CompTIA Linux+

Study Notes

CompTIA Linux+ (XK0-005)

Linux+

o The new CompTIA Linux+ is for the IT pro who will use Linux to manage everything from cars and smartphones to servers and supercomputers, as a vast number of enterprises use Linux in cloud, cybersecurity, mobile and web administration applications. (CompTIA.org)

• Exam Description

o CompTIA Linux+ validates the skills of IT professionals with hands-on experience configuring, monitoring, and supporting servers running the Linux operating system. The new exam has an increased focus on the following topics: security, kernel modules, storage & virtualization, device management at an enterprise level, git & automation, networking & firewalls, server side & command line, server (vs. client-based) coverage, troubleshooting and SELinux.

Four Domains

- o 32% System Management
- o 21% Security
- o 19% Scripting, Containers, and Automation
- o 28% Troubleshooting

• Exam Details

- o Up to 90 questions in 90 minutes
 - Multiple-choice
 - Performance-based/Simulations

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- Fill-in-the-Blank
 - Requires a 720 out of 900
 - Recommended Experience:
 - o CompTIA A+, CompTIA Network+ and 12 months of Linux admin experience
- o Released: April 2, 2019 (XK0-004); July 12, 2022 (XK0-005)

• Are You Ready?

- o Take practice exams
- o Did you score at least 85% or higher?
- o If you need more practice, take additional practice exams to hone your skills before attempting the exam
- What kind of jobs can I get?

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Basic Linux Task

Objectives:

- 1.1: Summarize Linux fundamentals.
- 1.7: Given a scenario, manage software configurations.
- 2.2: Given a scenario, implement identity management.

• Linux Design Philosophy

- o Linux
 - Family of open-source Unix-like operating systems
 - Linux is an open-source operating system that allows anyone to freely download, modify, and redistribute it
 - Ubuntu
 - Debian
 - Fedora Linux
- o Open-Source
 - Computer software in which the source code is readily available for public use or modified from the original design
- o Proprietary
 - Licensed software that has restrictions on what end users can do
 - General Public License
 - Apache License
 - MIT License
 - Creative Commons Zero
- o Linux follows the Unix philosophy of simplicity and modularity
- o Open-source software also comes with some caveats
 - Steep learning curve

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- Not well-supported
- No definite/official version
- No official vendor-provided support
- o CentOS
 - Free software project and focuses on creating compatible open source and free versions of Red Hat and Enterprise Linux

• CLI and The Shell

- o Command Line Interface (CLI)
 - Text-based interface between the user and the operating system that accepts input in the form of typed commands
- o Shell
 - Contains the core portion of the operating system
 - The original Unix shell was called the Bourne shell (sh), and was replaced by Bourne-again (Bash)
- o Syntax
 - Proper way of structuring a command and any supporting information
 - Command
 - Options
 - Argument
 - Commands entered into Bash are case sensitive
- o Command line interface interacts directly with the shell. And the shell requires the user to use syntax when issuing commands

Bash Commands

o Echo Command

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- Repeats input back to the user on the screen
- o LS Command
 - Lists the content of a directory that can give options to view permissions and hidden files
- o PWD Command
 - Shows the current working directory
- o CD Command
 - Changes current working directory
- o CP Command
 - Copy file or directory to another location
- o MKDIR Command
 - Create new directory
- o Clear Command
 - Used to clear the command line interface of all text
- o Cat Command
 - Used to view the contents of a file without editing option
- o Less Command
 - Used to view the contents of a file that won't fit on one screen
- Text Editors
 - Vim
 - Default text editor in Linux
 - Nano
 - Simple and user-friendly text editor that needs to be installed before using it
 - Gedit

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- GUI text editor that requires installation of a desktop environment like Gnome or KDE
- o Su (Substitute User) Command
 - Allows to switch user credentials

Man Pages

- o Man Pages
 - Contains the complete documentation for Linux commands
 - The most immediate source of help available
- o Man Page Features
 - Synopsis
 - Provides the syntax of the command with examples of its use
 - Bold text
 - Type exactly as shown
 - Italic text
 - Replace with appropriate argument
 - -abc
 - All commands in the brackets are optional
 - -a|-b
 - arguments on the left side of the pipe cannot be used together
 - Italic text with ellipsis (...)
 - the argument can be repeated
- o Man Command Options
 - -a
- Find matching queries
- -D

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- Display debugging information
- -f
- Show command description
- -h
- Display help options
- -k
- Show lists of all manual pages
- -K
- Search for the specific string
- t
- Format for printing
- o Man Page Sections
 - General commands
 - System calls
 - C library functions
 - Special files
 - File formats and conventions
 - Games and screensavers
 - Miscellaneous
 - System admin commands/daemons
- o Special Keys
 - Home Key
 - Moves to beginning page
 - End Key
 - Moves to end page
 - Page Up

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- Scrolls up one page
- Page Down
 - Scrolls down one page
- /
- Begins a search
- n
- Moves to next occurrence
- p
- Moves to previous occurrence
- q
- Quits man page

• Other Help Resources

- o Apropos
 - Used to search the name section of all man pages
- o Whatis
 - Used to display a brief description of the given commands
- o Info
 - Used to display the information page of a command
 - Man pages contain all the information in a single page
- o Ways to get help for commands
 - command name –h
 - command name --help
- o /usr/share/doc/
 - Directory of official documentation
- o Internet Sources for help

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- https://help.ubuntu.com/
 - Linux Documentation Project
- https://tldp.org
 - GNU Coreutils Manual
- https://www.gnu.org/
 - software/coreutils/manual/
- o Other Sources
 - Usenet Newsgroup
 - Online discussion repository
 - Mailing Lists
 - Threaded discussions in the form of email messages among members of a specific community
 - Q&A Website
 - Allows users to post questions that can be answered by other users
 - Stack Exchange
 - https://unix.stackexchange.com/
 - Reddit
 - https://www.reddit.com/r/linux/
 - Internet Forum
 - A social knowledge sharing platform that typically uses threaded posts
 - Linux Questions
 - https://www.linuxquestions.org/

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Users and Groups

Objective 2.2: Given a scenario, implement identity management.

Superuser

- o Each account in the Linux system uses a UID or user ID
- o Types of accounts
 - Root user accounts
 - can do administrative tasks
 - Provides security for some applications and commands
 - A Linux root user account is more powerful than the local admin account in Windows
 - Logging on the system using the root user is a bad security practice
 - Standard user accounts
 - User that runs applications, configures databases, and creates websites
 - To ensure system security, user accounts should not be shared
 - Least Privilege
 - o The practice of giving users only as much access as needed to perform certain job functions
 - Service accounts
 - Accounts that are specific to the service (HTTP for web service or mySQL for database service)
 - Service accounts run in the background and perform a single function
- o Superuser (Root)

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- User with admin credentials
- Always log into a system with a non-privileged user account
- Superuser's account permissions may be needed to perform administrative functions such as:
 - Managing users
 - Configuring devices
 - Configuring network settings
- By giving the user only the access needed, the system will remain secure
- o su command
 - Allows to switch the user credentials to superuser
 - Options
 - -root
 - Switches the user credentials to root user
- o sudo command
 - Enables the server admin to delegate commands to users
 - List the user in the /etc/sudoers file using the visudo editor to delegate the user account
- o sudoedit command
 - Permits a user to edit a file with own credentials
 - Requires an entry in the sudoers file for anyone to use the sudoedit command
 - Do not edit /etc/sudoers with standard text editors like vi(m),
 nano, or gedit
- o visudo command
 - Verifies /etc/sudoers syntax before committing changes

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- Options for visudo command
 - -0
- o (Check file errors)
- -f
- o (Edit/check location)
- -s
- o (Check file in strict mode)
- -x
- o (Output in JSON)
- o Administrative functions in some distributions are limited to the Wheel Group
 - Wheel group members exercise root privileges with less potential for damaging the system
 - Can use sudo and visudo commands
- o Polkit (PolicyKit)
 - Controls system-wide privileges that allows non-privileged processes to communicate with privileged ones
 - pkexec command
 - Used to execute PolKit
 - Example of using pkexec to make a directory named Jason
 - o pkexec mkdir /Jason
 - Sudo is easier to use, more flexible, and has better security than pkexec
- Create, Modify, and Delete Users
 - o useradd command

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- Syntax
 - useradd [options] [username]
- The account created
 - is stored in /etc/passwd file
 - is configured according to options set in the /etc/login.defs file
 - has a home directory is created in the /home/ <account name>
 - the home directory is populated using files from the /etc/skel directory
- Useradd command does not set a password for the account
- Options
 - -c
- o sets the comment field
- -е
- o sets the expiration date
 - example: useradd -e 2021/12/31
- -S
- o sets the default shell of the user
 - example: useradd -s /bin/ksh
- -D
- o used to view default configurations for new users
- o passwd command
 - Used by the root user to set or reset a password
- o /etc/passwd
 - Used to contain the passwords, but it posed a security problem
 - Administrators use this file to gain information about users on a system

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- Seven Fields in each line within /etc/passwd (separated by a colon)
 - Username
 - o Contains the name the user use to log into the system
 - Password
 - o Contains assigned password to the user
 - User ID
 - o Unique number that represents the user to the system
 - Group ID
 - o Unique number of a user's primary group membership
 - Comment
 - o Often has the full name of the user
 - Home Directory
 - o Path to the home directory of the user
 - Login Shell
 - o Shell that is launched when user logs in (/bin/bash or /bin/ksh)
 - useradd
 - usermod
 - userdel
- o /etc/shadow
 - Modern storage location for hashed passwords and additional account information
 - Only root has the access to the content of /etc/shadow file
 - Fields of Information in the /etc/shadow
 - Username
 - Password (Hashed format)

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- Days since password was changed
- Days before password must be changed
- Days until user is warned to change password
- Days after password expires that account gets disabled
- Days the account has been disabled
- Unused field that is reserved for future use

• Create, Modify, and Delete Groups

- o Users can be members of more than one group
- o /etc/group
 - Storage location for all groups
 - Fields within the /etc/group
 - Group Name
 - o User-friendly name of the group
 - Password
 - o Password required to enter the group
 - Group ID
 - o Reference number on the system
 - Group List
 - o Refers to members of the group
- o Commands used to edit the /etc/group file
 - groupadd command
 - creates a group
 - options
 - o -g
- creates the group ID

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- o -f
- exits with a success status if the group already exists
- 0 -0
- creates group with non-unique group ID
- syntax
 - o groupadd [options] {group names}
 - example, creates a new group called instructors
 - groupadd -g instructors
- groupmod command
 - Command to change the group's attributes
 - Options
 - o -g
- Change group ID
- o -n
- Rename group
- Syntax
 - o groupmod [options] {group names}
- groupdel command
 - delete groups
 - Groupdel will not delete user accounts within a group, but only delete the group itself
 - Syntax
 - o groupdel [options] {groupname}
- Query Users and Groups

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- o whoami command
 - Used to display the username currently logged in to the system
 - To verify the current username, enter the whoami command
- o The command prompt will also show the level that a user is logged into in many distributions
 - # in the command prompt means you are logged in as the Root User
 - \$ in the command prompt means you are logged in as a Standard User
- o who command
 - Used to determine the details of the users currently logged in
 - It includes
 - Username
 - Name of the system
 - Date and time
 - Syntax
 - who [options]
 - Options
 - -u
- o time use has been Idle time
- o Results of the who -u command

-

- the user is active within 1 minute from the time the command was used
- old
 - the user has been inactive for more than 24hrs
- am i (who am i)

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- o (User information)
- o w command
 - Used to display the details of users that are currently logged in to a system and their transactions
 - Output display
 - First Line
 - o Displays the status of the system
 - Second Line
 - o Displays a table column list of the users logged in to the system
 - Last Column
 - o Indicates the current activities of the users
 - Syntax
 - w [options] [username]
- o last command
 - Displays the history of user login and logout actions, and the actual time and date
 - Options allow you to filter users by using the number of the terminal
 - Example of filtering users of the first terminal
 - o last 1
 - The last command retrieves information from the /var/log/wtmp file
 - Syntax
 - last [options]
- o id command
 - Used to display user ID (UID) and group ID (GID) information

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- Entering no options displays information about the user who is currently logged in
- Syntax
 - id [options] [username]

Account Profiles

- o .bashrc File
 - Enables customization of the user's own environment
 - Can be customized to:
 - Adapt to specific needs and preferences
 - Create environment variable
 - Set default directories and file permissions
 - Change default command prompt
- o bash_profile File
 - Provides the shell configuration for the initial login environment
 - Sets the profile for all users, not just one
 - it changes the /etc/skel
 - When a new user account is created in /etc/skel/ directory, it is automatically copied into the new user's home directory
 - Files added to the /etc/skel/ directory after a user account is created will not be copied to existing users' home directories
- o /etc/profile File
 - Provides system-wide environment variables that are used to apply certain settings to user accounts
 - pulls specification for the system-wide environmental variables and then goes to the variables found in the user accounts found in:

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- ~/.bash_profile
- ~/.bash_login
- ~/.profile
- o /etc/profile.d Directory
 - Serves as a storage location for scripts that admins may use to set additional system-wide variables
 - Set the environment variables via scripts contained in /etc/profile.d
- o /etc/bashrc
 - Provides system-wide configuration changes specific to Bash settings

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Permissions and Ownership

Objectives 2.5: Given a scenario, apply the appropriate access controls.

