SMB Share 'CertEnroll'

Task complete

- [x] 20. Sign out of PC10 by selecting the **Start** menu, then selecting **Rene** (which will be a circle at the top of the menu), then select **Sign out**. If prompted that there are open programs, select **Sign out anyway**.

You have successfully implemented a preventive control to block nonadministrative users from accessing resources that are for administrators only. In a real-world situation, you should compare any concerning issue to company security policy and configuration baselines. If you have discovered a variant or violation, it needs to be reported to the security team. This report may include recommendations for remediation.


CertEnroll
File Explorer
File
Home
Share
View
Quick access
Search Quick access
Frequent folders (4)
Quick access
This PC
Network Error
Windows cannot access \\10.1.16.1\CertEnroll
You do not have permission to access \\10.1.16.1\CertEnroll. Contact your network administrator to request access.
For more information about permissions, see Windows Help and Support
Close
4 items


Assisted Lab: Configuring Controls
47 Minutes Remaining
Instructions
Resources
Help
Configure and test detective controls
A detective control records a log each time an event takes place, regardless of whether that activity is benign or malicious. In this exercise, you will first perform an activity that will not be logged. Next, you will configure logging to record that activity. Next, you will perform the activity again. Finally, you will review the log to confirm the record of the activity was created.
1. Connect to the PC10 virtual machine, send Ctrl+Alt+Delete, and sign in as jaime using Pa$$w0rd as the password.
Jaime is a member of the Domain Admins group. So, this user account is an administrator on the PC10 system.
Since the previous exercise was performed while logged in as Rene, that account may be the default when you access the PC10 VM again for this exercise. You will need to select Other user, then enter Jaime followed by Pa$$w0rd as the password.
2. Select Type here to search from the taskbar, type file, then select File Explorer from the results.
3. Select LABFILES from the Quick access area in the left pane of File Explorer.
4. Right-click the folder empty then select Delete.
The empty folder should no longer be present.
Select the Score button to validate this task:
Score
C:\LABFILES\empty deleted ...
Task complete
5. Select Type here to search from the taskbar, type event, then select Event Viewer from the results.
6. Maximize the Event Viewer window.
7. Double-click Windows Logs to expand its contents.

- [x] 8. Select **Security** from in the *Windows Logs* expanded contents.
- [x] 9. Select **Find...** in the right pane.
- [x] 10. Type T empty in the *Find what:* filed, then select **Find Next**.
- [x] 11. After a few moments of searching, a window will appear stating the search term was not found. Select **OK**.

The results of the find operation indicate what?

- ○ Jamie is an administrator
- ◉ Folder deletion is not being audited
- ○ Users are unable to access empty folders
- ○ User activity is being tracked

Score

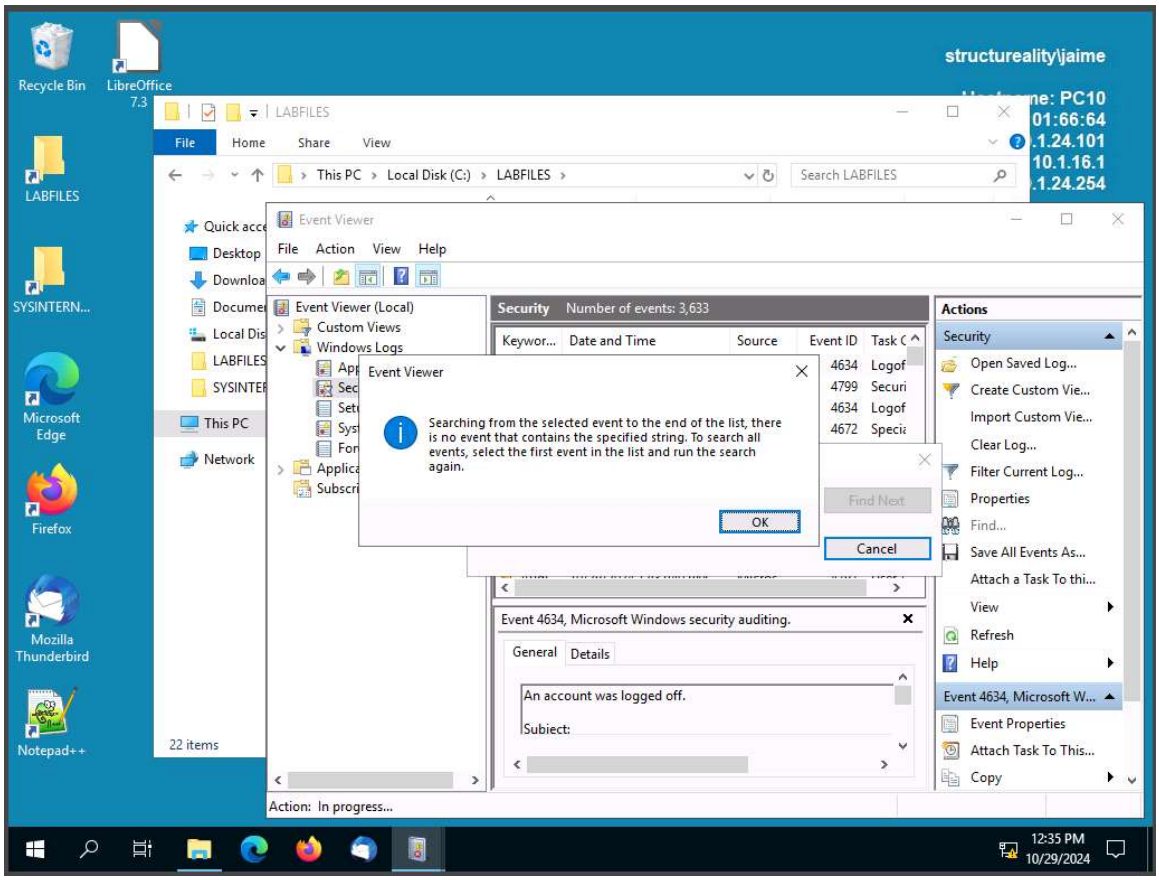
✓ Congratulations, you have answered the question correctly.

