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Activity 5: Consolidating Playbook plays	
1. Objectives: 1.1 Use when command in playbook for different OS distributions 1.2 Apply refactoring techniques in cleaning up the playbook codes	
2. Discussion: <p>We are going to look at a way that we can differentiate a playbook by a host in terms of which distribution the host is running. It's very common in most Linux shops to run multiple distributions, for example, Ubuntu shop or Debian shop and you need a different distribution for a one off-case or perhaps you want to run plays only on certain distributions.</p> <p>It is a best practice in ansible when you are working in a collaborative environment to use the command git pull. git pull is a Git command used to update the local version of a repository from a remote. By default, git pull does two things. Updates the current local working branch (currently checked out branch) and updates the remote-tracking branches for all other branches. git pull essentially pulls down any changes that may have happened since the last time you worked on the repository.</p> <p>Requirement: In this activity, you will need to create a CentOS VM. Likewise, you need to activate the second adapter to a host-only adapter after the installations. Take note of the IP address of the CentOS VM. Make sure to use the command ssh-copy-id to copy the public key to CentOS. Verify if you can successfully SSH to CentOS VM.</p>	
Task 1: Use when command for different distributions	
1. In the local machine, make sure you are in the local repository directory (CPE232_yourname). Issue the command git pull. When prompted, enter the correct passphrase or password. Describe what happens when you issue this command. Did something happen? Why? After executing the command git pull. It shows msg "Already up to date". git pull is a command used to update the local version of a repository from a remote.	

```
jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal$ git pull
Already up to date.
```

2. Edit the inventory file and add the IP address of the Centos VM. Issue the command we used to execute the playbook (the one we used in the last activity): `ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml`. After executing this command, you may notice that it did not become successful in the Centos VM. You can see that the Centos VM has failed=1. Only the two remote servers have been changed. The reason is that Centos VM does not support "apt" as the package manager. The default package manager for Centos is "yum."

```
jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
*

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
*
ok: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [update repository index] *****
*
[WARNING]: Updating cache and auto-installing missing dependency: python-apt
fatal: [CentOS]: FAILED! => {"changed": false, "cmd": "apt-get update", "msg": "[Errno 2] No such file or directory", "rc": 2}
changed: [server1]

TASK [install apache2 package] *****
*
ok: [server1]

TASK [add PHP support for apache] *****
*
ok: [server1]

PLAY RECAP *****
*
CentOS      : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=1
skipped=0   rescued=0   ignored=0
server1     : ok=4    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=0   rescued=0   ignored=0
```

CentOS does not support apt packages that's why it failed.

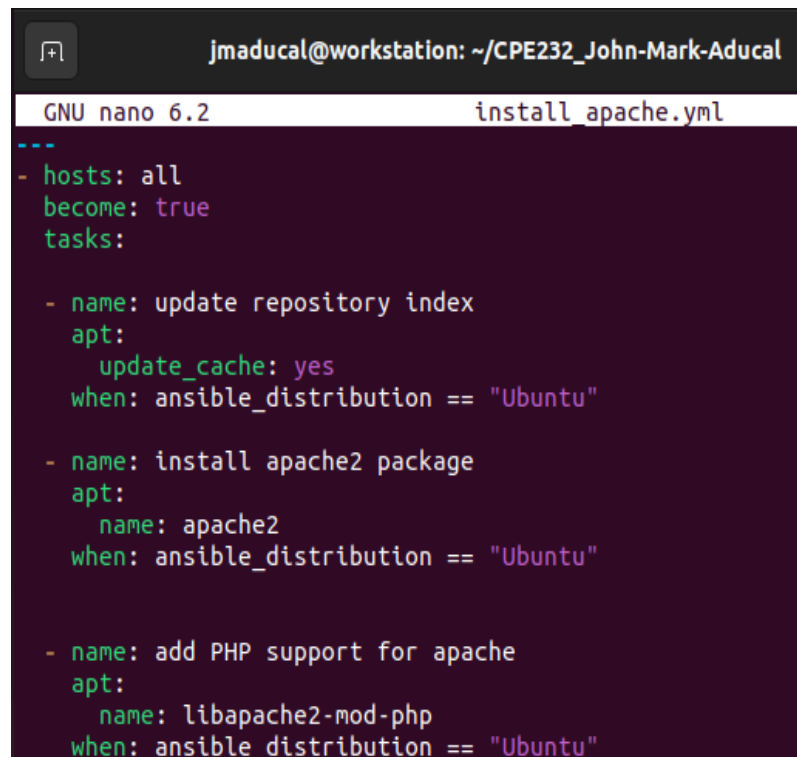
3. Edit the *install_apache.yml* file and insert the lines shown below.

```
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: update repository index
      apt:
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache2 package
      apt:
        name: apache2
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: add PHP support for apache
      apt:
        name: libapache2-mod-php
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```