• File and Directory Permissions

- o Permission
 - Access rights assigned to users that enable them to access or modify files and directories
- o ls -l command
 - gives a list of files and directories in the current working directory
 - Output is in 7 columns
 - Column 1 identifies the item
 - Column 2 displays the number of links
 - Column 3 displays the owner of the file or directory
 - Column 4 displays the group with granted access
 - Column 5 displays lists the size file or directory
 - Column 6 displays the date and time file was created/modified
 - Column 7 displays the name of the file
 - Directory signifiers
 - Directory

0.

Parent Directory

0.

- Permissions define what users are allowed to do in a particular file or directory
- Permissions for Files

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- read (r)
 - can access and view the file
- write (w)
 - can save changes
- execute (x)
 - can run the script/program/software
- o Permissions for Directories
 - read (r)
 - can list the directory content
 - write (w)
 - can create, rename, delete directories
 - execute (x)
 - can access directory, execute file, perform task on directories
- o Contexts
 - users and entities that permissions are given to
 - Types of contexts
 - owner (u)
 - o User
 - group (g)
 - o File/directory's group
 - other (o)
 - o All other users
- o The output of the ls -l command shows the permission string
 - Has 11 characters
 - 1st Character
 - o Shows one of the following:

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- d for directory
- for file
- 2nd 3rd 4th Characters
 - o Owner permissions
- 5th 6th 7th Characters
 - o Group permissions
- 8th 9th 10th Characters
 - o Other permissions
- 11th Character will have one of the following
 - o . for SELinux security context
 - o + for alternative access methods
- o chmod command
 - Enables the owner to modify the permissions of a file or directory
 - Syntax
 - chmod [options] {mode} {file/directory name}
 - Options
 - -c
- o Report changes
- -f
- o Hide error messages
- -v
- o Diagnostic file entry
- -R
- o Recursively modify permissions
- o Chmod modes
 - Symbolic Mode

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- Enables to set permissions using three components
- Permission Contexts
 - o u/g/o/a
 - user/group/other/applies permissions to all three contexts
- Permission Operators
 - 0 +/-/=
 - **-** +
- Grants permission
- .
- Denies permission
- =
- Assigns permission
- Permission Attributes
 - o r/w/x
 - read/write/execute
- Syntax for Symbolic mode
 - chmod {access context} {operators}{permission attributes} {file/directory names}
- o Absolute Mode
 - Uses octal (base-8) numbers to specify permissions
 - 4
- o Read
- 2
- o Write

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- 1
- o Execute
- The complete permission is a three-digit number that corresponds to the owner, the group, and others
- Syntax for Absolute Mode
 - chmod {number} {file/directory names}
- Example
 - 752
 - o 7= User position
 - Read, Write, and Execute permissions
 - o 5= Group
 - Read and Execute permissions
 - o 2 = Others
 - Write permission
 - 541
 - o 5= Read and Execute permission
 - o 4= Read permission
 - o 1= Execute permission
- o umask command
 - Used to set the default permissions for newly created files and folders
 - options
 - -S
- o Current mask as symbolic value
- -p
- o Current mask in numeric format
- Syntax

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- umask [mask]
- differences between umask and chmod
 - umask
 - Change default permission for newly created files and folders
 - chmod
 - Set permissions on files and folders that already exist

• File and Directory Ownership

- o Ownership
 - Refers to a property by which a user can apply and modify the permissions of a file or directory
- o Only the superuser (root user) can change the permissions of an object owned by others
- o chown command
 - Used to change the owner and/or the group of a file or directory
 - Syntax
 - Change the owner, but not the group for file or directory
 - o chown {username} {file/directory name}
 - Change the owner and the group for file or directory
 - o chown {username}:{group name}
 {file/directory name}
 - Change the owner and then assign the group to the new owner's login group
 - o chown {username}: {file/directory name}
 - Change the group, but not the owner

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- o chown :{group name} {file/directory
 name}
- Option
 - −R
- o recursively change ownership throughout a directory structure
- o chgrp command
 - Used to change the group ownership of a file or directory
 - Syntax
 - chgrp {group name} {file/directory name}

Special Permissions and Attributes

- o Special Permissions
 - The less privileged users are allowed to execute a file by assuming the privileges of the file's owner or group
 - Main Special Permissions
 - Set user ID (SUID)
 - o User is allowed to have similar permissions as the owner of the file
 - Set group ID (SGID)
 - o User is allowed to have similar permissions as the group owner of the files and directories
 - Users in a shared environment don't need to change their group
- o To give special permission, use the chmod command in either symbolic mode or absolute mode
- o Determining SUID/SGID

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- ls -la
- o Configuring SUID
 - SUID (Symbolic Mode)
 - chmod u+s {file names}
 - SUID (Absolute Mode)
 - chmod 4### {file names}
- o Configuring SGID
 - SGID (Symbolic Mode)
 - chmod g+s {directory names}
 - SGID (Absolute Mode)
 - chmod 2### {directory names}
- o To remove the SUID or SGID, use the minus (-) operator in symbolic mode, or set to 0 in absolute mode
- o Sticky bit
 - Special permission bit that protects files in a directory so only the owner or root user can delete the file
 - Setting the sticky bit
 - Symbolic Mode
 - o chmod +t {directory names}
 - Absolute Mode
 - o chmod 1### {directory names}
 - Files can have one or more attributes set that define how the system interacts with files
- o Immutable Flag
 - Attribute of a file or directory that prevents from being modified

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- Immutable flag is useful for files that are highly sensitive and important
- o lsattr command (List Attribute)
 - Used to list the attributes of a file or directory
 - Syntax
 - lsattr [options] {file or directory names}
 - Options
 - -R
- o Recursively lists attributes of directories and content
- -a
- o Lists all files
- -d
- o Lists directories
- -v
- o Version number of the file
- o chattr command (Change Attribute)
 - Used to change the attributes of a file or directory
 - Syntax
 - chattr [-R] [-v {version}] [+-{attributes}] {file or directory names}
 - Options
 - -R
- o Recursively change attributes of directories and content
- -v
- o Version number of the file
- +I

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- o Read only and immutable
- -I
- o Removes read-only
- o Access control list (ACL)
 - ACLs enable a more granular level of control than simply using file permissions
 - getfacl command (get file ACL)
 - Useful when retrieving the ACLs of files and directories
 - setfacl command (set file ACL)
 - Used to change the permissions associated with the ACL of a file or directory
 - Syntax
 - setfacl [-bR] [-mx {acl_spec}]{file/directory names}
 - Common commands
 - o -r
- Recursively set ACL options
- o -s
- Set ACL
- o -m
- Modify existing ACL
- o -x
- Removes entries from existing ACL
- o -b
- Removes all entries except standard permissions
- ACL (Users)

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- Syntax
 - o u:{user name}:{permissions}
- ACL (Groups)
 - Syntax
 - o g:{group name}: {permissions}

Troubleshooting Permissions Issues

- o Troubleshooting
 - Begins with the identification of a problem and ends with service restored
 - Troubleshooting goal is to solve a problem efficiently with a minimal interruption of service
 - Process
 - Identify the problem
 - Establish theory of probable cause
 - Test the theory to determine the cause
 - Establish action plan
 - Implement the solution
 - Verify full system functionality
 - Document findings, actions, and outcomes
- o Use ls -al command to verify the user and group ownership of a file or directory
- o group command
 - Displays the groups that a user belongs to
 - syntax
 - groups {user name}

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- usermod command
 - changes group membership
- o Some distributions have a command that allows the display of all members of a group
 - lid command
 - libuser-lid command
- o getent command
 - Enables to retrieve group members of non-standard authentication methods
- o When troubleshooting permissions
 - Follow overall Troubleshoot strategy
 - Verify permissions and ownership
 - Verify special permissions are set properly
 - Ensures proper owner and owning group set

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Storage

Objectives:

- 1.1: Summarize Linux fundamentals.
- 1.2: Given a scenario, manage files and directories.
- 1.3: Given a scenario, configure and manage storage using the appropriate tools.
- 4.1: Given a scenario, analyze and troubleshoot storage issues.

Partitions

- o Linux supports a variety of storage devices including
 - Hard disk drives
 - Solid-state devices
 - USB thumb drives
 - External storage drives
- Linux refers to devices as either
 - Block Devices
 - Read/write in blocks of data
 - examples: hard drives, solid-state devices
 - Character Devices
 - Read/write in character streams of data
 - examples: keyboards, mice, serial ports
- o File System
 - A data structure is used by an operating system to store, retrieve,
 organize, and manage files and directories on storage devices
 - Types of file systems supported by Linux
 - File Allocation Table (FAT)

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- o An older file system compatible with different operating systems
- ext2
 - o Used to be the native Linux file system of some older releases
- ext3
 - o Much faster in recovering data and better ensures data integrity in abrupt system shutdowns
- ext4
 - o Supports volumes up to one exabyte and files up to 16 terabytes in size
- XFS
 - o A 64-bit, high-performance journaling file system that provides fast recovery and can handle large files efficiently
- BTRFS
 - o Supports volumes of up to 16 exabytes in size and up to 18 quintillion files on each volume
- File systems that function as network protocols as well
 - enables the sharing of data over a network
 - Include
 - o Server Message Block (SMB)
 - o Common Internet File System (CIFS)
 - o Network File System (NFS)
 - Windows supports SMB by default and doesn't offer NFS support by default

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- o Index Node (Inode)
 - Stores metadata about a file or directory on a file system
 - Journaling process includes
 - Changes to be made
 - Background processes
 - Pending changes after reboot
 - Incomplete entries
- o Virtual File System
 - A software interface that sits between the kernel and the real file system
 - it translates details between the file system and the kernel
 - it allows for multiple file systems to be on a drive
 - File system labels are used for easy identification of file systems
 - may be up to 16 characters long
 - Types of labels
 - o e2label
 - ext-based file systems
 - o xfs admin
 - XFS-based file systems
- o Partition
 - A section of the storage drive that logically acts as a separate drive
 - Partition Types
 - Primary
 - Contains one file system or logical drive and is sometimes referred to as a volume

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- o Swap file system and Boot partition are created in the primary partition
- Extended
 - o Contains several file systems, which are referred to as logical drives
- Logical
 - o Partitioned and allocated as an independent unit and functions as a separate drive
- o fdisk utility
 - Used to create, modify, or delete partitions on a storage drive
 - Options
 - -b {sector size}
 - o Specify number of drive sectors
 - -H {heads}
 - o Specify number of drive heads
 - -S {sectors}
 - o Specify number of sectors per track
 - -s {partition}
 - o Print partition size in blocks
 - -l
- o List partition tables for devices
- Options in the in the fdisk menu
 - n
- o Create new partition
- d
- o Remove partition

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- p
- o List existing partitions
- W
- o Write drive changes and exit utility
- q
- o Cancel changes made and exit utility
- o parted utility
 - Used to create, destroy, and resize partitions and runs the GNU Parted utility
 - Menu options
 - select
 - o Choose device or partition to modify
 - mkpart
 - o Create partition with file system type specified
 - print
 - o List partition table
 - resizepart
 - o Resize or modify a partition's end position
 - rm
- o Delete a partition
- quit
 - o Quit GNU Parted utility
- o partprobe command
 - Used to update the kernel with changes that now exist within the partition table
- o mkfs command

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- Used to build a Linux file system on a device, which is usually a drive partition
- Options
 - -v
- Produce verbose output that keeps changing as the program processes
- -V
- o Produce verbose output, including all file system-specific commands executed
- -t {fs type}
 - o Specify type of file system to build
- fs -options
 - o Pass file system-specific options to the file system builder
- -C
- Check the device for bad blocks before building the file system
- -l {filename}
 - o Read the list of bad blocks from a specified file
- Syntax possibilities
 - mkfs [options] {device name}
 - mkfs {file system type} [options} {device name}
- o fstab File
 - Stores information about storage devices and partitions and where and how they should be mounted

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- Fields in each line
 - Device/Partition Name
 - o Name of the device or file system to mount
 - Default Mount Point
 - o Where the file system is to be mounted
 - File System Type
 - o Type of file system used by the device or partition
 - Mount Options
 - o Set of comma-separated options that will be activated when the file system is mounted
 - Dump Options
 - o Indicates if the dump utility should back up the file system
 - fsck Options
 - o Order in which the fsck utility should check file systems
- o /etc/crypttab File
 - Stores information about encrypted devices and partitions that must be unlocked and mounted on system boot
- o To set up a storage devices requires you to
 - Partition storage device
 - Format partition with a file system
 - Add formatted partition to fstab file
- o /dev Directory
 - A special file that contains details about all the files and subdirectories housed within it
 - Naming convention

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- Example:
 - o /dev/sda1
 - sd= type of controller
 - a=first whole drive
 - 1=first partition
- Persistent naming schemes to help identify devices
 - Naming scheme based on the device's hardware serial number
 - o /dev/disk/by-id
 - Naming scheme based on the shortest physical path to the device
 - o /dev/disk/by-path
 - Naming scheme based on the device's Universally unique identifier (UUID)
 - o /dev/disk/by-uuid
- o Special Character devices
 - /dev/null
 - A special type of virtual device that discards anything you send or redirect into it
 - It will disappear forever
 - /dev/zero
 - A special type of virtual device that returns a null character anytime you read from it
 - dev/zero will send back the ASCII null character of 0x00
 - Useful for sanitizing a drive
 - /dev/urandom

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 A special type of virtual device that returns a randomized series of pseudorandom numbers

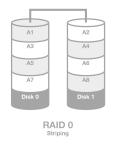
• Logical Volumes

- o Device Mapper
 - Creates virtual device and passes data from that virtual device to one or more physical devices
- o DM-Multipath
 - Provides redundancy and improved performance for block storage devices
 - The configuration file for the multipath-tools package is found at /etc/multipath.conf
- o mdadm tool
 - A tool used to create and manage software-based RAID arrays
- o RAID
 - Redundant Array of Independent or Inexpensive Disks
 - Key Terms
 - Striping
 - o Combines multiple smaller physical disks to logically act as a single larger disk
 - Mirroring
 - o Combines two physical hard drives into a single logical volume where an identical copy of everything is put on both drives
 - Parity



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- Used in RAID drive arrays for fault tolerance by calculating the data in two drives and storing the results on a different drive
- Types
 - RAID 0
 - o great for speed but provides no data redundancy

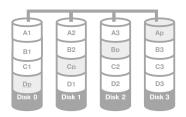


- RAID 1
 - o full redundancy, but no increase in speed and loss of space



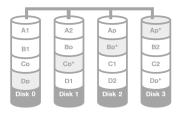
- RAID 5
 - o parity, full redundancy, less loss of space

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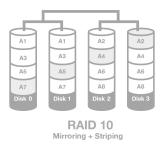
RAID 5 Striping with Parity

- RAID 6
 - o double parity, full redundancy



RAID 6 Striping with Dual Parity

- RAID 10
 - o striping and mirroring, full redundancy and speed



- o /proc/mdstat File
 - Contains a snapshot of the kernel's RAID/md state
 - to view state of the RAID
 - cat /proc/mdstat
 - Sample results:

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Personalities : [raid6] [raid5] [raid4]
md0 : active raid5 sda1[0] sdd1[2] sdb1[1]
 1465151808 blocks level 5, 64k chunk,
 algorithm 2 [4/3] [UUU_]
unused devices : <none>

unused devices : chone.

