ANSWER KEY

Linux Systems Administration - Mid-Term Exam

Instructor: Dr. Husam Alkinani Date: November 2, 2025

Sheet A - Answer Key

Question 1: Practical Command Execution (10 points)

Command: ls -1 /etc/passwd

Expected Output:

-rw-r--r- 1 root root 2847 Oct 15 10:30 /etc/passwd

Explanation: This command displays detailed file information for /etc/passwd including:

- File permissions: -rw-r--r- (owner: read/write, others: read only)
- Owner and group: root
- File size: 2847 bytes
- Contains user account information (usernames, UIDs, home directories)

Question 2: Theoretical Knowledge (10 points)

Correct Answer: a) read, write, execute

Justification: In Linux file permissions, "rwx" represents the three basic permission types: read (r), write (w), and execute (x) for files and directories.

Sheet B - Answer Key

Question 1: Practical Command Execution (10 points)

Command: whoami Expected Output:

student

Explanation: The whoami command displays:

- The username of the currently logged-in user
- Simple and quick way to verify your current user identity
- Useful for security verification and scripting

Question 2: Theoretical Knowledge (10 points)

Correct Answer: b) Kali Linux

Justification: Kali Linux is specifically designed for cybersecurity professionals and penetration testing, with pre-installed security tools and utilities.

Sheet C - Answer Key

Question 1: Practical Command Execution (10 points)

Command: pwd
Expected Output:

/home/student

Explanation: The pwd (Print Working Directory) command:

- Displays the absolute path of the current working directory
- Shows your current location in the filesystem hierarchy
- Essential for navigation and file operations

Question 2: Theoretical Knowledge (10 points)

Correct Answer: a) Super user do

Justification: "sudo" stands for "Super user do" and allows authorized users to execute commands with elevated (root) privileges temporarily.

Sheet D - Answer Key

Question 1: Practical Command Execution (10 points)

Command: df -h
Expected Output:

Filesystem Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on /dev/sda1 50G 20G 28G 42% / tmpfs 3.9G 0 3.9G 0% /dev/shm /dev/sda2 100G 45G 50G 48% /home

Explanation: The df -h command displays:

- Disk space usage for all mounted filesystems
- Human-readable format (GB, MB instead of bytes)
- Shows total size, used space, available space, and usage percentage

Question 2: Theoretical Knowledge (10 points)

Correct Answer: b) Disk space usage in human-readable format

Justification: The df -h command reports filesystem disk space usage in human-readable format (KB, MB, GB) instead of block sizes.

Sheet E - Answer Key

Question 1: Practical Command Execution (10 points)

Command: uname -a Expected Output:

Linux ubuntu 5.15.0-56-generic #62-Ubuntu SMP x86_64 GNU/Linux

Explanation: The uname -a command provides:

- Complete system information including kernel name, version, and architecture
- Operating system type (Linux)
- Machine hardware name and processor type

Question 2: Theoretical Knowledge (10 points)

Correct Answer: b) Complete system information including kernel version

Justification: The uname -a command displays all available system information including kernel version, hostname, and architecture.

Sheet F - Answer Key

Question 1: Practical Command Execution (10 points)

Command: top
Expected Output:

Tasks: 195 total, 1 running, 194 sleeping %Cpu(s): 2.3 us, 1.0 sy, 0.0 ni, 96.7 id MiB Mem: 7892.5 total, 3421.2 free PID USER PR NI VIRT RES %CPU %MEM COMMAND

Explanation: The top command displays:

- Real-time system process monitoring
- CPU and memory usage statistics
- Running processes with resource consumption details

Question 2: Theoretical Knowledge (10 points)

Correct Answer: b) Monitor real-time system processes and resource usage

Justification: The top command provides dynamic real-time view of running system processes, CPU usage, memory consumption, and system load.

| Grading Rubric | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Component | Points |
| Question 1 - Command Output | 5 points |
| Question 1 - Explanation | 5 points |
| Question 2 - Correct Answer | 5 points |
| Question 2 - Justification | 5 points |
| Total per Sheet | 20 points |