```
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: update repository index
      apt:
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache2 package
      apt:
        name: apache2
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: add PHP support for apache
      apt:
        name: libapache2-mod-php
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Run *ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml* and describe the result.

```
jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
*

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
*
ok: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [update repository index] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
changed: [server1]

TASK [install apache2 package] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
ok: [server1]

TASK [add PHP support for apache] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
ok: [server1]

PLAY RECAP *****
*
CentOS                : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=3            rescued=0    ignored=0
server1              : ok=4    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=0            rescued=0    ignored=0
```

when command is a conditional statement used to do the tasks only for Ubuntu OS and the other which is CentOS the tasks skipped.

If you have a mix of Debian and Ubuntu servers, you can change the configuration of your playbook like this.

- name: update repository index
apt:
 update_cache: yes
 when: ansible_distribution in ["Debian", "Ubuntu"]

Note: This will work also if you try. Notice the changes are highlighted.

4. Edit the *install_apache.yml* file and insert the lines shown below.

```
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: update repository index
      apt:
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

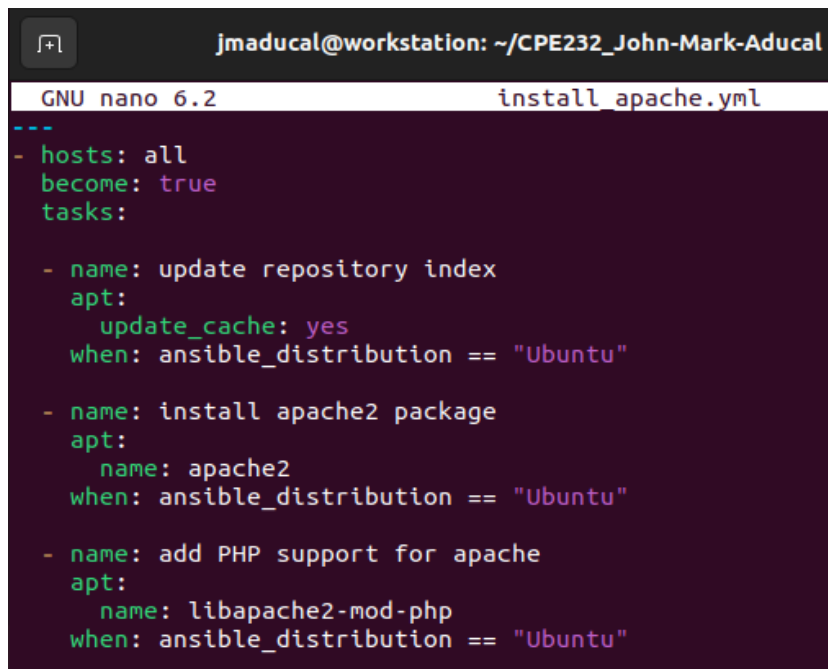
    - name: install apache2 package
      apt:
        name: apache2
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: add PHP support for apache
      apt:
        name: libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: update repository index
      dnf:
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: install apache2 package
      dnf:
        name: httpd
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: add PHP support for apache
      dnf:
        name: php
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```



```
jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aduc...
GNU nano 6.2 install_apache.yml
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: update repository index
      apt:
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache2 package
      apt:
        name: apache2
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: add PHP support for apache
      apt:
        name: libapache2-mod-php
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

```

- name: update repository index
  dnf:
    update_cache: yes
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: install apache2 package
  dnf:
    name: httpd
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: add PHP support for apache
  dnf:
    name: php
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

```

Make sure to save and exit.