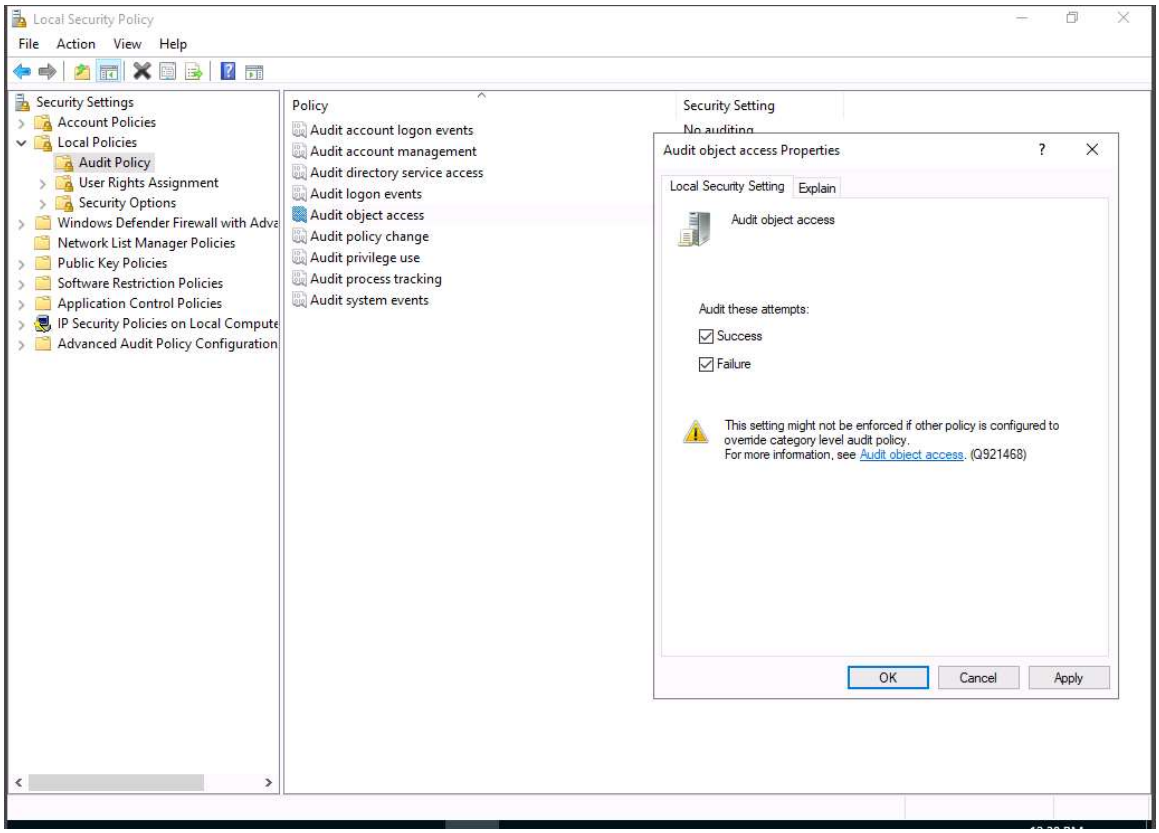
- [x] 12. Select **Cancel** to close the *Find* window.
- [ ] 13. Select **Type here to search** from the taskbar, type T local, then select **Local Security Policy** from the results.
- [ ] 14. Double-click **Local Policies** to expand its contents.
- [ ] 15. Select **Audit Policy** from the *Local Policies* expanded contents.
- [ ] 16. Right-click **Audit object access** in the right pane, then select **Properties**.
- [ ] 17. Select to mark both the **Success** and **Failure** checkboxes, then select **OK**.

