# Notes to instructors

These lessons are available as one large file or broken down into individual lessons. I recommend against using the solutions as graded items, however; solutions to all Holiday Hack challenges are available on the Internet. Questions for the students to answer that require thought should be gradable.

This document uses a question-and-answer format, where the answers are closed until the student opens them. Students can open the answers any time they wish; since solutions are available on the Internet there did not seem to be any purpose in implementing more security. The goal is that the student think and try alternatives before looking at solutions. Changes to the Word document may cause the answers to open; check for this before posting a version for the students. Also, the answers are always open if the document is converted to PDF. (I need to find a way to do this in Canvas, or something.)

If the answers will not stay closed for you, the lessons are available as individual documents of questions and answers that you can hand out separately. You can also copy parts of the answers and give them to the students as needed.

Many of the lessons can be done in Windows, but many are easier with Linux. If you have admin access to your Windows 10 or higher, you can install Linux using [Windows Subsystem for Linux](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/wsl/install). If your lab allows VMware Workstation Player (free for educational use), another hypervisor like Virtual Box, or access to online Virtual Machines (VMs) through a range like Virginia Cyber Range, students should have no trouble doing these lessons. They do require Internet access, but other than that and access to Windows and Linux, nothing else is required.

These lessons do not have to be run straight through, as most can be standalone lessons

Feel free to use any or all these lessons in your classes or texts. If you do use them, I ask that you let me know how it went. If you make improvements or run into problems, please contact me at [johnyork807@gmail.com](mailto:johnyork807@gmail.com) or @JohnYork\_r2@infosec.exchange on Mastodon.