Run *ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml* and describe the result.

```

jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aduc al
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aduc al$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
*

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
*
ok: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [update repository index] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
changed: [server1]

TASK [install apache2 package] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
ok: [server1]

TASK [add PHP support for apache] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
ok: [server1]

```

when command is used to do the tasks with different OS like Ubuntu only and CentOS only tasks.

```

TASK [update repository index] *****
*
skipping: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [install apache2 package] *****
*
skipping: [server1]
changed: [CentOS]

TASK [add PHP support for apache] *****
*
skipping: [server1]
changed: [CentOS]

PLAY RECAP *****
*
CentOS                : ok=4    changed=2    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0
server1           : ok=4    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0

```

5. To verify the installations, go to CentOS VM and type its IP address on the browser. Was it successful? The answer is no. It's because the httpd service or the Apache HTTP server in the CentOS is not yet active. Thus, you need to activate it first.

5.1 To activate, go to the CentOS VM terminal and enter the following:

systemctl status httpd

```

[jmaducal@CentOS ~]$ systemctl status httpd
● httpd.service - The Apache HTTP Server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/httpd.service; disabled; vendor preset: disabled)
   Active: inactive (dead)
     Docs: man:httpd(8)
          man:apachectl(8)

```

The result of this command tells you that the service is inactive.

5.2 Issue the following command to start the service:

sudo systemctl start httpd

(When prompted, enter the sudo password)

```

[jmaducal@CentOS ~]$ sudo systemctl start httpd
[sudo] password for jmaducal:

```

sudo firewall-cmd --add-port=80/tcp

(The result should be a success)

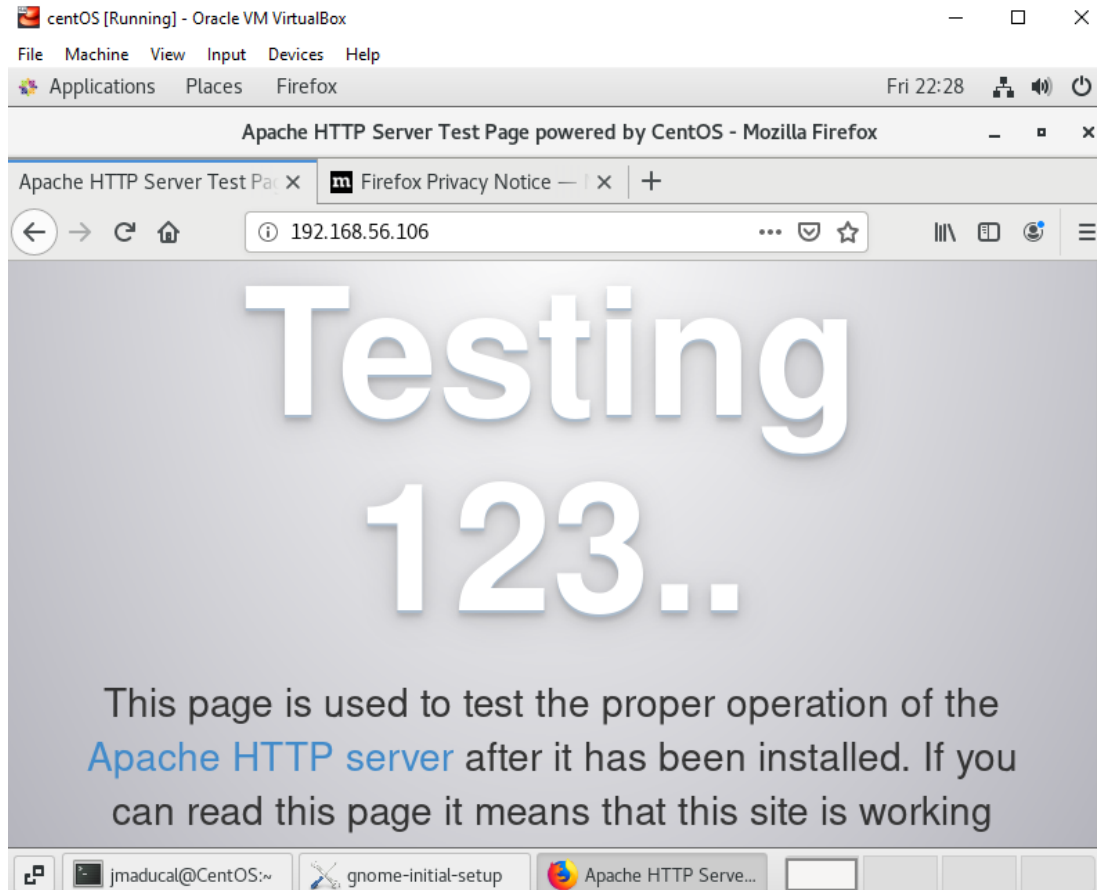
```

[jmaducal@CentOS ~]$ sudo firewall-cmd --add-port=80/tcp
success