While the main switch for auditing object access activities is now on, auditing will not occur on most file objects until an on-object auditing setting is made.

- [ ] 18. Close the *Local Security Policy* window.

⚠ The setting change should apply immediately. If the next steps do not result in a record of a folder deletion, then restart PC10 and repeat from here, but you will then need to delete the *MARKETING* folder.


structureality\jaime
Recycle Bin
LibreOffice 7.3
LABFILES
SYSINTERN...
Microsoft Edge
Firefox
Mozilla Thunderbird
Notepad++
LABFILES
File Home Share View
This PC › Local Disk (C:) › LABFILES ›
Search LABFILES
Quick acce
Desktop
Downloa
Docume
Local Dis
LABFILES
SYSINTER
This PC
Network
22 items
Event Viewer
File Action View Help
Event Viewer (Local)
Custom Views
Windows Logs
Security Number of events: 3,633
Keywor... Date and Time Source Event ID Task C
4634 Logof
4799 Securi
4634 Logof
4672 Speci
Event Viewer
Searching from the selected event to the end of the list, there is no event that contains the specified string. To search all events, select the first event in the list and run the search again.
OK
Find Next
Cancel
Event 4634, Microsoft Windows security auditing.
General Details
An account was logged off.
Subject:
Actions
Security
Open Saved Log...
Create Custom Vie...
Import Custom Vie...
Clear Log...
Filter Current Log...
Properties
Find...
Save All Events As...
Attach a Task To thi...
View
Refresh
Help
Event 4634, Microsoft W...
Event Properties
Attach Task To This...
Copy
Action: In progress...
12:35 PM
10/29/2024


Local Security Policy
File Action View Help
Security Settings
Account Policies
Local Policies
Audit Policy
User Rights Assignment
Security Options
Windows Defender Firewall with Adva
Network List Manager Policies
Public Key Policies
Software Restriction Policies
Application Control Policies
IP Security Policies on Local Compute
Advanced Audit Policy Configuration
Policy
Audit account logon events
Audit account management
Audit directory service access
Audit logon events
Audit object access
Audit policy change
Audit privilege use
Audit process tracking
Audit system events
Security Setting
No auditing
Audit object access Properties
Local Security Setting
Explain
Audit object access
Audit these attempts:
Success
Failure
This setting might not be enforced if other policy is configured to override category level audit policy.
For more information, see Audit object access. (Q921468)
OK
Cancel
Apply

Assisted Lab: Configuring Controls

39 Minutes Remaining

Instructions Resources Help 100

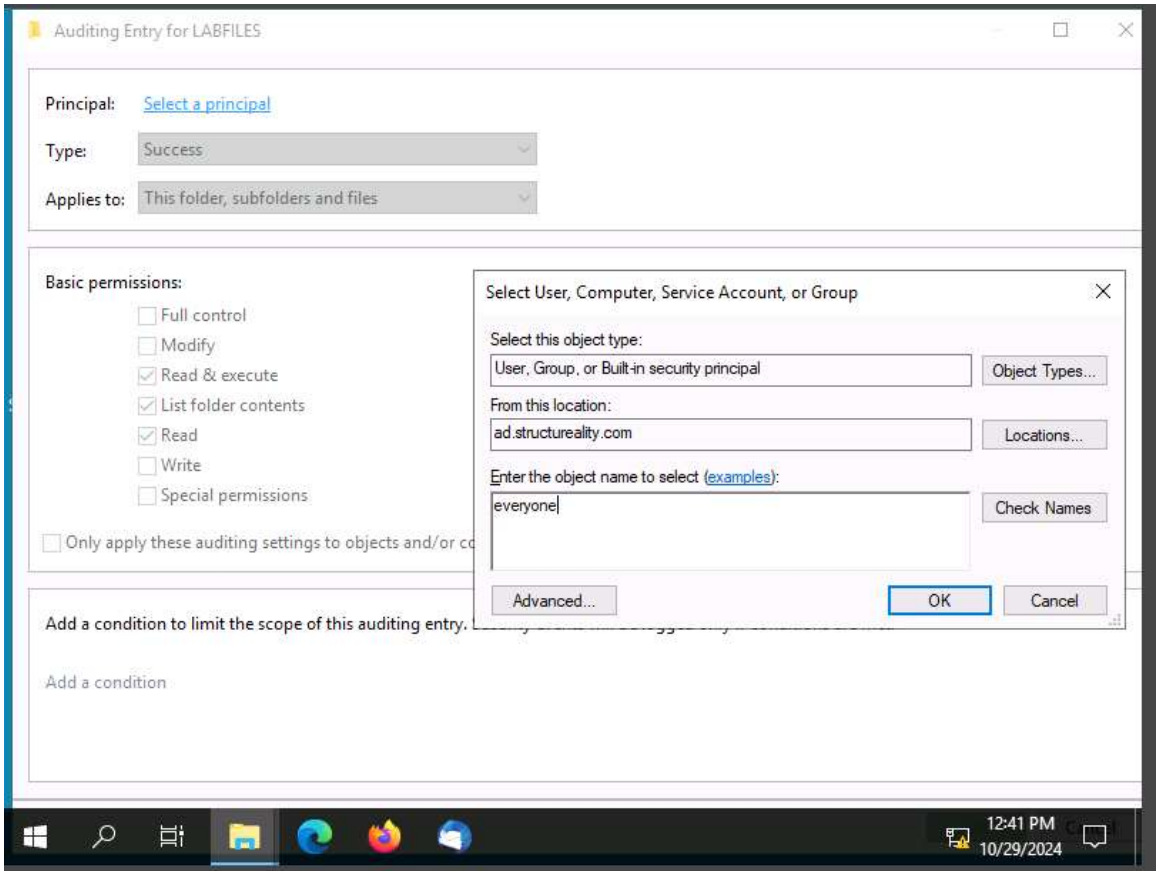
⚠ The setting change should apply immediately. If the next steps do not result in a record of a folder deletion, then restart PC10 and repeat from here, but you will then need to delete the *MARKETING* folder.