- o Logical Volume Manager (LVM)
 - Maps whole physical devices and partitions into one or more virtual containers called volume groups
 - Allows you to:
 - Dynamically create, delete, and resize volumes
 - Map logical volumes across physical devices
 - Create virtual snapshots of each logical volume
 - /dev/mapper/ Directory
 - contains all of the logical volumes on a system
 - Address:
 - 0 /dev/mapper/<volume group name >-<logical volume name>
- o Physical volume tools
 - pvscan
 - Scans for all physical devices being used as physical volumes
 - pvcreate
 - Initializes a drive or partition to use as a physical volume
 - pvdisplay
 - Lists attributes of physical volumes
 - pvchange
 - Changes attributes of a physical volume

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- pvs
- Displays information about physical volumes
- pvck
 - Checks the metadata of physical volumes
- pvremove
 - Removes physical volumes
- o Volume Group Tools
 - vgscan
 - Scans all physical devices for volume groups
 - vgcreate
 - Creates volume groups
 - vgdisplay
 - Lists attribute of volume groups
 - vgchange
 - Changes attributes of volume groups
 - vgs
 - Displays information about volume groups
 - vgck
 - Checks the metadata of volume groups
 - vgrename
 - Renames a volume group
 - vgreduce
 - Removes physical volumes from a group to reduce its size
 - vgextend
 - Adds physical volumes to volume groups
 - vgmerge

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- Merges two volume groups
- vgsplit
 - Splits a volume group into two
- vgremove
 - Removes volume groups
- o Logical Volume Tools
 - lvscan
 - Scans all physical devices for logical volumes
 - lvcreate
 - Creates logical volumes in a volume group
 - lvdisplay
 - Lists attributes of logical volumes
 - lvchange
 - Changes attributes of the volumes
 - lvs
- Displays information about logical volumes
- lvrename
 - Renames logical volumes
- lvreduce
 - Reduces the size of logical volumes
- lvextend
 - Extends the size of logical volumes
- lvresize
 - Resizes logical volumes
- lvremove
 - Removes logical volumes

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Study Notes

• Mounting File Systems

- o Mount Point
 - An access point that is typically an empty directory where a file system is loaded or mounted to make it accessible to users
- o mount command
 - Loads a file system to a specified directory to make it accessible to users and applications
 - Syntax
 - mount [options] {device name} {mount point}
 - Options
 - auto
 - o Device must be mounted automatically
 - noauto
 - o Device should not be mounted automatically
 - nouser
 - o Only the root user can mount a device or a file system
 - user
 - o All users can mount a device or a file system
 - exec
 - o Allow binaries in a file system to be executed
 - noexec
 - o Prevent binaries in a file system from being executed
 - ro
- Mount file system as read only
- rw

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- o Mount file system with read/write permissions
- sync
 - o Input and output operations should be done synchronously
- async
 - o Input and output operations should be done asynchronously
- o Binary
 - A source code that is compiled into an executable program
- o umount command
 - Disassociates a mounted file system from the directory
 - Syntax
 - umount [options] {mount point}
 - Options
 - -f
- o Force unmount a file system
- -l
- o Perform a "lazy" unmount
- -R
- o Recursively unmount specified directory mount points
- -t {fs type}
 - o Unmount only the file system types specified
- -()
- Unmount only the file systems with specified options in the /etc/fstab file
- -fake

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- o Test the unmounting procedure
- o *fstab command* (File System Table)
 - Lists file systems to be mounted, their mount points, and any options that might be needed for specific file systems
- o systemd.mount
 - can be used to create a new mount unit to mount the file system
- o FUSE (Filesystem in USErspace)
 - Lets non-privileged users create own file systems without editing the underlying kernel code

Managing File Systems

- o /etc/mtab File
 - Reports the status of currently mounted file systems
 - /proc/mounts
 - more accurate and includes more up-to-date information on file systems
- o /proc/partitions File
 - Contains information about each partition attached to the system
 - Formatted in columns
 - major
 - Class of device
 - minor
 - o separates partition into physical devices
 - #blocks
 - o number of physical blocks the partition takes up
 - name

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Study Notes

o name of the partition

- o lsblk command
 - Displays information about block storage devices currently available on the system
 - Syntax
 - lsblk [options] [device name]
 - Options
 - -a
- o List empty devices
- -r
- o List devices excluding provided output devices
- -f
- o Display additional information
- -l
- o Display results in list format
- -m
- o Display device permission information
- o blkid command
 - Prints each block device in a flat format and includes some additional information
 - Syntax
 - blkid [options] [device name]
- o Some tools are designed to only work with specific file system types
 - Tools that work with any generation of the ext file system type
 - e2fsck
 - resize2fs

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- tune2fs
- dumpe2fs
- o fsck command
 - Used to check the correctness and validity of a file system
 - Syntax
 - fsck [options] {device/file system name}
 - Syntax to repair the file system
 - fsck -r {device/file system name}
- o resize2fs command
 - Used to resize ext2, ext3, or ext4 file systems
 - Syntax
 - resize2fs [options] {device/file systemname} [desired size]
- o tune2fs command
 - Used to adjust various tunable parameters of the ext2/ext3 file systems
 - tune2fs can also add a journal to an existing ext2 or ext3 file system
 - Syntax
 - tune2fs [options] {device/file system name}
 - Options
 - -j
- o Used as an ext3 journal to the existing file system
- -i {d|m|w}
 - o Specify the maximum time interval
- -c {maximum mounts count}
 - o Specify the maximum number of mounts

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- -C {mount count}
 - o Specify the number of possible mounts
- -r {reserved blocks count}
 - o Specify the number of reserved file system blocks
- -e {continue|remountro|panic}
 - o Specify the behavior of the kernel code
- -l
- o List the contents within the superblock
- -U
- o Set the specified UUID
- o Superblock
 - Contains metadata about the file system, including its size, type, and status
- o dumpe2fs command
 - Prints the superblock and block group information for the selected device
 - Syntax
 - dumpe2fs [options] {device/file system name}
 - Options
 - -X
- o Print a detailed report about block numbers
- -b
- o Print the bad blocks
- -f
- o Force display the file system status
- -i

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- o Display file system data from an image file created using the e2image command
- xfs info
 - o Display details about the XFS file system
- xfs_admin
 - o Change the parameters of an XFS file system
- xfs_metadump
 - o Copy the superblock metadata of the XFS file system to a file
- xfs_growfs
 - o Expand the XFS file system to fill the drive size
- xfs_copy
 - o Copy the contents of the XFS file system to another location
- xfs_repair
 - o Repair and recover a corrupt XFS file system
- xfs_db
 - Debug the XFS file system
- o lsscsi command
 - Used to list information about SCSI devices connected to a Linux system
- o fcstat command
 - Interacts with and displays statistics of Fibre Channel connected devices
- Linux Directory Structure

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- o Types of Files
 - Directories
 - Containers for other files
 - Special Files
 - System files stored in the /dev directory
 - Links
 - Make a file accessible in multiple parts of the system's file tree
 - Domain Sockets
 - Provide inter-process networking that is protected by the file system's access control
 - Named Pipes
 - Enable processes to communicate with each other without using network sockets
- o Filesystem Hierarchy Standard (FHS)
 - Specifies a set of guidelines for the names of files and directories and their locations on Linux systems
 - Standardized Subdirectories
 - /bin
 - o Stores essential command-line utilities and binaries
 - /boot
 - o Stores the files necessary to boot the Linux operating system
 - /dev
 - Stores hardware and software device drivers
 - /etc
 - o Stores basic configuration files

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- /home
 - o Stores users' home directories, including personal files
- /lib
 - Stores shared program libraries required by the kernel,
 command-line utilities, and binaries
- /media
 - Stores mount points for removable media such as CD-ROMs
 and floppy disks
- /mnt
 - o Refers to the mount point for temporary mounting file systems
- /opt
 - o Stores optional files for large software packages
- /proc
 - o Represents continually updated kernel information to the user in a typical file format
- /root
 - o Refers to the home directory of the root user
- /sbin
 - o Stores binaries used for completing the booting process which are also used by the root user
- /sys
 - o Stores information about devices
- /tmp

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- o Stores temporary files that may be lost on system shutdown
- /usr
 - o A read-only directory that stores small programs and files accessible to all users
- /var
 - o Stores variable files, or files that are expected to constantly change as the system runs
- o Current Working Directory (CWD)
 - The location on the system being accessed at any point in time
 - CWD is represented as a single period (.)
- o Parent Directory
 - One level above the current working directory
 - Use the double period notation (..) to switch to the parent directory
- o Path
 - Specifies a location in the file system
 - Path types
 - Absolute Path
 - o The path to the specific location irrespective of the CWD or combined paths
 - Relative Path
 - o The path relative to the current working directory
- o File Navigation Commands
 - cd command
 - Traverse the directory structure using absolute or relative paths to change the current working directory



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- ls command
 - List the files and directories in the current working directory or the relative/absolute path specified
- pwd command
 - Prints the current working directory to the console

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Study Notes

Files and Directories

Objectives:

- 1.2: Given a scenario, manage files and directories.
- 3.1: Given a scenario, create simple shell scripts to automate common tasks.
- 4.1: Given a scenario, analyze and troubleshoot storage issues.

Create and Edit Text Files

- o Text Editor
 - Application that enables users to view, create, or modify the contents of text files
 - Some text editors do not support formatting options that word processors do
 - Text editors
 - vi
- o Visual text editor originally created for Unix and was later cloned into FOSS versions
- Vim
 - o Default text editor in most Linux distributions
- Emacs
 - o Flexible, powerful, and popular text editor used in Unix and Linux
- gVim
 - o Graphical version of the Vim editor
- gedit
 - o Simple and powerful GUI-based text editor used in the GNOME desktop environment

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- GNU nano
 - o Small and user-friendly text editor
- o Vim, a contraction of Vi and improved, and an extended version of the vi editor
 - Features
 - Text completion
 - Syntax highlighting
 - Spell checking
 - Vim supports multiple files being opened simultaneously
 - Vim screen commands
 - Vertical Split Screen
 - o ctrl+w+v
 - Horizontal Split Screen
 - o ctrl+w+s
 - Modes
 - Insert Mode
 - o Enables users to insert text by typing into the system
 - Execute Mode
 - o Enables users to execute commands within the editor
 - Command Mode
 - o Enables users to perform different editing actions using single keystrokes
 - Visual Mode
 - o Enables users to highlight or select text for copying and deleting

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- Vim commands
 - •
- o Insert text to the left of the cursor
- A
- o Insert mode and add text at the end of a line
- I
- o Insert mode and insert text at the beginning of a line
- 0
- o Insert mode and insert text on a new line below the cursor
- 0
- o Insert mode and insert text on a new line above the cursor
- v
- o Visual mode to enable selection, one character at a time
- V
- o Visual mode to enable selection, one line at a time
- :
- o Execute mode to enable users to enter commands
- Esc
 - o Return to command mode
- o Vim commands with the colon operator
 - When you enter the colon (:) operator, a small command prompt section appears at the bottom-left of the editor
 - :w {file name}
 - Save file with a file name if it's saved for the first time

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- :q
- Quit when no changes are made after the last save
- :q!
- Quit while ignoring the changes made
- :qa
 - Quit multiple files/ quit all
- :wq
- Write the file first and quit
- :e!
- Revert to last saved format without closing the file
- :! {any Linux command}
 - Execute the command and display the result in the Vim interface
- :help
 - Open Vim's built-in help documentation
- o Vim Motions
 - Motions
 - are single-key shortcuts that are used to navigate through files in command mode
 - Useful motions
 - h
- o Move left one character
- j
- o Move down one line
- k
- o Move up one line

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- l
- o Move right one character
- ^
- o Move to the beginning of the current line
- \$
- o Move to the end of the current line
- W
- o Move to the next word
- b
- o Move to the previous word
- e
- Move to the end of the current word
- Shift+L
 - o Move the cursor to the bottom of the screen
- Shift+H
 - o Move the cursor to the first line of the screen
- (Line no.) Shift+G
 - o Move cursor to specified line no.
- gg
- o Move the cursor to the first line of the file
- Shift+G
 - o Move the cursor to the last line of the file
- Vim commands to edit more than one character at a time
 - X
- o Delete the character selected by the cursor
- d