```

5.3 To verify the service is already running, go to CentOS VM and type its IP address on the browser. Was it successful? **YES** (Screenshot the browser)

CentOS



Task 2: Refactoring playbook

This time, we want to make sure that our playbook is efficient and that the codes are easier to read. This will also makes run ansible more quickly if it has to execute fewer tasks to do the same thing.

1. Edit the playbook *install_apache.yml*. Currently, we have three tasks targeting our Ubuntu machines and 3 tasks targeting our CentOS machine. Right now, we try to consolidate some tasks that are typically the same. For example, we can consolidate two plays that install packages. We can do that by creating a list of installation packages as shown below:


```

---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: update repository index Ubuntu
      apt:
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu
      apt:
        name:
          - apache2
          - libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: update repository index for CentOS
      dnf:
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: install apache and php packages for CentOS
      dnf:
        name:
          - httpd
          - php
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

```

jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal

GNU nano 6.2 install_apache.yml

```

---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: update repository index for Ubuntu
      apt:
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu
      apt:
        name:
          - apache2
          - libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: update repository index for CentOS
      dnf:
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: install apache2 and php packages for CentOS
      dnf:
        name:
          - httpd
          - php
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Run *ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml* and describe the result.

```
jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
*

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
*
ok: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [update repository index for Ubuntu] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
changed: [server1]

TASK [install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
ok: [server1]

TASK [update repository index for CentOS] *****
*
skipping: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [install apache2 and php packages for CentOS] *****
*
skipping: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

PLAY RECAP *****
*
CentOS                : ok=3    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
server1              : ok=3    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
```

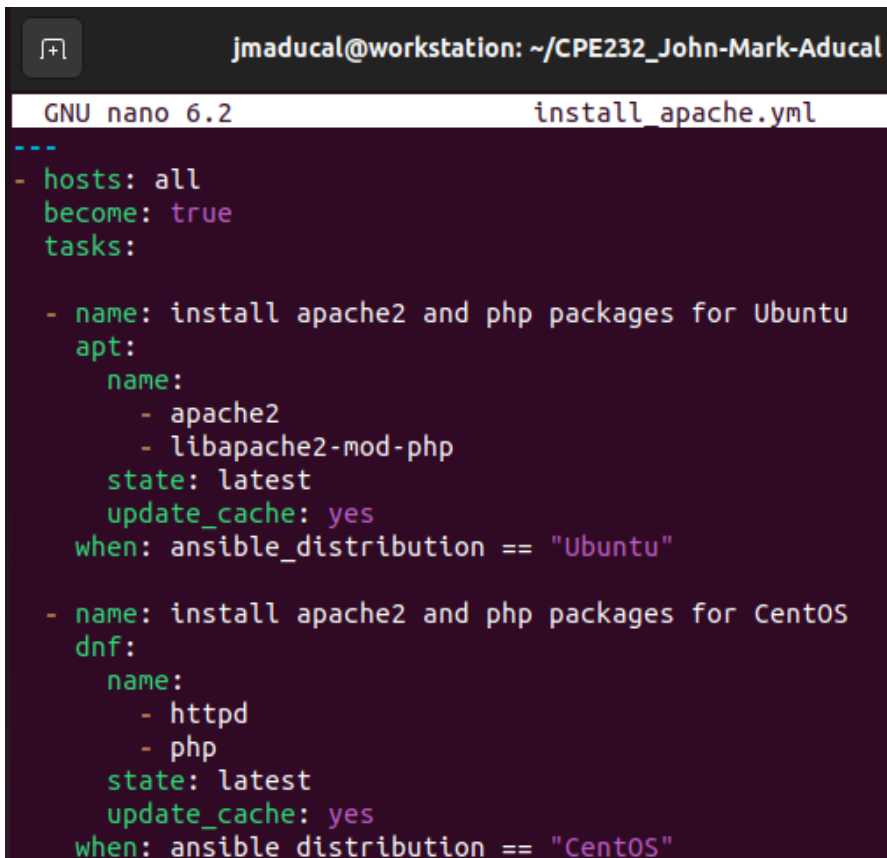
Based on the result, the tasks are the same as before but the installation of apache2 and php packages combined for Ubuntu and CentOS makes the task shorten and it can be quickly executed.

2. Edit the playbook *install_apache.yml* again. In task 2.1, we consolidated the plays into one play. This time we can actually consolidate everything in just 2 plays. This can be done by removing the update repository play and putting the command *update_cache: yes* below the command *state: latest*. See below for reference:

```
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu
      apt:
        name:
          - apache2
          - libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache and php packages for CentOS
      dnf:
        name:
          - httpd
          - php
        state: latest
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```



The terminal window shows the nano editor interface. The title bar indicates the user is jmaducal@workstation and the current file is ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal. The editor header shows 'GNU nano 6.2' and the filename 'install_apache.yml'. The content of the file is the same Ansible playbook as shown in the first block, with syntax highlighting applied to the text.

```
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu
      apt:
        name:
          - apache2
          - libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache2 and php packages for CentOS
      dnf:
        name:
          - httpd
          - php
        state: latest
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Run *ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml* and describe the result.

```
jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
*

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
*
ok: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu] *****
*
skipping: [CentOS]
ok: [server1]

TASK [install apache2 and php packages for CentOS] *****
*
skipping: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

PLAY RECAP *****
*
CentOS                : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0
server1             : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0
```

Based on the result, the execution of tasks now much faster because we simplify the task of updating repository index, Instead of separating the task we combined it to form a simple tasks to do the same thing just add *update_cache: yes*.

3. Finally, we can consolidate these 2 plays in just 1 play. This can be done by declaring variables that will represent the packages that we want to install. Basically, the *apache_package* and *php_package* are variables. The names are arbitrary, which means we can choose different names. We also take out the line when: *ansible_distribution*. Edit the playbook *install_apache.yml* again and make sure to follow the below image. Make sure to save the file and exit.

```

---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install apache and php
      apt:
        name:
          - "{{ apache_package }}"
          - "{{ php_package }}"
        state: latest
        update_cache: yes

```

```

jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal
GNU nano 6.2                                install_apache.yml
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install apache and php
      apt:
        name:
          - "{{ apache_package }}"
          - "{{ php_package }}"
        state: latest
        update_cache: yes

```

Run *ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml* and describe the result.

```

jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aducal$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
*

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
*
ok: [server1]
ok: [CentOS]

TASK [install apache and php] *****
*
[WARNING]: Updating cache and auto-installing missing dependency: python-apt
fatal: [CentOS]: FAILED! => {"changed": false, "cmd": "apt-get update", "msg": "[Errno 2] No such file or directory", "rc": 2}
fatal: [server1]: FAILED! => {"changed": false, "msg": "No package matching '{{ apache_package }}' is available"}