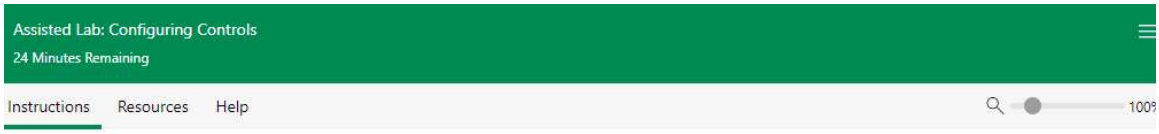
- [x] 19. Return to File Explorer.
- [x] 20. Right-click **LABFILES** in the left pane, then select **Properties**.
- [x] 21. Select the **Security** tab on the *LABFILES Properties* window.
- [x] 22. Select **Advanced**.
- [x] 23. Select the **Auditing** tab on the *Advanced Security Settings for LABFILES* window.
- [x] 24. Select **Continue** since you are an administrator.
- [x] 25. Select **Add**.
- [x] 26. Select **Select a principle** on the *Auditing Entry for LABFILES* window.
- [x] 27. Type T everyone in the *Enter the object name to select* field, then select **Check Names**.

The field should now display *Everyone*..

- [ ] 28. Select **OK**.
- [ ] 29. Select **Show advanced permissions** from the middle area of the *Auditing Entry for LABFILES* window.
- [ ] 30. Select to mark the **Delete subfolders and files** and **Delete** checkboxes.
- [ ] 31. Select **OK** to save the settings and close the *Auditing Entry for LABFILES* window.
- [ ] 32. Select to mark the **Replace all child object auditing settings...** checkbox.
- [ ] 33. Select **OK** to save the settings and close the *Advanced Security Settings for LABFILES* window.
- [ ] 34. Select **OK** to save the settings and close the *LABFILES Properties* window.
- [ ] 35. Right-click the **pcaps** folder, then select **Delete**.

The *pcaps* folder should no longer be present.


Auditing Entry for LABFILES
Principal:
Select a principal
Type:
Success
Applies to:
This folder, subfolders and files
Basic permissions:
Full control
Modify
Read & execute
List folder contents
Read
Write
Special permissions
Only apply these auditing settings to objects and/or co
Add a condition to limit the scope of this auditing entry.
Add a condition
Select User, Computer, Service Account, or Group
Select this object type:
User, Group, or Built-in security principal
Object Types...
From this location:
ad.structureality.com
Locations...
Enter the object name to select (examples):
everyone
Check Names
Advanced...
OK
Cancel
12:41 PM
10/29/2024



- [x] 36. Minimize File Explorer.
- [x] 37. Return to the Event Viewer.
- [x] 38. Select **Refresh** from the right pane.
- [x] 39. Select the first entry at the top of the middle pane.

> This sets the search-from point for the Find function, which only searches from the currently selected entry to earlier entries (i.e., down).

- [x] 40. Select **Find...** in the right pane.
- [x] 41. Type 4660 in the *Find what:* filed, then select **Find Next**.

> 4660 is the Event ID for the event type of object deletion.

- [x] 42. Select **Cancel** to close the *Find* window.
- [x] 43. An audit record of Event ID: 4660 should be selected. In the bottom pane you should see the statement "An object was deleted".

> Oddly, while Event ID 4660 is the record of an object being deleted, it does not contain the actual object's name. For that, you need to find the associated Event ID 4663.