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- o Delete text
- dd
- o Delete the current line
- p
- o Paste text on the line below the cursor
- P
- o Paste text on the line above the cursor
- / {text string}
 - o Search through the document for specific text
- ? {text string}
 - o Search backward through document for specific text
- y
- o Copy text
- yy
- o Copy the line directory above the cursor
- c{range of lines}c
 - o Begins a change in the specific range
- u
- o Undo the latest change
- U
- o Undo all changes in the current line
- ZZ
- o Write a file only if changes are made, then quit editor
- Counts in Vim
 - Count
 - o Number that multiplies the effect of keystrokes in Vim

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- When Count is used with a Motion
 - o Multiplied according to count specified
- When Count is used with an Editing operator
 - o Repeated the number of times specified
- Drawbacks to Vim
- o GNU nano
 - Features
 - Visually helpful
 - Does not have different modes
 - Support multiple open files
 - nano command
 - opens a file for editing
 - o if the file doesn't exist, nano will create the file using the name specified
 - Syntax
 - o nano {file name}
 - shortcuts
 - the functions used to work with text files and the editor
 - Useful shortcuts
 - o Ctrl+G
 - Open nano to the help screen
 - o Ctrl+X
 - Exit nano or close the current "buffer"
 - o Ctrl+O
 - Save currently open file
 - o Ctrl+J

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- Justify the current paragraph
- o Ctrl+R
 - Insert another file into the current file
- o Ctrl+W
 - Search the file
- o Ctrl+K
 - Cut the currently selected line
- o Ctrl+U
 - Paste the line that was cut
- o Ctrl+C
 - Display the cursor's position
- o Ctrl+V
 - Navigate to the next page
- o Ctrl+Y
 - Navigate to the previous page
- Copying
 - "Mark" to copy the part of text on a line using the Ctrl+^ shortcut
 - Once a section is marked, use
 - o Alt+^
 - Copy the marked/highlighted text
 - o Ctrl+U
 - Paste text to another location
- o Gedit text editor
 - has a GUI with a menu-based design that makes it easy to work with
 - Syntax highlighting

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Study Notes

- Spell checking
- Customized plugins

Search for Files

- o locate command
 - Performs a quick search for any specified file names and paths stored in the mlocate database
 - This database must be updated regularly for the search to be effective
 - Syntax
 - locate [options] {string}
 - Options
 - -r
- o Search file names using regular expressions
- −C
- o Display the number of matching entries found
- -e
- o Return only files that exist at the time of search
- -I
- o Ignore the casing in file names or paths
- --n{number of entries}
 - o Return the first few matches up to the specified number
- o updated command
 - Used to build a database of files based on the /etc/updatedb.conf file
 - Updatedb used to update the /var/lib/mlocate/mlocate.db database
 file
 - open /etc/updatedb.conf File

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- Look for the PRUNEPATH variable
 - o Used to specify a path that need not be included while building the database
- Specify which paths should not be included
 - o example:
 - PRUNEPATH="/etc"
 - will not include the /etc files
- o find command
 - Enables users to search specific location for files and directories that adhere some search criteria
 - Options
 - -type
 - o Specifies the type of object you are looking for
 - d
- Directory
- f
- File
- -name
 - o Specifies the name of the object you are looking for
- Difference between locate and find commands
 - Locate command searches the database and retrieves information on files present on the system
 - Find command performs a live search of the file system and in a specific location
- Additional find command options
 - -print

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- o Displays the location of the files found
- -exec
 - o Executes the command that follows
- -ok
- o Executes the command that follows interactively
- -delete
 - o Deletes the files found
- -fprint
 - o Stores the results in the target file
- o which command
 - Displays the complete path of a specified command by searching the directories assigned to the PATH variable
 - Syntax
 - which [options] {program names}
- o whereis command
 - Used to display various details associated with a command
 - Syntax
 - whereis [options] [directory name] {file name}
 - Options
 - -b
- o Search only for binaries
- -m
- o Search only for manual sections
- -S
- o Search only for sources

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Study Notes

- u
- o Search for unusual entries

• Operations on Files and Directories

- o cat command
 - Can display, combine, and create text files
 - Cat command does not have a screen scrolling capability
 - Options
 - -n
- o Precede the output with its respective line number
- -b
- o Number the lines, excluding the blank lines
- -S
- o Suppress output of repeated empty lines
- -v
- o Display non-printing characters as visible characters
- -e
- o Print a \$ character at the end of each line, prior to the new line
- -t
- o Print tabs as ^I and form feed as ^L
- Syntax
 - cat [options] {file names}
- o Head and Tails Commands
 - head command
 - Displays the first 10 lines of each file

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- tail command
 - Displays the last 10 lines of each file
- Syntax
 - head [options] {file names}
 - tail [options] {file names}
- Option for tail
 - -f
- o Dynamically watches a file
- Options for both head and tail
 - -n {number}
 - o Shows specified number of lines
- o less and more Commands
 - Enable users to display the contents of a file and a page through the contents if extended beyond the screen
 - Less is used by most people, although they are similar
 - Syntax
 - less [options] {file names}
 - more [options] {file names}
 - less command Options
 - -e
- o Exit the program the second time it reaches the end of the file
- -E
- o Exit the program the first time it reaches the end of the file
- -I

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- o Ignore the case in searches
- -n
- o Suppress line numbers
- less command Navigation
 - /
- o Search a file for a particular text string
- n or N
 - Move to the next or previous instance of the searched string
- q
- o Quit the program
- o cp command
 - Enables users to copy and then paste a file or directory
 - Options
 - -R
- o Copy specified directory recursively
- Syntax
 - cp [options] {file/directory name you want to copy} {file/directory name for the destination}
- o mv command
 - Moves files and directories to other locations
 - mv is more like a cut and paste operation
 - can be used to rename files and directories
 - Syntax

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- mv [options] {file/directory name to be
 moved} {file/directory name of destination}
- o touch command
 - Tests the permissions or creates files that will be processed by some applications
- o rm command
 - Removes files and directories
 - Option
 - -R
- Recursively remove files, subdirectories, and the parent directory
- o Example:
 - rm -R ~/myfiles
 - Remove files and directories

- Syntax
 - rm [options] {file/directory names}
- o unlink command
 - Used to remove files but not directories
- o ls command
 - Options
 - -l
- o Display permission list, number of hard links, owner, group, size, date, and file name
- -F
- o Display the nature of a file
- -a

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- o Display all files present in the directory
- -R
- o Recursively display all subdirectories
- -d
- o Display information about symbolic links or directories
- -L
- o Display all files in a directory, including symbolic links
- Syntax
 - ls [options] {file/directory names}
- Normal Text Default Colors for ls command results
 - Blue (Directory)
 - Skyblue (Symbolic link and audio file)
 - Green (Executable file)
 - Yellow with Black (Device)
 - Pink (Image file)
 - Red (Archive file)
 - Red with Black (Distinguishes broken link)
- o mkdir command
 - Used to create (or make) a directory
- o rmdir command
 - Removes empty directories
 - Option
 - rm -R
 - Delete directory with contents
- Process Text Files

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- Built-in Linux feature that prints out arguments as the standard output
- Syntax
 - echo {string}
- o printf command
 - Provides the user with more control over how the output is formatted
 - Formatting character
 - \
- o Indicate when character are being used
- o tr command
 - Perform operations like removing repeated characters, converting uppercase to lowercase, and basic character replacement and removal
 - Syntax
 - tr {character 1} {character 2}
- o wc command
 - Allows users to count the number of lines, words, characters, and bytes in file and print the result
 - Options
 - -c
- o Display byte count
- -m
- o Display character count
- -l
- o Display the newline count
- -w

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- o Display the word count
- o sort command
 - Command line utility for sorting lines of text files
 - Options
 - -k {column numbers}
 - o Specify filed values
 - -k2
 - o Indicates second field
 - -n
- o Compares and sorts lines based on the string numerical value
- -r
- o Sort fields in descending order
- -t
- o Separate one field from another
- o cut command
 - Extracts the specified lines of text from a file
 - Options
 - -c
- o Specify the number of the character to cut from each line
- -d {delimiter}
 - o Separate one field from another
- -f {field numbers}
 - o Specify the field numbers to cut on as separated by the delimiter

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- -f2
- o Field between the first and second instances of the delimiter
- -s
- o Suppress a line if the delimiter is not found
- o paste command
 - Used to merge lines from text files horizontally
 - Paste command uses a tab space delimiter to separate each column
 - Option
 - -d
- o Specify different delimiter
- o diff command
 - Used to compare text files
 - Symbols to use with diff command
 - <
- o Line should be removed from the first file
- >
- Line should be added from the second file
- Denotes the line numbers for each file that would be affected by deletion, addition, and change operations
- Syntax
 - diff {file name 1} {file name 2}
- Options
 - -b
- o Ignore spacing differences
- -i

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- o Ignore case differences
- -t
- o Expand tab characters in output lines
- -w
- o Ignore spacing differences and tabs
- -c
- o Display a list of differences with three lines of context
- -u
- o Output results in unified mode
- o grep command
 - Used to search the contents of a file for a particular string of text
 - Syntax
 - grep [options] {search pattern} {file names}
 - Options
 - -E {pattern}
 - o Match a pattern as an extended regular expression
 - -F {pattern}
 - o Match a pattern as a list of fixed strings
 - -f {file name}
 - o Match patterns contained in a specified file
 - -i
- o Ignore casing
- -v
- o Output only lines that don't match the provided pattern
- −C
- o Print only the number of matching lines

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Study Notes

- -]
- o Print only the files that have matching lines
- -0
- o Print only the matching part of a line
- Use grep to search a directory to locate a certain file

o awk command

- Performs pattern matching on files
- Awk keyword is followed by the pattern, the action to be performed,
 and the file name
- Ways awk can process texts
 - Extracting text matching a certain pattern
 - Deleting text matching a certain pattern
 - Adding text matching a certain pattern
- Awk scripts user can provide patterns with blocks of code
- Syntax
 - awk [options] ['patterns {actions}'] {file names}
- Patterns that can be used in awk scripts
 - /regular_expression/
 - o Retrieves all the records beginning with "a", "b", or "c"
 - relational_expression
 - o Retrieves all the records containing the value "abc" in the first field
 - pattern_1 && pattern_2
 - o Retrieves all the records that contain the value "abc" in the first field and the second field contains the value "01"

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- pattern_1 || pattern_2
 - o Retrieves records that satisfy the condition that the first field contains or the second field contains or both
- pattern 1? pattern 2: pattern 3
 - o Evaluate and match pattern 1 to pattern 2 and pattern 3, then the record will print on the screen
- pattern_1, pattern_2
 - o Prints a range of records from the record in the first field and goes in the second field

o sed command

- stream editor
- can use to modify text files according to various parameters
- Options
 - d
- o (Delete the lines that match a specific pattern/line number)
- -n,p
 - o (Print only the lines that contain the pattern)
- S
- o (Substitute the first occurrence of the string in the file)
- s,g
- o (Globally substitute the original string with the replacement string for each occurrence)

o In command

- Used to create a link to a file
- Any changes to the link will reflect in the target file

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Study Notes

- Options
 - -backup
 - o Back up existing destination files
 - -f
- o Remove existing destination files
- -S
- o Make symbolic links
- -i
- o Prompt to remove destination files
- -v
- o Print the name of a file before linking
- Types of links
 - Hard Link
 - Reference to another file
 - o If the original file or directory is deleted after a hard link is created, the contents are still available
 - Symbolic Link
 - Reference to a file/directory that can span multiple file systems
 - If the original file or directory is deleted after a symbolic link is created, the contents are lost

• Manipulate File Output

- o Text Stream
 - Sequence of lines of text that can be leveraged to read or write to a particular device or system component
- o stdin command

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- Standard Input
- Acts as the source for command input
- o stdout command
 - Standard Output
 - Acts as the destination for command output
- o stderr command
 - Standard Error
 - Used as the destination for error messages
- o Direct the standard input, output, and error using
 - >
- Redirect the standard output to a file
- >>
- Append standard output to the end of the destination file
- **2**>
- Redirect the standard error message to a file
- 2>>
 - Append standard error message to the end of the destination file
- &>
- Used to redirect standard output and the standard error message to a file
- <
- Used to read the input from a file rather than from the keyboard or mouse
- <<

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- Used to provide input data from the current source and top
 when a line containing the provided string occurs
- Here Document
 - o Refers to a special block of code

.

- pipe
- Lets users use commands such that the output of one command serves as input to the next
- Pipes help users to mash-up two or more commands at the same time and run them consecutively

o xargs command

- Reads streams of data from standard input, then generates and executes command lines
- Syntax
 - command [options] [arguments] | xargs[options] {command}
 - example: find /foo -type f -name "*.pdf" |
 xargs rm
 - The find command searches all files in /foo that have a .pdf extension, then pipes the result to the xargs command
- Options
 - -l {replacement string}
 - o Consider each line as a single argument
 - -L {number of lines}

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- Read specified number of lines and cat in one long string
- -p
- o Prompt the user before each command
- -n {number of arguments}
 - o Read the maximum number of arguments and insert at the end of the command template
- -E {end of string}
 - o Represent the end of the standard input
- -t
- o Write command to standard error output before executing the command
- -s {max size}
 - o Set maximum allowable size of an argument list

o tee command

- Reads the standard input, sends the output to the default output device, and copies the output to each specified file
- Options
 - -a
- o Append output
- Syntax
 - command [options] [arguments] | [options]{file names}
 - Example: ls -l | tee listing.txt
- Whatever is written in /dev/null will be discarded and forgotten

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Study Notes

Kernel Modules

Objective 1.7: Given a scenario, manage software configurations.

