VIM is the most popular text editor in linux operating systems. Other text editors are emacs, gedit etc.

VI: Visual display editor
VIM: Visual display improved

To Install vim,

sudo yum install vim
sudo apt-get install vim

VIM has mainly three modes

1. normal mode(command mode)
- this mode provides you an efficient way navigate and manipulate text.

2. insert mode
- you can write text as in any normal editors.

3. Extended normal mode(command mode)
- extended mode provides the ability to save, quit functionalities.

To see the mode in which you are at, you can see at the status bar of the vim editor.

Changing the modes

 ESC   for the normal mode
 i   for the insert mode

Keys for movement of cursor without using the arrows.

h : move to the left
j : move to the down
k : move to the up
l : move to the right

For navigation in terms of words use the followings keys

w : moves to the start of next word in a sentence
e : moves to the end of the word
b : moves to the beginning of the word

You can also combine numbers and keys for the movement.

E.g : 3w is the same as pressing w three times.
nb : n words backward

Inserting text multiple times

E.g : 3i god then go to normal mode (ESC), you will get godgodgod

Finding a character.

f : for next occurrence of a character.
F : for the previous occurrence of the character.

Also you can combine f with the number for multiple occurrence of a character.

For finding the next matching parenthesis or bracket, use %

To go to the start or end of a sentence

0 : for the beginning of the sentence.
$: for the end of the sentence.

Finding the word under cursor

* : for the next occurrence of the word
# : for the previous occurrence of the word.

To move the cursor to the beginning of the file

press **gg**

To move the cursor to the end of the file

press **G**

To go to the line two

press **2G**

Searching Text

To search text in vim, press / followed by the text you are looking for.

To search for the multiple occurrence of the text,

press **n** for next

And **N** for the previous

To insert text in a new line.

Press **o or 0.**

Removing a character

x : deletes the character under cursor

X : deletes the character to the left of the cursor

Replacing character under cursor

press **r**

Delete command

d is the delete command

dw deletes the first word on the right side of the cursor

dd deletes a line
ndd delete n lines

Note: You can also paste by pressing p, the deleted text to the next location.

Removing two words

d2e removes two words to the right of the cursor

Repeating the previous command

press **.**

Undo the changes

u to undo last change(word)
shift+u undo last change(sentence)
Ctrl + r to redo

Copy and Paste

yy to copy a line
n**yy:** to copy n lines

p to past a line below
shift+p to paste a line above

Visual Mode

Visual mode is the another mode of VIM editor
In this mode you can select text using the movement keys before deciding any actions.

Go to visual mode by pressing **v**

Select word with **e**

After selecting you can remove it by pressing **d**

Extended (colon mode)

ESC+:w : to save
ESC+:q : to quit
ESC+wq : Save and quit
ESC+w! : Save forcefully
ESC+q! : Quit forcefully
ESC+wq! : Save and Quit forcefully
ESC+:x : To save and quit
ESC+:2o(n) : Go to line no 2o or n
ESC+:se nu : Set line number
ESC+:se nonu : Remove line number

/ search word in a file
:help for vim help