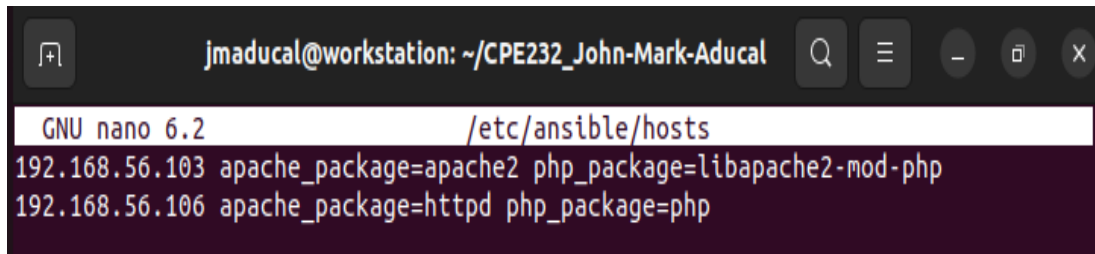
PLAY RECAP *****
*
CentOS                : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=1
skipped=0            rescued=0    ignored=0
server1               : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=1
skipped=0            rescued=0    ignored=0

```

Based on the result, the output is failed and the continuation is on task 2.4.

4. Unfortunately, task 2.3 was not successful. It's because we need to change something in the inventory file so that the variables we declared will be in place. Edit the *inventory* file and follow the below configuration:

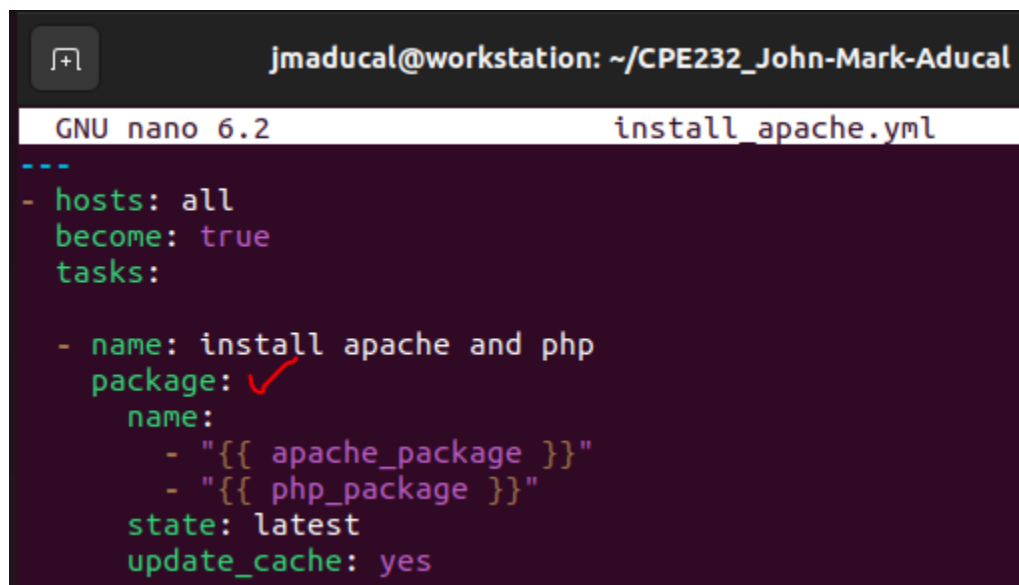
```
192.168.56.120 apache_package=apache2 php_package=libapache2-mod-php
192.168.56.121 apache_package=apache2 php_package=libapache2-mod-php
192.168.56.122 apache_package=httpd php_package=php
```



```
GNU nano 6.2 /etc/ansible/hosts
192.168.56.103 apache_package=apache2 php_package=libapache2-mod-php
192.168.56.106 apache_package=httpd php_package=php
```

Make sure to save the *inventory* file and exit.

Finally, we still have one more thing to change in our *install_apache.yml* file. In task 2.3, you may notice that the package is assign as *apt*, which will not run in CentOS. Replace the *apt* with *package*. Package is a module in ansible that is generic, which is going to use whatever package manager the underlying host or the target server uses. For Ubuntu it will automatically use *apt*, and for CentOS it will automatically use *dnf*. Make sure to save the file and exit. For more details about the ansible package, you may refer to this documentation: [ansible.builtin.package – Generic OS package manager — Ansible Documentation](#)



```
GNU nano 6.2 install_apache.yml
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:
    - name: install apache and php
      package: ✓
        name:
          - "{{ apache_package }}"
          - "{{ php_package }}"
      state: latest
      update_cache: yes
```

Run *ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml* and describe the result.

```
jmaducal@workstation: ~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aduc al  Q  ≡  -  □  X
jmaducal@workstation:~/CPE232_John-Mark-Aduc al$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-p
ass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
*

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
*
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.106]

TASK [install apache and php] *****
*
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.106]

PLAY RECAP *****
*
192.168.56.103      : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.106      : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0
```

Supplementary Activity:

1. Create a playbook that could do the Red Hat OS.

Reflections:

Answer the following:

1. Why do you think refactoring of playbook codes is important?

Code refactoring is excellent practice since it increases readability and maintainability of code. allowing ansible to run faster because less codes are used without changing the external behavior of tasks.

2. When do we use the “when” command in the playbook? “when” command is similar to a conditional statement. when the condition is met, the when command executes the specified task. For example, earlier we used the command when: ansible_distribution == “Ubuntu” and the specified task is to install apache2 package what will happen is it will only install the apache2 package only on Ubuntu OS and the other OS like “CentOS” will be skipped.