• The Linux Kernel

- o Kernel Basics
 - Kernel
 - The core of an operating system
 - The kernel handles
 - o System initialization
 - o Process Scheduling
 - o Memory and hardware management
 - The kernel manages
 - o File system access
 - o Memory
 - o Processes
 - o Devices
 - o Resource allocation of a system
 - Two major divisions of the virtual memory to promote greater stability and security
 - Kernel Space
 - o Where the kernel executes services
 - User Space
 - o Area of memory outside the kernel space
 - Kernel Architecture Classification
 - Monolithic Kernel

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- o All system modules, such as device drivers or file systems, run in kernel space
- Microkernel Architecture
 - o Kernel runs the minimum amount of resources necessary to implement a fully functional operating system
 - o Has a small kernel space and much larger user spaces
- Device Driver
 - Enables operating systems to identify the characteristics and functions of a hardware device
- o Linux Kernel
 - Free and open-source monolithic kernel that manages all other resources on an operating system
 - Useful features
 - Virtual memory management
 - Support for TCP/IP networking
 - Shared libraries
 - Modularity
 - Version naming convention
 - For versions 2.6.39 and prior
 - 0 W.X.Y.Z
 - w major version
 - x major revision to the version
 - y minor revision
 - z patch number
 - For versions 3.0 and after

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- o Use x.xx rather than larger decimals to make things more readable
- uname
 - o Prints the name of the kernel
 - o Options
 - -r
- View kernel version number of the current system
- -i
- View the hardware platform
- -a
- Print all information

- o Kernel Layers
 - System Call Interface (SCI)
 - Handles system calls sent from user applications to the kernel
 - Process Management
 - Handles different processes by allocating separate execution space on the processor
 - Memory Management
 - Manages the computer's memory
 - File System Management
 - Manages the filesystem
 - Virtual File System (VFS)
 - Provides an abstract view of the underlying data that is organized under complex structures
 - Device Management

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 Manages devices by controlling device access and interfacing between user applications and hardware devices on the computer

• Kernel Modules

- o Linux kernel is loaded into memory by the boot loader
- o /usr/lib/modules/
 - Contains the modules of different kernel versions
 - Subdirectories
 - arch
 - o Contains modules for the architecture-specific support
 - crypto
 - Contains modules for encryption and other cryptographic functions
 - drivers
 - o Contains modules for various types of hardware
 - fs
- Contains modules for various types of file systems
- net
 - o Contains modules for networking components

o Commands

- Ismod command
 - Used to display the currently loaded kernel modules
- modinfo
 - Used to display information about a particular kernel module
 - Syntax

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- o modinfo [options] {module name}
- insmod
 - Used to install a module into the currently running kernel
 - Syntax
 - o insmod [module name]
- rmmod
 - Used to remove a module from the currently running kernel
 - Syntax
 - o rmmod [module name]
- modprobe
 - Used to add or remove modules from a kernel
 - Options
 - o -a
- Add a module
- o -r
- Unload a module
- o -f
- Force a module to be inserted or removed
- o -n
- Conduct a dry run
- 0 -S
- Print errors to the system log
- o -v
- Enable verbose mode
- Syntax
 - o modprobe [options] [module names]

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- depmod
 - Used to update database of dependencies
 - Depmod command searches the contents of /lib/modules/ for each module
 - Syntax
 - o depmod [options]
- Modprobe command can add or remove modules
 - Configuration files will be located in the /etc/modprobe.d
 Directory
- alias command
 - Syntax
 - o alias {alternative name} {module name}
- blacklist command
 - Syntax
 - o blacklist {module name}
- install command
 - Syntax
 - o install {module name} {command}
- o /proc/sys/
 - Lists the parameters to configure on a system
 - Subdirectories
 - crypto
 - o contains parameters related to encryption and other cryptographic services
 - debug
 - o contains parameters for debugging the kernel

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- dev
 - o contains parameters for hardware devices
- fs
- o contains parameters for file system data
- kernel
 - o includes parameters related to kernel functions
- net
- o includes parameters related to networking functions
- user
 - o includes parameters related to user space limitations
- vm
 - o includes parameters related to virtual memory management
- sysctl
 - Powerful Linux command which acts as an interface to dynamically change the kernel parameters
 - The parameters available for modification can be found under /proc/sys directory
 - Options
 - o -a
- Display all parameters and current values
- o -w {parameter}={value}
 - Set a parameter value
- o -p[file name]
 - Load sysctl settings from the specified file
- о -е

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- Ignore errors
- o -r {pattern}
 - Apply command to parameters matching a given pattern
- Syntax
 - o sysctl [options]
- /etc/sysctl.conf
 - o Enables configuration changes to a running Linux kernel

Monitoring Kernel Modules

- o /proc/
 - Virtual file system (VFS) that provides information about the kernel's running process
 - Key files
 - /proc/cmdline
 - o Contains options passed to the kernel by the boot loader
 - /proc/cpuinfo
 - o Contains CPU information
 - /proc/devices
 - o Contains a list of character and block device drivers loaded into the currently running kernel
 - /proc/filesystems
 - o Contains a list of file systems types that are supported by the kernel
 - /proc/meminfo
 - o Contains information about RAM usage

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- /proc/modules
 - Contains information about modules currently installed on the system
- /proc/stat
 - o Contains various statistics about the system's last reboot
- /proc/version
 - o Specifies several points of information about the Linux kernel
- o GNU Compiler Collection (GCC)
 - Used to compile the kernel, the user name, and the time the kernel was compiled
- o dmesg command
 - Used to print messages that have been sent to the kernel's message during and after system boot
 - Drivers can also send diagnostic messages to the kernel in case they encounter errors
 - Syntax
 - dmesg [options]
 - Options
 - −C
- o Clear the kernel buffer after printing
- -f {facility list}
 - Restrict output to the specified comma-separated list of facilities
- -l {level list}



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- o Restrict output to the specified comma-separated list of levels
- -е
- o Display a human-readable version of the time messages
- -L
- o Color-code messages for easier readability
- -H
- o Output in a human-friendly format
- -h
- o List the available options

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Study Notes

The Linux Boot Process

Objective 1.1: Summarize Linux fundamentals.

- Linux Boot Components
 - o Booting
 - Process of starting or restarting a computer and loading an operating system
 - o Boot Loader
 - Small program stored in ROM that loads the kernel from a storage device
 - Boot loaders protect the boot process with a password
 - o Boot Sector Program
 - Loads the second boot loader on startup
 - o Second Stage Boot Loader
 - Loads the operating system and contains a kernel loader
 - o Boot Loader Installer
 - Controls the installation of drive sectors and runs only when booting
 - o BIOS
 - Enables to test the various hardware components in a computer as well as run a boot loader
 - o UEFI
 - Operates with a greater amount of memory, accesses storage drives and hardware types, and has improved security protections
 - o Preboot eXecution Environment (PXE)
 - Enables a client to retrieve the necessary boot loader and system files from a server over the network

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- Basic input/output system (BIOS)
- Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI)
- Booting from ISO
- Booting from Network File System (NFS)
- o Master Boot Record (MBR)
 - Sector that the BIOS reads in and starts when the machine is first booted
- o GUID Partition Table (GPT)
 - Partition structure with a more modern design and is part of the UEFI standard
- o Raw Partition
 - Enables users and applications to read from and write to a block storage without using the system cache
- o Initial RAM Disk (initrd)
 - Root file system that is temporarily loaded into memory upon system boot
 - Phases
 - System is booted with minimal set of modules
 - Main root file system is mounted
 - initrd image
 - Archive file that contains all the essential files that are required for booting the operating system
 - o Initrd image is stored in the /boot directory
 - mkinitrd command
 - Used to create the initrd image for preloading the kernel modules

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- Options
 - o --preload={module name}
 - Load a module in the initrd image before the loading of other modules
 - o --with={module name}
 - Load a module in the initrd image after the loading of other modules
 - o -f
- Overwrite an existing initrd image file
- o -nocompress
 - Disable the compression of the initrd image
- Syntax
- o /boot
 - Contains files that are used to facilitate the Linux boot process
 - Subdiretories
 - GRUB
 - o /boot/grub
 - GRUB 2
 - o /boot/grub2
 - ESP
 - o /boot/efi
 - initramfs image
 - o /boot/initramfs-<kernel version>.img
 - Linux kernel

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- o /boot/vmlinuz-<kernel version>
- o Dracut command
 - Used to generate an initramfs image
 - Syntax
 - Dracut /boot/initramfs-\$(uname -r) .img\$(uname -r)
- o Steps into the boot process
 - The processor checks the BIOS/UEFI firmware
 - The BIOS/UEFI checks for bootable media
 - The BIOS/UEFI loads the primary boot loader
 - GRUB 2 selects the operating system
 - The boot loader determines the kernel and locates the kernel binary
 - The kernel configures the available hardware drivers
 - The kernel mounts the main root partition and releases unused memory
 - The systemd program searches for the default.target file
 - The system authenticates the user
 - The system is ready to use
- o Kernel Panic
 - mechanism by which the system detects fatal errors and responds to them

GRUB 2

- o GNU Grand Unified Bootloader (GNU GRUB)
 - Enables users to choose which operating system or kernel version to boot

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- o GRUB 2 offers more control over the boot process, boot devices, and boot behavior
 - Features
 - Non-86 architecture platforms
 - Boot OS from storage media
 - Partition UUIDs and loading modules
 - Configure boot loader through scripts
 - Customization features
 - GRUB 2 became the default boot loader on almost all modern Linux distributions
- o grub2-install command
 - Copies over the GRUB2 files into the /boot/GRUB2 directory
 - applies to BIOS systems, not UEFI
 - to install to UEFI, use a package manager
 - Syntax
 - grub2-install [options] [device name]
 - Options
 - --modules {module names}
 - o Reload specified kernel modules
 - --install-modules {module names}
 - o Install only the specified modules and dependencies
 - --directory {directory name}
 - o Install files from the specified directory
 - --target {target platform}
 - o Specify the target platform
 - --boot-directory {directory name}

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- o Specify the boot directory
- -force
 - o Install GRUB 2
- o Important Directories
 - grub.cfg
 - Main configuration file for GRUB 2
 - Locations
 - o BIOS
 - /boot/grub2/
 - o UEFI
 - /boot/efi/EFI//
- o /etc/grub.d/
 - Contains scripts that are used to build the main grub.cfg file
 - To add a custom script in the directory, use ##_ file name prefix to name the script
 - Add the script to the existing 40_custom file to execute last by default
- o /etc/grub.d/40_custom
 - Enables customization of the menu presented to the user during the boot process
- o /etc/default/grub
 - Contains GRUB 2 display menu settings that are read by the /etc/grub.d/ scripts
- grub2-mkconfig command
 - o Generates a new grub.cfg configuration file and is used to update the existing grub.cfg file
 - o Syntax



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- grub2-mkconfig [-o {file name}]
- o update-grub2 command
 - used to update grub2 configuration file

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Study Notes

System Components

Objectives:

- 1.1: Summarize Linux fundamentals.
- 1.4: Given a scenario, configure and use the appropriate processes and services.
- 1.7: Given a scenario, manage software configurations.
- 4.3: Given a scenario, analyze and troubleshoot central processing unit (CPU) and memory issues.
- 4.5: Given a scenario, use systemd to diagnose and resolve common problems with a Linux system.