- [x] 44. The Event ID 4663 for the deletion of the folder should be about five records above the currently selected one. Select the lowest record of **Event ID 4663** which is above the record you previously selected.

> The correct Event ID 4663 record should be about five records above the selected Event ID 4660 record.

- [x] 45. Once you have selected the Event ID 4663 record, you can view the details in the bottom pane. On the *General* tab, there is a small scrollable sub-window with details. You should see a line of "Object Name: C\LABFILES\pcaps". This Event ID 4663 record confirms that the object deleted was the `C\LABFILES\pcaps` folder.

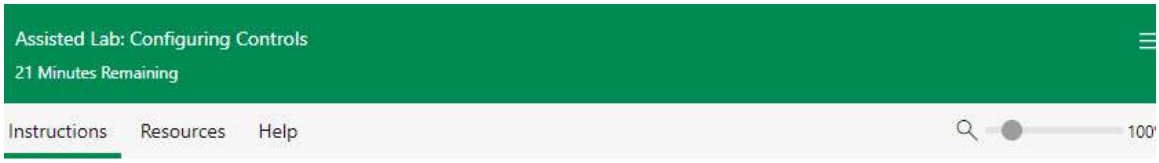
> You could also select the *Details* pane to see most of the same information.

- [x] 46. Sign out of PC10 by selecting the **Start** menu, then selecting **Jaime** (which will be a circle at the top of the menu), then select **Sign out**. If prompted that there are open programs, select **Sign out anyway**.

You have successfully implemented a detective control to record object access activity.

Check your work

- [x] Confirm that you implemented a detective control.
- [x] Confirm that you tested a detective control.



Configure and test directive controls

A directive control provides instruction to direct a user towards more compliant behavior. In this exercise, you will configure a directive control in the form of a login warning banner. Finally, you will test this directive control.

- [x] 1. Connect to the PC10 virtual machine, send Ctrl+Alt+Delete and sign in as jaime using Pa$$w0rd as the password.

  Jaime is a member of the Domain Admins group. So, this user account is an administrator on the PC10 system.

- [x] 2. Select **Type here to search** from the taskbar, type powershell, then right-click **Windows PowerShell** from the results, then select **Run as administrator**.
- [x] 3. Select **Yes** on the User Account Control window.
- [x] 4. Enter the following code into the *Administrator: Windows PowerShell* console:

  ⚠ Be sure to press **Enter** on your keyboard after each entry appears in the PowerShell console. There will not be any confirmation.

  ```
  $BannerText = "This computer system is the property of the CySA+ Online Lab. It is for authorized use only. By using this system, all users acknowledge notice of, and agree to comply with, the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). Unauthorized or improper use of this system may result in administrative disciplinary action, civil charges/criminal penalties, and/or other sanctions as set forth in the AUP. By continuing to use this system, you indicate your awareness of and consent to these terms and conditions of use. If you are physically located in the European Union, you may have additional rights per the GDPR. Visit the website gdpr-info.eu for more information."
  ```

  ```
  New-ItemProperty -Path "HKLM:\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System" -Name "legalnoticecaption" -Value "Authorized Use Only" -PropertyType "String" -Force | Out-Null
  ```

  ```
  New-ItemProperty -Path "HKLM:\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System" -Name "legalnoticetext" -Value $BannerText -PropertyType "String" -Force | Out-Null
  ```

  The text of the warning banner in this exercise is an amalgamation of several banners used by various commercial and educational facilities. Be sure to consult with your own legal counsel before setting a warning banner to ensure it complies with laws and regulations.

Select the **Score** button to validate this task:

Score

✓ Registry keys LegalNoticeCaption and LegalNoticeText exist

Task complete

- [x] 5. Sign out of PC10 by selecting the **Start** menu, then selecting **Jaime** (which will be a circle at the top of the menu), then select **Sign out**. If prompted that there are open programs, select **Sign out anyway**.
- [x] 6. Connect to the PC10 virtual machine, send Ctrl+Alt+Delete.
- [x] 7. You should be presented with the login warning banner that was just defined.

What is the goal of directive controls?

