Droplet IP: http://178.128.92.153/

Title: Overcoming Struggles in Setting Up Continuous Deployment: A Journey of Learning and Resilience

Introduction: The process of setting up continuous deployment can be riddled with challenges. In this essay, I will recount the struggles encountered while implementing continuous deployment using DigitalOcean Droplet, Nginx, Gunicorn, Flask, GitHub Workflow, and Bash. Through perseverance and the utilization of available resources, I found solutions to each obstacle, fostering a sense of growth and resilience in the face of adversity.

Body:

1. Infrastructure Configuration with DigitalOcean Droplet: Initially, configuring the DigitalOcean Droplet proved challenging. Selecting the appropriate size, region, and setting up firewall rules required careful consideration.

To overcome these hurdles, I followed a comprehensive tutorial that provided step-by-step instructions. It guided me through the process of creating a Droplet, configuring SSH access, selecting an optimal size and region, and establishing firewall rules. Following the tutorial, I successfully configured the DigitalOcean Droplet, laying a solid foundation for the subsequent setup.

1. Configuring Nginx as a Reverse Proxy: Configuring Nginx as a reverse proxy to forward requests to the Gunicorn server presented its own complexities. Modifying Nginx configuration files accurately was crucial.

To tackle this challenge, I relied on a detailed tutorial that explained the necessary configuration changes. It covered defining server blocks, configuring the location block, and ensuring proper request forwarding to the Gunicorn server. By carefully following the tutorial and adapting it to my specific setup, I successfully configured Nginx as a reverse proxy.

1. Deploying Flask Application with Gunicorn: Deploying the Flask application with Gunicorn required precise configuration and management of the Gunicorn server.

I turned to a tutorial that provided a clear deployment process for Flask applications using Gunicorn. It outlined steps such as setting up a virtual environment, installing dependencies, and writing a tailored Gunicorn configuration file. By following the tutorial, I successfully deployed the Flask application using Gunicorn.

1. GitHub Workflow for Continuous Deployment: Creating an effective GitHub Workflow for continuous deployment posed challenges. Defining triggers, executing steps, and ensuring secure deployment required careful planning.

To address this challenge, I explored a tutorial focused on creating GitHub Workflows for continuous deployment. It provided guidance on defining triggers, cloning the repository, installing dependencies, running tests, and securely deploying changes to the Droplet using SSH. By implementing the suggested workflow steps and adjusting them to suit my project's needs, I established a reliable continuous deployment process.

1. Deploying to Correct Folders with Bash: Ensuring that the deployment script navigated to the correct directory on the Droplet and executed necessary commands posed a significant hurdle.

To overcome this challenge, I leveraged my understanding of bash scripting and referred to a tutorial on deploying to specific folders. By following best practices, I wrote a bash script that changed directories, executed Git commands to pull the latest changes, and restarted the Gunicorn server to apply updates. Through this approach, I automated the deployment process while maintaining the correct folder structure.

Conclusion: The journey of setting up continuous deployment was marked by numerous struggles. However, through determination and resourcefulness, I found solutions to each challenge encountered. By following tutorials, adapting instructions, and leveraging my problem-solving skills, I overcame obstacles in configuring the infrastructure, setting up Nginx as a reverse proxy, deploying Flask applications with Gunicorn, establishing GitHub Workflows, and deploying to the correct folders using Bash. This experience reinforced my capacity for learning and resilience in the dynamic realm of continuous deployment.