• Localization Options

- o Localization
 - Adapting system components for use within a distinct culture
 - Will adapt to
 - the language of the region you are in
 - adjust to measurements used in your region
 - configure the keyboard layout to your language
 - sets date and time
- o Cron daemon
 - Uses the system's time zone for executing cron jobs
 - cron jobs
 - automated tasks that are executed at certain times of the day
- o /usr/share/zoneinfo Directory
 - A container for all the regional time zones the system can use
 - To change the timezone, create a symbolic link to one of the individual time zone files to the /etc/localtime file

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- In some Debian distros, this is found in /etc/timezone
 - Lists the time zone by the region structure seen in the /usr/share/zoneinfo directory
- o date command
 - Prints the date in a specified format based on the /etc/localtime file
 - Syntax
 - date [options] [format]
 - Options
 - %A
 - o Print the full weekday name
 - %B
 - o Print full month name
 - %F
 - o Print the date in yyyy-mm-dd format
 - %H
 - o Print the hour in 24-hour format
 - %I
- o Print the hour in 12-hour format
- %j
- o Print the day of the year
- %S
- Print seconds
- %V
 - o Print the week of the year
- %x
 - o Print the date representation based on the locale

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- %X
 - o Print the time representation based on the locale
- %Y
 - o Print the year
- o timedatectl command
 - Sets system date and time information
 - Subcommands
 - status
 - o Show the current date and time information
 - set-time
 - o Set the system's time to the time provided
 - set-timezone
 - o Set the system's time zone to the time zone provided
 - list-timezones
 - o List all available time zones in the format specified
 - set-ntp {0|1}
 - o Enable or disable synchronization with an NTP server
 - Syntax
 - timedatectl [options] [subcommand]
 - Options
 - -H {remote host}
 - o Execute the operation on the remote host specified by IP address or hostname
 - --no-ask-password
 - o Prevent the user from being asked to authenticate when performing a privileged task

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- --adjust-system-clock
 - o Synchronize the local (system) clock based on the hardware clock when setting the hardware clock
- -M {local container}
 - o Execute the operation on a local container
- Clocks exposed by the timedatectl command
 - Local Clock
 - o Local current time
 - Universal Time Clock
 - o UTC/GMT
 - Hardware Clock
 - o Hardware level
- o hwclock command
 - Allows for the viewing and setting of the hardware clock
 - Systematic Drift
 - The predictable amount of time that the hardware clock gains or loses each day
 - /etc/adjtime File
 - Records information about when and by how much the hardware clock is changed
 - Syntax
 - hwclock [options]
 - Options
 - -set
 - o Set the hardware clock to the provided date and time
 - -u

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- o Set the hardware clock to UTC
- -S
- o Set the system time from the hardware clock
- -adjust
 - Add or subtract time from the hardware clock to account for systematic drift
- o localectl command
 - Views and configures the system locale and keyboard layout settings
 - localectl Subcommands
 - status
 - o Show the current locale and keyboard layout
 - set-locale
 - o Set the system locale to the locale provided
 - list-locales
 - o List all available locales on the system
 - set-keymap
 - o Set the keyboard layout to the provided layout
 - list-keymaps
 - o List all available keyboard layouts on the system
 - Syntax
 - localectl [options] [subcommand]
 - Options
 - -H {remote host}
 - Execute the operation on the remote host specified by IP address or hostname
 - --no-ask-password

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Study Notes

- o Prevent the user from being asked to authenticate when performing a privileged task
- --no-pager
 - Prevent the output from being piped into a paging utility
- --no-convert
 - o Prevent a keymap change for the console from also being applied to the X display server, and vice versa
- Coding and Decoding
 - Character Encoding
 - Converts text into bytes
 - Character Decoding
 - Converts bytes into text
 - Default encoding is generally UTF-8 using the Unicode character set
 - C is associated with the positional number U+0043 in Unicode

• Graphical User Interface

- o Graphical User Interface (GUI)
 - Enables users to interact with a system or application through visual design elements
- o Display Server
 - Constructs and manages the windowing system and other visual elements that can be drawn on the screen
 - X Window System is the GUI system for Windows
 - Wayland was meant to improve the X Window System

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- Wayland did have improvements, but Windows X is still used because it provides
 - o Better screen sharing
 - o Better remote desktop connection
 - o Easier recovery from crashes
- Linux has a wide variety of desktop environments
 - Allows users to choose the one they like best
 - Most common
 - o GNOME
 - Most popular
 - Free and open source
 - Powerful search tool
 - o KDE Plasma
 - Has widgets
 - Lots of GUI apps
 - Supports both X and Wayland
 - o Cinnamon
 - Default for Linux Mint distro
 - Uses a desktop metaphor
 - Developed in response to GNOME3
 - o MATE
 - Extension of GNOME2
 - Has some default applications
 - Also used in Linux Mint
- o Linux offers many remote desktops
 - Virtual Network Computing (VNC)

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- A cross-platform remote desktop service that enables full remote control of a desktop environment
- Most popular
- xrdp
 - Free and open-source utility that constructs a Remote Desktop
 Protocol (RDP)-like server for non-Windows systems
- NoMachine (NX)
 - Cross-platform proprietary remote desktop software that offers support for multi-session environments and account management
- Simple Protocol for Independent Computing Environments (SPICE)
 - Free and open-source protocol designed specifically for use in virtual environments
- Console Redirection
 - The process of forwarding input and output through a serial connection rather than through any I/O peripherals that are directly attached to the system
 - Console redirection enables administrators to remotely configure systems in a pre-boot environment like BIOS/UEFI
- Secure Shell
 - A remote access protocol that encrypts transmissions over a network
 - SSH Port Forwarding
 - o The process of tunneling an application through SSH to secure it in the transmission
 - local forwarding

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- o local client listens for connections and then tunnels any active connection on a remote server using SSH
- remote forwarding
 - o the SSH server forwards inbound traffic to another system on a different port
- o Accessibility services vary from distro to distro

Services

- o Services
 - Running programs or processes that provide support for requests and monitoring from other processes or external clients
 - Daemons
 - programs that run in the background without human intervention
 - lay dormant until called on to act
 - used by most services
- o init.
 - The backend service that controls when and how services are started
 - init daemon
 - a configuration file that initiates the processes listed in it
- o The system can be initialized with
 - SysVinit
 - Systemd suite
- o systemd suite
 - Provides an init method for initializing a system
 - is now the dominant init method in modern Linux distributions

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- supports parallelization
- tracks processes instead of using PIDs
- uses unit files to determine how units are handled
 - unit files
 - o system resources that systemd can manage
 - o include things like block storage devices, peripheral devices
 - o can also be used to set system environment variables and parameters
- targets
 - a method of grouping unit configuration files together to represent specific modes of operations
- o systemctl command
 - Enables the control of the systemd init daemon
 - Subcommands
 - status {service}
 - o Retrieve the current status of a service
 - enable {service}
 - Enable a service to be started on boot
 - disable {service}
 - o Disable a service so that it is no longer started on boot
 - start {service}
 - o Activate a service immediately
 - stop {service}
 - o Deactivate a service immediately
 - restart {service}

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- o Restart a service immediately
- set-default {target}
 - o Set the default target for the system to use on boot
- isolate {target}
 - o Force the system to immediately change to the provided target
- mask {unit file}
 - o Prevent the provided unit file from being enabled or activated
- daemon-reload
 - o Reload the systemd init daemon, including all unit files
- Syntax
 - systemctl [options] [subcommand] [arguments]
- Options
 - -t {unit file type}
 - o Specify the unit file types to perform the operation on
 - -a
- o List all unit files or properties, regardless of state
- no-reload
 - o Prevent the reloading of configuration changes when enabling or disabling a service
- --no-ask-password
 - o Prevent users from being asked to authenticate when performing privileged operations
- --runtime

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- o Make changes temporary so that they will not be present after a reboot
- -H {remote host}
 - o Execute the operation on the remote host specified by IP address or hostname
- --no-pager
 - Prevent the output from being piped into a paging utility
- Systemctl can also be used to change targets
- o hostnamectl command
 - Shows the system's network hostname and other information about the system's hardware and the Linux kernel it is running
 - Syntax
 - hostnamectl [options] [subcommand][arguments]
- o SysVinit
 - An older init method that has been largely replaced by system
 - make use of runlevels which determine what types of daemons should be running
 - SysVinit Runlevels
 - 0
- o Shuts down the system
- 1
- o Starts single-user mode
- 2
- o Starts multi-user mode without remote networking

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- 3
- o Starts multi-user mode with remote networking
- 4
- o Unused
- 5
- o Starts multi-user mode with networking and GUI capabilities
- 6
- o Reboots the system
- telinit command
 - Switches the current runlevel of the system
 - Syntax
 - o telinit [options] {runlevel}
- runlevel command
 - Prints the previous and current runlevels of the system, each separated by a space
- /etc/inittab File
 - Stores details of various processes related to system initialization on SysVinit
 - Format within file
 - o id:rstate:action:process
 - id unique identifier
 - rstate runlevel
 - action:process how actions will be handled
- /etc/init.d
 - Stores initialization scripts for services

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- /etc/rc.local File
 - Executed at the end of the init boot process, typically used to start custom services
- chkconfig command
 - Controls services in each runlevel and can also start or stop services during system startup
 - Subcommands/Options
 - o {service} on
 - Enable a service to be started on boot
 - o {service} off
 - Disable a service to keep from starting on boot
 - o {service} reset
 - Reset the status of a service
 - o --level {runlevel}
 - Specify the runlevel in which to enable or disable a service
 - Syntax
 - o chkconfig [options] [service]
 [subcommand]
- service command
 - Controls SysVinit services through SysVinit scripts
 - Subcommands/Options
 - o {service} status
 - Print the current state of a service
 - o {service} start
 - Start a service immediately

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- o {service} stop
 - Stop a service immediately
- o {service} restart
 - Restart a service immediately
- o {service} reload
 - Re-read a service's configuration files while the service runs
- Syntax
 - o service [options] [service]
 [subcommand]

• Process Issues

- o Common Issues
 - Instability when processes hang
 - Inefficient resource consumption
 - System sluggishness
- o Process Life Cycle
 - Running state
 - The process is currently executing in user space or kernel space
 - Interruptible sleep state
 - The process relinquishes access to the CPU and waits to be reactivated by the scheduler
 - Uninterruptible sleep state

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- The process will only wake when the resource it's waiting for is made available to it
- Zombie state
 - A process was terminated but not yet released by its parent process so it cannot accept a kill signal
- Stopped state
 - The process was stopped by a debugger or through a kill signal
- o Process ID (PID)
 - A non-negative integer used to identify a process
 - Numbering
 - Starts with 1
 - o increases for each new process started
 - init daemon always has a PID of one because it is the first process to start
- o pgrep command
 - Identifies a process based on multiple factors when the exact PID is not known
 - Syntax
 - pgrep [options] {pattern}
- o pidof command
 - Finds the process ID of a named running program
 - Syntax
 - pidof {name of the program}
- o ps command
 - Displays the process table which summarizes the current running processes on a system

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Study Notes

show

- o PID
- o Terminal
- o CPU time
- o Command that started the process

Options

- a
- o List all user-triggered processes
- -е
- o List all processes
- -l
- o List processes using a long-listing format
- u
- o List processes along with the username and start time
- r
- o Exclude processes that are not running currently
- X
- o Include processes without a terminal
- T
- o Exclude processes started by other terminals
- -U
- o Display the processes based on the specified user
- -p {PID}
 - o Display only the process associated with the specified PID
- -C {command}

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- o Display all processes by command name
- --tty {terminal number}
 - o Display all processes running on the specified terminal
- Syntax
 - ps [options]
- o top command
 - Acts as a process management tool that allows for interactive process prioritization, sorting, or termination
 - Options
 - Enter key
 - o Refresh the status of all processes
 - Shift+N
 - o Sort processes in the decreasing order of their PID
 - M
- o Sort processes by memory usage
- P
- o Sort processes by CPU usage
- u
- o Display processes belonging to the user specified
- k
- Terminate the process specified
- r
- o Alter the scheduling priority of the process specified
- q
- o Exit the process list
- Syntax

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- top [options]
- o htop
 - A newer version of an interactive system monitor, process viewer, and process manager
 - htop is not installed by default on all Linux distributions
 - Key difference is the interface
 - top Text-only black and white interface
 - htop Text-based graphics with colorful interface
- o systemd-analyze command
 - Retrieves performance statistics for boot operations
 - Subcommand
 - blame
 - o identifis services and other units that slow the bootup process down
 - o provides a list of all the systemd units that were executed at boot and the time it took to execute
 - Syntax
 - systemd-analyze [options] [subcommand]
- o lsof command
 - prints a list of all files currently opened to all active processes
 - can be used to terminate a process
 - shows
 - Command/Process
 - PID
 - Invoking user
 - File descriptor

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Study Notes

- File permissions
- File type
- File name
- Syntax
 - lsof [options]

o Scheduling

- The scheduler provides each process with CPU time
- Usually effective, but can be manually changed
- Nice or niceness value
 - a number between -20 and +19
 - represents a priority for a process
 - higher the number, the higher the priority it has for CPU time
 - o higher the number the more CPU time it has

o nice command

- Runs a command with a different nice value than the default
- must have root user authority to run this command
- Option
 - -n
- o Increments the nice value by the given integer

o renice command

- Alters the scheduling priority of an already running process
- Options
 - n option
 - o Specifies the new nice value for a running process
 - g option
 - o Alters the nice value of the processes in a process group

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- u option
 - o Alters the nice value of all processes owned by the user
- o fg command
 - moves the process into view (foreground)
 - Options
 - fg %{job ID}
 - o Brings a job to the foreground
 - Ctrl+Z
 - o Halts a job temporarily to allow the use of the bg command
- o bg command
 - moves the process out of view (background)
 - Options
 - bg %{job ID}
 - o Pushes a job to the background
 - &
- o Starts a command running in the background when added to the end of a command
- o jobs command
 - Lists out all jobs either in the foreground or in the background
 - Commands
 - Ctrl+Z
 - o Stops a foreground job and places it in the background
 - Ctrl+C
 - o Force quits a running program via the command line environment

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- Ctrl+D
 - o Logs out the current user session
- o nohup command
 - Prevents a process from ending when the user logs off
 - stands for no "hangup"
 - Syntax
 - nohup {command or script name}
- o kill command
 - Sends any specified signal (termination) to one or more processes
 - Syntax
 - kill [options] PID
- o pkill command
 - Sends any specified signal (termination) to processes based on a matching pattern
 - Syntax
 - pkill [options] {pattern}
- o killall command
 - Sends any specified signal (termination) to all processes matching the name specified
 - Syntax
 - killall [options] {process name}
 - Whether you can kill a process depends on permissions
 - user
 - o only kill processes you own
 - root
 - o can kill any processes

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Study Notes

- o Kill Signals
 - Used to provide additional information about terminating the process
 - Types
 - SIGHUP (1)
 - o Send to a process when its controlling terminal is closed
 - SIGINT (2)
 - o Interrupt a process from the terminal
 - SIGKILL (9)
 - o Kill the process immediately
 - SIGTERM (15)
 - o Terminate a process
 - SIGSTOP (17, 19, 23)
 - o Pause a process
 - SIGSTP (18, 20, 24)
 - o Pause a process from the terminal

CPU and Memory Issues

- o Problems
 - Underperforming CPU
 - Overloaded CPU
 - Non-functional cores
- o /proc/cpuinfo File
 - Identifies characteristics about the CPU that might indicate issues
 related to performance or lack of support for features
 - Useful information
 - Processor