- ○ Defense
- ◉ Compliance
- ○ Prohibition
- ○ Tracking

Score

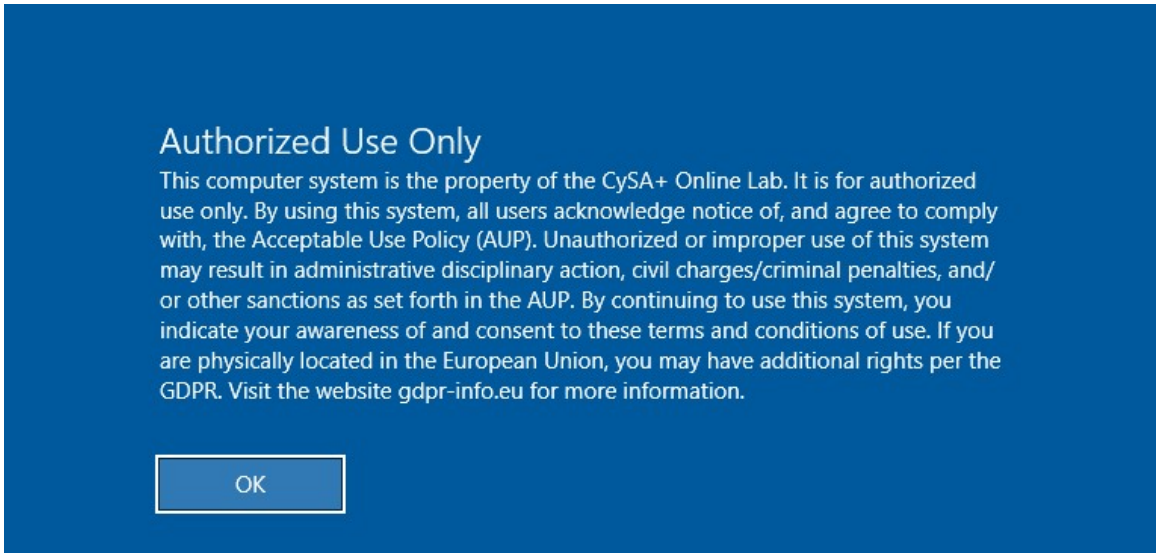
✓ Congratulations, you have answered the question correctly.

- [x] 8. Read the warning banner, then select **OK**.
- [x] 9. Complete the sign-in process as T jaime using T Pa$$w0rd as the password.

You have successfully implemented a directive control to inform personnel of the limitations and restrictions of a controlled system.

Check your work

- [x] Confirm that you implemented a directive control.
- [x] Confirm that you tested a directive control.



Assisted Lab: Configuring Controls

12 Minutes Remaining

Instructions Resources Help 100%

Configure and test corrective controls

A corrective control is intended to detect when something is in a less secure or less desirable state, then attempts to return to the more secure or more desirable state. In some cases, the corrective control is able to repair minor damage to restore a system back to a more secure or desirable state.

In this exercise, you will first use a fault injection tool to trigger the existing correct control of Windows to trigger its native corrective control protection against misbehaving applications. Next, you will create and test a custom corrective control to protect the contents of a text file.

- [x] 1. Connect to the PC10 virtual machine and, if needed, send Ctrl+Alt+Delete, select **OK**, then complete the sign-in process as T jaime using T Pa$$w0rd as the password.
- [x] 2. Select **Type here to search** from the taskbar, type T file, then select **File Explorer** from the results.
- [x] 3. Select **SYSINTERNALS** from the *Quick access* area in the left pane.
- [x] 4. Scroll to locate, then double-click **notmyfault64** to execute it.

> ⚠ There is a CLI (command line interface) version of NotMyFault which has a c in the file name: notmyfaultc64. If a Command Prompt window flashes open and then disappears, you selected the CLI version, not the GUI version of NotMyFault64.

> Windows Sysinternals is a website that offers technical resources and utilities to manage, diagnose, troubleshoot, and monitor a Microsoft Windows environment. You can experiment with the Sysinternals tools in this lab environment or go directly to sysinternals.com to learn more and download the entire suite of nearly 75 tools onto your own system.

- [x] 5. Select **Yes** on the User Account Control window.
- [x] 6. Select the **Code overwrite** option, then select **Crash**.
- [x] 7. The PC10 system should immediately experience a stop error (often called the BSOD (Blue Screen of Death)). The system will perform a partial memory dump (for potential analysis - which will not be done in this lab) and then reboot.

What are the dual purposes of corrective controls? (Select two)

- [x] Address an unwanted or less secure state or event
- [ ] Record evidence of user and event activities
- [x] Return the system to a normal and generally secure condition
- [ ] Provide guidance on proper user behavior

Score

✓ Congratulations, you have answered the question correctly.

- [x] 8. Connect to the PC10 virtual machine and send Ctrl+Alt+Delete, select **OK**, then complete the sign-in process as T jaime using T Pa$$w0rd as the password.

You have verified that the Windows corrective control to protect the execution environment from misbehaving applications is active. While you might not prefer in-memory data to be lost, the stability of the Windows execution environment is protected by immediately ceasing all execution. You can be assured that once the system reboots, the offending application will not be running. This native Windows protective feature is the reason you should save early and save often when creating new content or media.

Next, you will create your own corrective control to simulate the correction functions of the SigVerif utility.

- [x] 9. Select **Type here to search** from the taskbar, type T powershell, then select **Windows PowerShell** from the results.

In this portion of this exercise, you will create a corrective control to monitor the contents of a file. If the file contents change, then the control will restore the file back to its preferred content.

- [x] 10. Enter T "This is important" | Set-Content notes.txt.

