

1. Test File (testfile.txt)

Create a file named testfile.txt with the following content:

```
Hello world
This is a test
another test line
HELLO AGAIN
Don't match this line
Testing one two three
```

2. Make the Script Executable

In your terminal, run:

```
chmod +x mygrep.sh
```

3. Hands-On Validation (Expected Output)

Run these commands in your terminal. You should see the following output (capture this in your screenshot):

```
$ ./mygrep.sh hello testfile.txt
```

```
Hello world
HELLO AGAIN
```

```
$ ./mygrep.sh -n hello testfile.txt
```

```
1:Hello world
4:HELLO AGAIN
```

```
$ ./mygrep.sh -vn hello testfile.txt
```

```
2:This is a test
3:another test line
5:Don't match this line
6:Testing one two three
```

```
$ ./mygrep.sh -v testfile.txt
```

```
Error: Missing search pattern or filename.
Perhaps you meant to search for 'testfile.txt' in a file?
Run './mygrep.sh --help' for usage information.
# (Note: The script should also exit with status 1 here)
```

```
$ ./mygrep.sh --help
```

```
Usage: ./mygrep.sh [OPTIONS] PATTERN FILE
Search for PATTERN in FILE case-insensitively.
```

Options:

- n Prefix each line of output with the 1-based line number within its input file.
- v Invert the sense of matching, to select non-matching lines.
- help Display this help message and exit.

Arguments:

- PATTERN The string to search for (case-insensitive).
- FILE The input text file to search within.

Examples:

```
./mygrep.sh hello input.txt # Find lines containing 'hello'
./mygrep.sh -n hello input.txt # Find lines containing 'hello' with line numbers
./mygrep.sh -nv hello input.txt # Find lines NOT containing 'hello' with line numbers
# (Note: The script should exit with status 0 here)
```

(Remember to take an actual screenshot of your terminal showing these commands and their output.)

Reflective Section

1. Argument and Option Handling:

- **--help:** The script first checks if the *very first* argument is exactly --help. If so, it calls the usage function (which prints help and exits) and stops further processing.
- **getopts:** The while getopts "nv" opt; do ... done loop processes short options (-n, -v). getopts reads options from the script's arguments one by one. If it finds -n or -v, it sets the opt variable to n or v respectively. The case statement then sets the corresponding flags (show_line_numbers=1 or invert_match=1). getopts allows options to be combined (like -nv). If an invalid option is found, getopts sets opt to ? and the invalid option character is stored in \$OPTARG. The \?) case handles this, printing an error and exiting.
- **shift \$((OPTIND-1)):** After getopts finishes, the shell variable OPTIND holds the index of the *next* argument *after* the last processed option. shift removes arguments from the beginning of the positional parameter list (\$@). shift \$((OPTIND-1)) effectively removes all the options and their potential arguments (though we have none here) that getopts processed, leaving only the non-option arguments (expected to be PATTERN and FILE).
- **Argument Validation:** The script then checks if exactly two arguments remain (if ["\$#" -ne 2]). If not, it prints an appropriate error message (differentiating between 0, 1, or >2 remaining arguments) and exits with status 1. If two arguments remain, they are assigned to the pattern and filename variables.
- **File Checks:** Finally, it verifies that the filename corresponds to an existing file

(-f) and that the script has read permissions for it (-r), exiting with an error if either check fails.

2. Supporting Regex or -i/-c/-l Options:

Adding support for full regular expressions and options like -i (explicit case-insensitivity), -c (count matching lines), or -l (list filenames containing matches) would significantly change the script's core logic:

- **Regex:** The simple string comparison `[["${line,,}" == *"${pattern,,}"*]]` would be insufficient. You'd likely replace it with Bash's regex matching operator (`[["$line" =~ $pattern]]`). Handling case-insensitivity with regex in pure Bash can be tricky (might need `shopt -s nocasematch` or more complex patterns), so often the simplest approach becomes calling the *actual* `grep` command internally (e.g., `echo "$line" | grep -qE "$pattern"`) and checking its exit status. You might need another option (e.g., -E) to enable regex mode.
- **-i (Explicit):** You'd add `i` to the `getopts` string. The matching logic would then conditionally apply case-insensitivity (e.g., using `${var,,}` or passing `-i` to an internal `grep` call) only if the `-i` flag was set.
- **-c (Count):** Instead of printing lines inside the while loop, you would increment a counter variable whenever a match (or non-match for `-v`) occurs. After the loop finishes reading the file, you would print the final value of the counter.
- **-l (List Filenames):** Upon finding the *first* matching line (respecting `-v`), the script would print the filename and then immediately exit the while loop (using `break`) or even exit the script entirely (using `exit 0`) since no further processing of that file is needed. The `match_found` logic would still apply to set the final exit status correctly if no match was ever found.

3. Hardest Part to Implement:

For this specific script, the most challenging part is often correctly integrating the `getopts` parsing with the subsequent argument handling (shift and validation) and ensuring the logic for combining the `-n` and `-v` flags works as expected in all cases. Specifically:

- Understanding how `getopts` modifies `OPTIND` and using `shift` correctly is crucial but can be confusing initially.
- The conditional logic to decide *whether* to print a line based on both the match result (if `[[...]]`) and the `$invert_match` flag requires careful nesting or boolean logic.
- Applying the line number prefix (`$line_num:`) *only* when `-n` is active *and* the line is actually being printed (respecting `-v`) adds another layer of conditional checking.
- Finally, mimicking `grep`'s exit status (0 if lines were selected, 1 otherwise) requires tracking whether *any* output occurred (`match_found` flag) and setting the exit code accordingly *after* processing the entire file.