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- Vendor_id
- Model name
- CPU MHz
- Cache size
- Flags
- Supported features
- o Commands to use for diagnosing CPU problems
 - sysctl command
 - Enables the viewing of kernel parameters at runtime
 - uptime command
 - Displays the time from when a system started running
 - The load average field is the most relevant in CPU troubleshooting
 - sar command
 - Displays system usage reports based on data collected from system activity
 - Syntax
 - o sar [options]
 - sysctl also retrieves CPU-based kernel parameters at runtime
 - usual format of parameters
 - o kernel.sched domain.cpu#.domain#.param
 - Iscpu command
 - Displays information about the CPU architecture
- o Memory Issues
 - Not enough total memory for all processes
 - Not enough free memory for new processes

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- Processes unable to access memory
- Processes accessing too much memory
- Leaving other processes without memory
- System cannot access files from cache/buffer
- RAM performs to specification
- Memory consumption is at expected rate
- System has enough available memory
- o /proc/meminfo Files
 - Can show if
 - RAM is performing to specifications
 - Memory consumption is at the expected rate
 - The system has enough available memory
 - Useful fields
 - MemTotal
 - o Total amount of physical memory in the system
 - MemFree
 - o Total amount of physical memory currently used
 - Cached
 - o Total amount of physical memory that is being used as cache memory
 - SwapTotal
 - o Total amount of swap space on the system
 - SwapFree
 - o Total amount of swap space that is currently unused
 - Dirty

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- o Total amount of memory that is waiting to be written to storage
- Writeback
 - o Total amount of memory currently being written to storage
- o free command
 - Parses the /proc/meminfo file for easier analysis of memory usage statistics
 - Options
 - -b, -k, -m, -g, -tera
 - Display memory in bytes, kilobytes, megabytes, gigabytes, and terabytes
 - -s {seconds}
 - Update memory statistics at a delay of the specified seconds
 - -0
- o Disable the display of the buffered or cached information
- -t
- o Display total line that combines physical RAM with swap space
- -h
- o Make the output more human-readable
- Buffers field in /proc/meminfo file
 - indicates memory assigned to a specific block device
 - Caches file system metadata

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- Cached
 - Caches actual file contents, not metadata
- o lsmem command
 - Lists the ranges of available memory with their online status
- o vmstat command
 - Displays various statistics about virtual memory, as well as process,
 CPU, and I/O statistics
 - vmstat Statistics
 - Memory-based
 - o Total virtual memory available
 - o Total virtual memory that is free for use
 - o Total memory used in buffers and cache
 - o Total memory used in swap space
 - CPU-based
 - o Time spent running user space
 - o Time spent running in kernel space
 - o Time spent idle
 - Time spent waiting for I/O
 - Syntax
 - vmstat [options] [delay [count]]
- o Out-of-Memory (OOM) Killer
 - Determines processes to kill when the system is extremely low on memory
 - OOM killer leverages an algorithm that assigns each process an OOM score
 - The higher the score, the more likely to be killed

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- You can mount the OOM control group at the desired mount point
- o Configuration of Swap Space
 - Types
 - Device Swap Space
 - o Used to run large applications
 - File System Swap Space
 - o An emergency resource when the available swap space runs out
 - Pseudo Swap Space
 - o Enables large applications to run on computers with limited RAM
 - Swap Partition
 - An area of virtual memory on a storage device to complement the physical RAM in the computer
 - mkswap command
 - Creates swap space on a storage partition
 - Options
 - о -с
- Verify the device is free from bad sectors before mounting the swap space
- о -р
- Set the page size to be used by the mkswap command
- o -L
- Activate the swap space using labels applied to partitions or file systems

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- swapon command
 - Activates a swap partition
 - Options
 - о -е
- Skip devices that do not exist
- o -a
- Activate all of the swap space
- swapoff command
 - Deactivates the swap space
 - Options
 - o -a
- Deactivate all of the swap space

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Study Notes

Devices

Objectives:

- 1.1: Summarize Linux fundamentals.
- 1.3: Given a scenario, configure and manage storage using the appropriate tools.
- 4.1: Given a scenario, analyze and troubleshoot storage issues.

• Linux Devices

- o Device Drivers
 - Act as an interface between the operating system and hardware devices
- Client Devices
 - Thin Client
 - Any lightweight computing device that connects to a more powerful server
 - A thin client has fundamental I/O devices like a keyboard, mouse, and monitor connected to it
 - Server
 - o Processing and storing data
 - Thin Client device
 - o Acts as a user interface
- o Universal Serial Bus (USB)
 - De facto standard for connecting input devices, external storage devices, and mobile devices
 - Linux registers USB storage devices attached to the system in /dev/sd# format
- o Wireless Devices

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- Transmit and receive signals over the air
- o Wi-Fi
 - Technology used primarily in establishing wireless local area connections (WLAN)
- o Bluetooth
 - Technology used primarily for establishing a personal area network
 (PAN)
 - Bluetooth enables users to listen to audio without the need for cables
- o Near Field Communication (NFC)
 - Communications protocol used by mobile devices and peripherals
- Video and Audio Devices
 - Input or output peripherals that are attached to client systems
 - Microphone
 - o Common audio input
 - Speakers or headphones
 - o Common audio output
 - When connecting video or audio to a system, check the connection type
 - Printers
 - You may need to install drivers manually
 - Most modern printers offer local connection support through a USB interface
- o Network Adapter
 - Acts as an interface that allows computer devices to have access to a network
- o Network Interface Card

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- Device that provides an interface with which hosts exchange data over a network
- o General-Purpose Input/Output (GPIO)
 - Pins on a circuit board that have no designated purpose
 - GPIO is controlled through software
- o Serial AT Attachment (SATA)
 - Computer bus interface standard for attaching storage devices to traditional computers
- o PCI Express
 - Supports raw data rates of up to 16 Gb/s
- o Small Computer System Interface (SCSI)
 - Computer bus interface for connecting devices to computers
 - SCSI is used for storage
- o Serial Attached SCSI (SAS)
 - Developed to apply a serial interface to SCSI technology
 - SAS4 offers speeds up to 24 Gb/s and supports higher-capacity drives
- o Host Bus Adapter (HBA)
 - Hardware component that connects a host system to a storage device
 - HBAs may be built into the motherboard or a separate expansion card
- o Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI)
 - Used as an expansion bus for attaching peripheral devices
- o PCI Express (PCIe)
 - Supports greater transfer speeds, more reliable error detection, and is physically smaller than PCI
 - PCIe is the dominant expansion bus technology

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Study Notes

• Configure Devices

- o Device Files
 - Represent information about hardware devices and settings
- o Directories that contain configuration information
 - /proc/
 - Contains various files that represent system information reported by the kernel
 - /proc/devices
 - o Contains list of device drivers that the kernel is currently running
 - /sys/
 - Virtual file system that focuses on creating a hierarchical view of device information
 - /sys/devices/
 - o Includes files that shows details about specific devices
 - /dev/
 - Enables the system and users to access devices
 - o /dev/sda1
 - Storage device
 - o /dev/mapper/
 - Logical and encrypted volumes
 - /etc/
 - Contains configuration files for components that interface with devices
 - /etc/X11/

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- Contains configuration files for I/O devices affecting X.Org server
- o Hot-Pluggable
 - Can be physically added or removed from the system without requiring a reboot
 - Hot-Pluggable
 - Detected by the system
 - Cold-Pluggable
 - o Not detected by the system
- o udev utility
 - Handles module loading for cold-pluggable and hot-pluggable devices
 - Udev manages the automatic detection and configuration of hardware devices
 - Directories for using udev to configure devices
 - /etc/udev/rules.d/
 - o Used to configure rules for udev functions
 - o /etc/udev/rules.d/ directory is used for local administration of udev
 - /usr/lib/udev/rules.d/
 - o Contains rules generated by the system
 - o shouldn't be customized
- o udevadm command
 - Used to manage udev
 - Subcommands
 - Info

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- o Used to view the device's vendor ID, product ID, and serial number
- Control
 - o Modifies the running state of udev
 - o The --reload-rules option ensures udev is reading from the newly added rules files
- Trigger
 - o Executes rules that apply to any device that is currently plugged in
 - o The -c option is used to add, remove, or change rules
- Monitor
 - o Used to watch for events sent by the kernel or by a udev rule
- Test
 - Used to simulate udev events and present results as output
- Syntax
 - udevadm [options] [subcommand] [arguments]
- o Printer
 - Bundled with software utilities that enable users to configure settings
 - Common Unix Printing System (CUPS)
 - Print management system for Linux that enables a computer to function as a print server
 - Changes made in CUPS modify the /etc/cups/cupsd.conf and /etc/cups/cups-files.conf files
- o lpr command

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Study Notes

- Submits files for printing
- Options
 - -E
- o Force encryption
- -P {destination}
 - o Send print job
- -# {copies}
 - o Set number of copies to print
- -T {name}
 - o Set job name
- -l
- o Print formatted file
- -0
- o Set job option
- -p
- o Print specified files
- -r
- o Delete file after printing
- Syntax
 - lpr [options] [file names]

Monitor Devices

- o lsdev command
 - Displays hardware information from the interrupts, ioports, and dma files in the /proc directory
- o /proc/interrupts

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- Lists each logical CPU core and its associated interrupt requests (IRQ)
- IQR
 - Signal sent by a device to the processor
 - The IRQ address lists the signals that were sent to each CPU core
- o /proc/ioports
 - Lists input/output ports and the mapped hardware devices
- o /proc/dma
 - Lists all Industry Standard Architecture (ISA) direct memory access
 (DMA) channels on the system
 - ISA DMA
 - Hardware controller that supports legacy technology like floppy disks
- o lsusb command
 - Used to display information about devices connected to the system's
 USB buses
 - scans the /dev/bus/usb directory
 - by default it prints
 - the number of the bus
 - the connected device
 - the ID of the device
 - the name of the vendor
 - Options
 - -V
- Device information
- -S

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- o Filter result by bus
- -d
- o filter by Vendor or product
- Syntax
 - lsusb [options]
- o lspci command
 - Used to display information about devices connected to the system's PCI/PCIe buses
 - By default shows devices in the format Bus:Device.Function
- o lpq command
 - Shows the status of the print queue
 - Also shows
 - who owns the job
 - job number
 - files in the job
 - size of the job
 - Option
 - +interval
 - o Reports update at every second until the queue is empty
 - Syntax
 - lpq [options]
- o lsblk command
 - Identify block storage devices
- o dmesg command
 - Print all messages sent to kernel's buffer

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Study Notes

 Use dmesg output to monitor issues related to device drivers and hardware

• Troubleshooting Hardware Issues

- o Keyboard mapping issues
 - Identify the layout of the physical keyboard
 - Use localectl status to verify the layout
 - Identify the correct layout and set it up on the system
 - SSH client (PuTTY) enables users to change the effects of keystrokes on the environment
- o Communication port issues
 - Ensure that the device is correctly slotted into the port
 - Ensure that power is being supplied to the bus adapter
 - Ensure that drivers are installed and loaded into the kernel
 - Linux will assign the port an interface at /dev/ttyS#
- o Printer Issues
 - Consult the printer's manual and/ or the manufacturer's website
 - Ensure the printer is supported y Linux-compatible drivers
 - Use network diagnostic tools (ping)
 - lpq command
 - Check status of print job
 - lprm command
 - Stop a job
- o Memory Issues
 - Use memory monitoring tools (free) and the process monitoring tools
 (top) to identify the problem

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- If the message contains error-correcting code (ECC) errors, one of the memory modules has failed
- o Video Issues
 - Ensure the monitor and other devices are properly connected and compatible
 - GPU Driver
 - Video-intensive application
- o Storage adapter issues
 - o The problem might be with the physical HBA or HBA used like SCSI or SATA
 - 1. Ensure that the Host Bus Adapter (HBA) is powered on
 - 2. Ensure the device connecting to the HBA uses the right interface
 - 3. Ensure that all devices are properly slid and that all cables are connected and damage-free
 - RAID Arrays
 - mdadm command
 - o used to manage RAID arrays
 - o Options
 - -F
- Activates monitor mode
- -f
- Mark specified device
- -r
- remove specified device
- --re-add
 - Add removed device

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- -a
- Add device as hot-spare
- Ishw command
 - Lists detected hardware components on the system and provides device details
 - Options
 - o -c network
 - Output details about network-class devices
 - o -short | sort -k2
 - Display list of classes currently in use in the system
 - Syntax
 - o lshw [options]
- dmidecode command
 - Dumps the system's Desktop Management Interface (DMI)
 table and presents in a readable format
 - Syntax
 - o dmidecode [options]
 - DMI Table
 - o Industry standard for tracking information about hardware components
 - o Do not rely on DMI tables as the sole source of hardware information
- o Automatic Bug Reporting Tool (ABRT)
 - Analyzes and reports problems detected during system runtime

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- ABRT runs as the abrtd daemon and can be configured using abrt-cli or abrt-gui
- o General Steps for troubleshooting hardware devices
 - 1. Ensure that hardware devices are supported by robust drivers
 - 2. Ensure that necessary drivers are installed and loaded in the kernel
 - 3. Ensure that hardware devices are compatible with the Linux software
 - 4. Verify that the system has the correct keyboard layout and language set
 - 5. Verify that a network-enabled printer is identifiable
 - 6. Use the lprm command to stop large or numerous print jobs
 - 7. Check the mcelog for memory errors
 - 8. Run a utility like memtester to stress test RAM modules
 - 9. Download the latest GPU drivers from the vendor's website
 - 10. Ensure that storage and peripheral devices are properly slotted into the correct buses
 - 11. Ensure the connected cables are not loose or damaged
 - 12. Use a command like Ishw to identify connected hardware
 - 13. Be aware that dmidecode may produce inaccurate results
 - 14. Review crash data compiled by the ABRT utility
- o Troubleshooting requires knowledge and familiarity with the command line and system messages