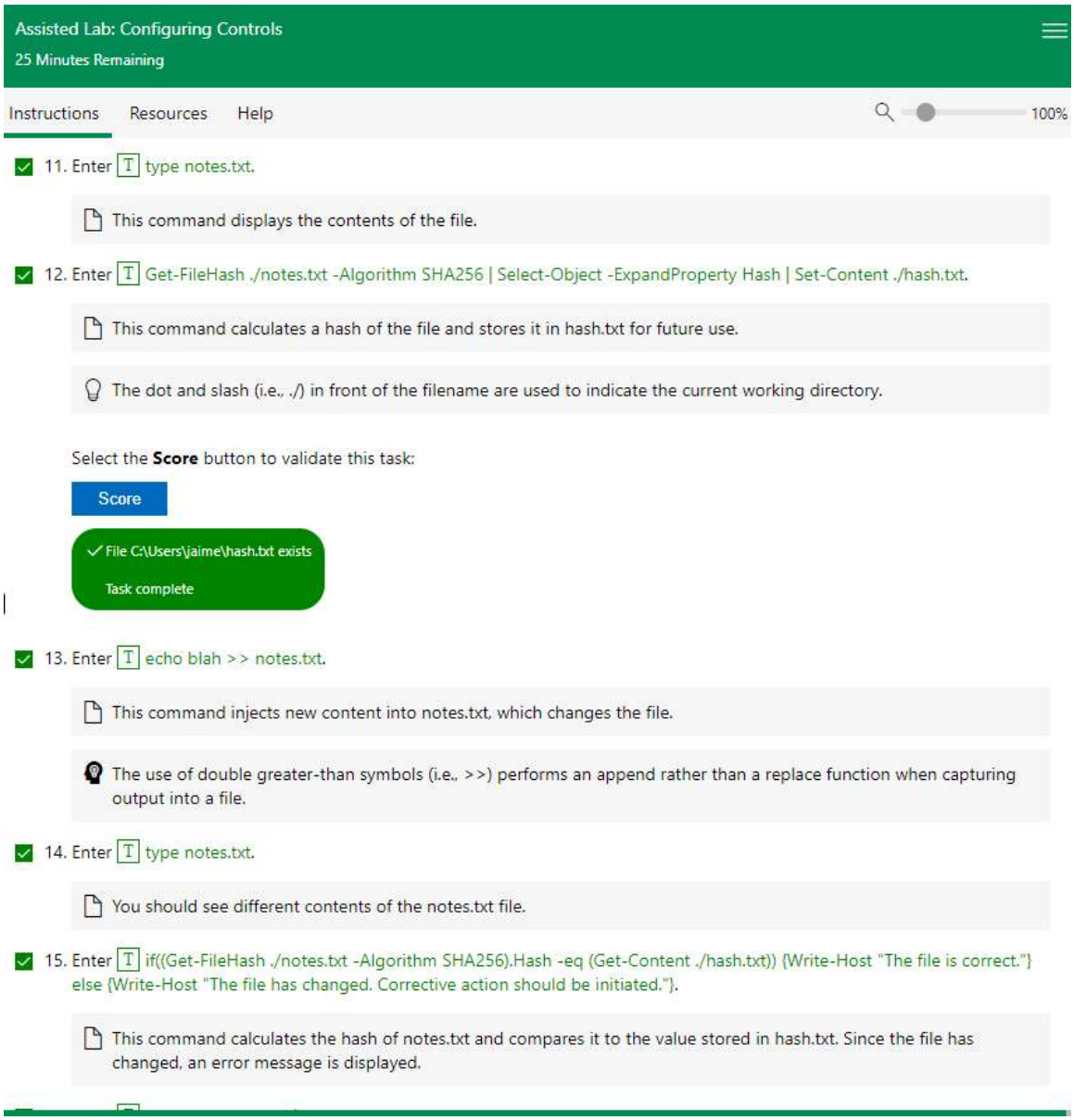
This command creates a text file containing the phrase "This is important".

Select the **Score** button to validate this task:

Score

✓ File C:\Users\jaime\notes.txt exists and contains 'This is important'

Task complete


Assisted Lab: Configuring Controls
25 Minutes Remaining
Instructions
Resources
Help
100%
11. Enter type notes.txt.
This command displays the contents of the file.
12. Enter Get-FileHash ./notes.txt -Algorithm SHA256 | Select-Object -ExpandProperty Hash | Set-Content ./hash.txt.
This command calculates a hash of the file and stores it in hash.txt for future use.
The dot and slash (i.e., ./) in front of the filename are used to indicate the current working directory.
Select the Score button to validate this task:
Score
File C:\Users\jaime\hash.txt exists
Task complete
13. Enter echo blah >> notes.txt.
This command injects new content into notes.txt, which changes the file.
The use of double greater-than symbols (i.e., >>) performs an append rather than a replace function when capturing output into a file.
14. Enter type notes.txt.
You should see different contents of the notes.txt file.
15. Enter if((Get-FileHash ./notes.txt -Algorithm SHA256).Hash -eq (Get-Content ./hash.txt)) {Write-Host "The file is correct."} else {Write-Host "The file has changed. Corrective action should be initiated."}.
This command calculates the hash of notes.txt and compares it to the value stored in hash.txt. Since the file has changed, an error message is displayed.

