Chapter 3 Lab Answers

1. First, run Update-Help and ensure it completes without errors. That will get a copy of the help on your local computer. This requires an Internet connection, and requires that the shell be running under elevated privileges (which means it must say “Administrator” in the shell’s window title bar).

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| Update-Help  or if you run it more than once in a single day:  Update-Help –force |

1. Can you find any cmdlets capable of converting other cmdlets’ output into HTML?

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| Help html  Or you could try with Get-Command  get-command -noun html |

1. Are there any cmdlets that can redirect output into a file, or to a printer?

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| get-command -noun file,printer |

1. How many cmdlets are available for working with processes? (Hint: remember that cmdlets all use a singular noun.)

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| Get-command –noun process  Or  Help \*Process |

1. What cmdlet might you use to write to an event log?

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| get-command -verb write -noun eventlog  or if you weren’t sure about the noun, use a wildcard  help \*log |

1. You’ve learned that aliases are nicknames for cmdlets; what cmdlets are available to create, modify, export, or import aliases?

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| Help \*alias  Or  get-command -noun alias |

1. Is there a way to keep a transcript of everything you type in the shell, and save that transcript to a text file?

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| Help transcript |

1. It can take a long time to retrieve all of the entries from the Security event log. How can you get just the 100 most recent entries?

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| help Get-EventLog -Parameter Newest |

1. Is there a way to retrieve a list of the services that are installed on a remote computer?

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| help Get-Service -Parameter computername |

1. Is there a way to see what processes are running on a remote computer?

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| Help Get-Process –Parameter computername |

1. Examine the help file for the Out-File cmdlet. The files created by this cmdlet default to a width of how many characters? Is there a parameter that would enable you to change that width?

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| Help Out-File –full  Or  Help Out-File –Parameter Width  Should show you 80 characters as the default for the PowerShell console. You would use this parameter to change it as well. |

1. By default, Out-File will overwrite any existing file that has the same filename as what you specify. Is there a parameter that would prevent the cmdlet from overwriting an existing file?

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| If you run: Help Out-File –full and look at parameters you should see –NoClobber. |

1. How could you see a list of all aliases defined in PowerShell?

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| Get-alias |

1. Using both an alias and abbreviated parameter names, what is the shortest command line you could type to retrieve a list of running processes from a computer named Server1?

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| ps –c server1 |

1. How many cmdlets are available that can deal with generic objects? (Hint: remember to use a singular noun like “object” rather than a plural one like “objects”).

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| get-command -noun object |

1. This chapter briefly mentioned arrays. What help topic could tell you more about them?

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| help about\_arrays  or if you weren’t sure, use wildcards  help \*array\* |

1. The Help command can also search the contents of a help file. Are there any topics that might explain any breaking changes between PowerShell v1 and PowerShell v2?

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| Help "breaking change"  Or you might try searching  Help about\*powershell\* |