16. Enter T "This is important" | Set-Content notes.txt.

This command is the corrective action to reset the contents of notes.txt back to the desired content.

17. Enter T type notes.txt.

18. Enter T if((Get-FileHash ./notes.txt -Algorithm SHA256).Hash -eq (Get-Content ./hash.txt)) {Write-Host "The file is correct."} else {Write-Host "The file has changed. Corrective action should be initiated."}.

This command calculates the hash of notes.txt and compares it to the value stored in hash.txt. Since the file has been restored, a confirmation message is displayed.

You have performed the corrective control manually. Now configure scripts to automate the process.

19. Enter T notepad calchash.ps1.

20. Select **Yes** on the *Notepad* window about creating a new file.

21. Type the following into the new document: T Get-FileHash ./notes.txt -Algorithm SHA256 | Select-Object -ExpandProperty Hash | Set-Content ./hash.txt.

22. Close **Notepad**, select **Save** when prompted.

Select the **Score** button to validate this task:

Score

✓ File C:\Users\jaime\calchash.ps1 exists and contains the 'Get-FileHash' command

Task complete

23. Enter T rm hash.txt.

This command deletes the previous hash.txt file.

24. Enter T ./calchash.ps1.

This command executes the PowerShell script of calchash.ps1, which generates a new hash.txt file containing the hash of notes.txt.

⚠ The dot and slash (i.e., ./) in front of the script name are essential for execution.

25. Enter T type hash.txt.

This command displays the contents of hash.txt

26. Enter T notepad check.ps1.

27. Select **Yes** on the *Notepad* window about creating a new file.

28. Select the empty area of the Notepad window, then select the T below to paste the script into the VM.

T
```
if((Get-FileHash ./notes.txt -Algorithm SHA256).Hash -ne (Get-Content ./hash.txt))
{
  "This is important" | Set-Content ./notes.txt
  Write-Host "The file has changed. Corrective action initiated."
}
else
{
  Write-Host "The file is correct. No corrective action needed."
}
```

29. Close **Notepad**, select **Save** when prompted.

Select the **Score** button to validate this task:

Score

✓ File C:\Users\jaime\check.ps1 exists and contains the 'Get-Content' cmdlet

Task complete

30. Enter T ./check.ps1.

This command executes the PowerShell script of check.ps1, which calculates the hash of notes.txt and compares it to the value stored in hash.txt. If the file has not changed, a "No corrective action needed" message is displayed. If the file has changed, an "Corrective action initiated" message is displayed.

⚠ The dot and slash (i.e., ./) in front of the script name are essential for execution.

The result should display the "The file is correct. No corrective action needed." message since you previously restored the notes.txt file manually.

- [x] 31. Enter T type notes.txt.

You should see the correct contents of the notes.txt file.

- [x] 32. Enter T echo blah >> notes.txt.

This command injects new content into notes.txt, which changes the file.

The use of double greater-than symbols (i.e., >>) performs an append rather than a replace function when capturing output into a file.

- [x] 33. Enter T type notes.txt.

You should see the modified contents of the notes.txt file.

- [x] 34. Enter T ./check.ps1.

This should display the "The file has changed. Corrective action initiated." message since the notes.txt file was modified.

⚠ The dot and slash (i.e., ./) in front of the script name are essential for execution.

What is the typical means (which was used in this exercise) to detect changes in a file?

- ○ encryption
- ○ authentication
- ○ authorization
- ◉ hashing

Score

✓ Congratulations, you have answered the question correctly.

☑ 35. Enter T type notes.txt.

You should see the corrected contents of the notes.txt file.

You have successfully implemented a corrective control to repair the contents of a file should it be modified.

This corrective action is similar to that performed by the Signature Verification (SigVerif) tool of Windows. SigVerif executes before each booting of Windows to ensure that the necessary files for a secure booting operation are present and meet a specific hash value. If any of those files are corrupted, they are removed and replaced with a valid file. The corrective actions you took manually can be automated to perform similarly. For example, you could schedule a boot task to run the `check.ps1` script each time the system reboots. Also, you should run the `calchash.ps1` script every time a valid change to `notes.txt` is performed. However, if you do elect to make a change to the contents of `notes.txt`, the correction action would need to be updated accordingly.

Check your work

- ☑ Confirm that you implemented a corrective control.
- ☑ Confirm that you tested a corrective control.