DION TRAINING

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Study Notes

Networking

Objectives:

- 1.5: Given a scenario, use the appropriate networking tools or configuration files.
- 3.5: Summarize container, cloud, and orchestration concepts.
- 4.2: Given a scenario, analyze and troubleshoot network resource issues.
- TCP/IP Fundamentals
 - o TCP/IP
 - Family of network protocols offers various services
 - o Open Systems
 - Interconnection (OSI)
 - Standardizes networking functions
 - 7 Layers of OSI Model
 - 7
- o Application supports applications and end-users
- 6
- o Presentation formats data for use
- 5
- o Session establishes, maintains, and tears down a connection
- 4
- o Transport enables reliable transmission of information
- 3
- o Network enables logical addressing
- 2
- o Data link enables physical addressing

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- 1
- o Physical enables physical network connectivity
- o TCP/IP is used to govern network communications and the internet
- o Networking Terms
 - Node
 - Devices with an identity on the network
 - MAC Address
 - Physical address
 - IP Address
 - Logical address
 - Hostname
 - Human-readable name of the device
- o Networking Hardware
 - Switch
 - Acts as a concentrator, centralizing all network connection
 - Router
 - Acts as a control point for communications between network segments
 - Routers work with IP addresses at Layer 3 of the OSI model
 - Media
 - Actual path of an electrical signal travels from one component to another
 - Network Cable
 - o Twisted pair Ethernet cable
 - Twisted pair may come shielded (STP) or unshielded (UTP)

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- o Data Movement
 - Packet.
 - What data is referred to when it is at the Network layer (Layer
 3)
 - Frame
 - What data is referred to when it is at the Data link layer (Layer
 2)
 - Bit
- What data is referred to when it is at the Physical Layer (Layer
 1)
- o Network Services
 - Domain Name System (DNS)
 - Service provides name resolution
 - DNS is implemented as a database hosted on one or more servers
 - Configuration types
 - o Static Configuration
 - For servers and network devices
 - o Dynamic configuration
 - End-user workstations
 - Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)
 - Service provides dynamic configuration
- Identifiers
 - IP Address
 - Provide an addressing system for managing network identities
 - Network Identifier

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- Defines network host segment
- Host Identifier
 - Uniquely identify the host in segment
- o IP Address Classes
 - Each class provides a specified number of networks and the number of hosts available
 - Class A
 - o 0.0.0.0 127.0.0.0
 - Class B
 - o 128.0.0.0 4 191.255.00
 - Class C
 - o 192.0.0.0 © 223.255.255.255
 - Class D
 - o 224.0.0.0 © 239.255.255.255
 - Class E
 - o 240.0.0.0 © 255.255.255.255
 - Due to the depletion of IPv4, three IP address ranges are reserved for internal use only
 - Class A Reserved
 - o 10.0.0.0 10.255.255.255
 - Class B Reserved
 - o 172.16.0.0 172.13.255.255
 - Class C Reserved
 - o 192.168.0.0 192.168.255.255
 - Loopback Address

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- Used for diagnostics and to allow the system to network to itself
- Link-local Range
 - Used for zero-configuration LANs or when the DHCP lease generation process fails (APIPA)
- IPv6
 - Addresses IPv4's weaknesses, has a larger address space, built-in encryption, and more efficient routing
- o Network Port Numbers
 - Numeric values assigned to application-layer protocols
 - Humans work with HTTP, while computers need to work by port number
 - 22
- o Secure Shell
- 25
- o Simple Mail Transfer Protocol
- 80
- o Hypertext Transfer Protocol
- 110
 - Post Office Protocol version 3
- 443
 - o Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure
- o Network administrators divide the network into segments to manage network traffic
 - Subnet
 - Logical divisions of the network

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Study Notes

- Network ID
 - Part of the IP address each node is using
- All nodes in a subnet have the same network ID

• Linux Server Roles

- o Network Time Protocol (NTP)
 - Enables the synchronization of nodes time with a designated and definitive time source
 - Crony
 - Designed to utilize NTP and perform in a large range of conditions
- o Secure Shell (SSH)
 - Provides an authenticated and encrypted method of connecting to a remote or local system
- o Web Servers
 - Host the files and images on the websites
 - Types
 - Insecure
 - o HTTP
 - o TCP port 80
 - Secure
 - o HTTPS
 - o TCP port 443
 - The web services on Linux are hosted through Apache or Nginx
- o Certificate Server
 - Provide a means of identity guarantee

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- Certificate authority (CA)
 - manage the enrollment, approval, expiration, and revocation of certificates
- o Domain Name System (DNS) Server
 - Performs name resolution for easy-to-remember hostnames
 - DNS server may contain records for a company's internal network
- o Dynamic Host Control Protocol (DHCP) Server
 - Provides configurations including IP addresses, subnet masks, and default gateways
- o Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) Server
 - Capable of passing information of performance and workloads to a central management database
- o Centralized Authentication Server
 - Holds information about user identities in a directory store
- o Proxy Server
 - With direct access to the Internet and an internal network connection
- o Logging Server
 - Used to centralize log files from the Linux servers
- o Monitoring Services
 - Monitor specific applications
 - ApacheTop
 - Provides log file analysis for Apache and connection response time
 - Monit
 - Simple monitoring utility for Linux
- o Load Balancing Servers

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- Used to distribute inbound connection requests across multiple servers
- Multiple web servers create a load balance service needed to ensure connections to servers
- Node
 - a server inside a cluster and can accept client connections
- o File and Print Servers
 - Allows file storage and printing
- o Samba
 - Windows compatible file sharing system that runs on SMB
 - Server Message Block (SMB) compatible file sharing protocol
- o NFS
 - Used to provide access to directories stored on a server
- o Database Server
 - Used to store large quantities of data and make easy queries
 - SQL
 - Uses relational tables
 - NoSQL
 - Unorganized relational tables
- o Virtual Private Network (VPN) Server
 - Enables remote users to connect to the internal company network and access internal resources
- o Email Server
 - Responsible for the distribution of electronic mail
 - Sending
 - Sendmail

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Study Notes

- Receiving
 - Postfix
- Protocols
 - Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP)
 - Post Office Protocol (POP3)
 - Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP)

Connecting to a Network

- o Computer Network
 - Two or more computers connected through network media
- o Device/System Hostname
 - Used to easily recognize a machine within a network
 - For a computer to participate in a network, it must have a valid identity
 - Errors or misconfigurations in values will result in not participating in the network
- o Network Manager Utilities
 - Aids in the proper configuration of the IP information
 - nmcli
 - Command line Network Manager
 - Contains subcommands to view and configure network information
 - Subcommands
 - o general status
 - View summary of network connectivity data
 - connection show

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- View identification information for each NIC
- o con up {device ID}
 - Enable specified NIC
- o con down {device ID}
 - Disable specified NIC
- o con edit {device ID}
 - Enter interactive mode to configure specified NIC
- device status
 - Display current status of each NIC
- Syntax
 - o nmcli [options] [subcommand] [arguments]
- nmtui
 - Network Manager with a text-based user interface (TUI)
 - Moves the cursor from field to field
 - Make selections within the field
 - Activate setting (OK or Quit)
 - Check or uncheck a check box
- nmgui
 - Network Manager for GUI systems
 - Enables changes to IPv4 and IPv6 configuration
- Network commands
 - ifconfig command
 - Shows IP address, subnet mask, broadcast ID, MAC address, basic performance information, and NIC name
 - deprecated

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- Syntax
 - o ifconfig [options] [interface]
- ip command
 - updated version of ifconfig
 - Subcommands
 - o ip addr show
 - Shows the IP address information
 - o ip link
 - Shows the status of each interface
 - o ip link set eth1 up
 - Enables the interface identified as eth1
 - o ip link set eth1 down
 - Disables the interface identified as eth1
 - Syntax
 - o ip [options] {object} [subcommand]
- iwconfig command
 - Used to provide wireless NIC configurations
 - Syntax
 - o iwconfig [options] [interface]
 - Options
 - o nick {name}
 - Set a nickname
 - o mode {mode}
 - Set the operating mode
 - o freq {number}
 - Set the Wi-Fi frequency

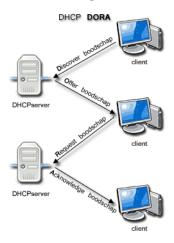
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Study Notes

- o channel {number}
 - Set the Wi-Fi frequency
- o retry {number}
 - Set the maximum number of MAC retransmissions

Configure DHCP and DNS Client Services

- o Ways to configure IP addresses
 - Static IP address configuration
 - The settings are implemented manually by an administrator
 - Dynamic IP address configuration
 - The settings are retrieved from a server
- o DHCP
 - The DHCP service must be installed on the server and allow client machines to lease configurations
 - DORA
 - Discover Offer Request Acknowledge



/etc/dhcp/dhclient.conf File

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- Enables the configuration of DHCP client settings
- NetworkManager
 - Serves as a network configuration service for multiple network settings
- o DNS
 - TCP/IP data packets must include a source IP address and a destination IP address
 - Methods to associate domain names to IP addresses
 - Static text files
 - o /etc/hosts
 - Used in special case situations where a particular system
 - Dynamic database
 - o /etc/resolv.conf
 - Informing the system of the IP address of one or more DNS servers
 - o /etc/nsswitch.conf
 - Includes several configuration options
 - o $/\text{etc/hosts} \rightarrow \text{DNS}$
 - Network Manager
 - Command-line
 - Text-based
 - Graphical interface utilities
- o dig command
 - look up domain names and IP addresses
- o nslookup command

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Study Notes

- Used to test name resolution
- o host command
 - Used to query DNS server
- o whois command
 - Host information about the owner of the domain name

• Cloud Technologies

- o Cloud computing is a relatively new and rapidly changing aspect of the IT industry
- o Essential Characteristics of cloud computing
 - On-demand self-service
 - Broad network access
 - Resource pooling
 - Rapid elasticity
 - Measured service
- o Cloud services indicate flexibility in terms of deployment, scale, support, and fault tolerance
 - Software as a Service (SaaS)
 - Provides applications to the end-users
 - In SaaS, work and storage of the data is done by the cloud services, not on the installed application
 - Platform as a Service (PaaS)
 - Virtualization of the environment's operating system layer
 - The PaaS model provides services to developers and database administrators
 - Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)

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- Includes physical devices that are virtualized and owned by a cloud service provider
- o Cloud Deployment models
 - Public Clouds
 - Hardware resources that can be shared by multiple customers
 - Private Clouds
 - The use of cloud technologies as an on-premise solution
 - Hybrid Clouds
 - Enabling more effective cost management combined with strict security management
- o Cloud Service Providers
 - Amazon Web Services (AWS)
 - Supports deployment options of a variety of cloud-based services
 - Amazon Linux AMI solution is free and open-source
 - Microsoft Azure (Azure)
 - Supports deployment options and services like AWS
 - Microsoft Azure does support both Windows and Linux servers
 - Google Cloud Platform (GCP)
 - Allows for the deployment of SaaS, PaaS, and IaaS services on Linux and Windows servers
- o Red Hat
 - Provides Linux-based cloud solution, designed as a full-featured private cloud for organizations
- Virtualization Technologies

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- o Virtualization
 - Enables the use of hardware and provides fault tolerance, disaster recovery, and scalability
- o Hypervisor
 - Software layer that provides control between the virtual machines and the physical hardware
 - Type 1 Hypervisors
 - o Run directly on the hardware called bare metal deployment
 - Type 2 Hypervisors
 - o Run as a service on top of Linux, Windows, or OS X
- o Kernel-Based Virtual Machine (KVM)
 - Enables Linux virtual machines with the attributes of type 1 and type
 2 hypervisors
- o Template files and formats
 - Open Virtualization Format (OVF)
 - Format contains configuration files, packages, and settings for virtual machines and network devices
 - ISON
 - JavaScript Object Notation
 - Used by most programming languages to store information
 - YAML
 - YAML Ain't Markup Language
 - Used to store configuration information on the newly deployed virtual machines
 - Container Image

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- Used by a specialized type of virtual machine called container
- o Bootstrapping
 - Basics
 - Refers to the adage "pulling yourself up by the bootstraps"
 - Operating system starts loading with simple layers and then moves upward to more complex layers
 - Handled by the virtualization layer in virtual machines
 - Methods of handling bootstrap management
 - Cloud-init
 - o Cloud-based Linux mechanism to customize a virtual machine during the first boot up
 - Anaconda
 - o Used by Linux distributions to manage deployments
 - Kickstart
 - o Used to customize the installation and provide an automated and unattended installation of new virtual machines
- o Storage
 - Storage space is used to store virtual machines and to process data
 - Virtual Storage
 - File that resides on the physical drive
 - Virtual machines treats this like a physical device
 - Thin Storage (Provisioning)
 - Virtual storage device file that will grow on demand up to a maximum size
 - Thick Storage (Provisioning)

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- Reserves the allocated space for the virtual device
- The benefit of thick provisioning is the guaranteed space available
- Ways to store data in a cloud
 - traditional SQL database
 - o saves data in a structured manner
 - Blob
 - Name used by Microsoft Azure for large amounts of unstructured storage of data
 - Bucket
 - o Name used by AWS for large amounts of unstructured data
 - Blobs and buckets can be used to store audio, video, other multimedia, and text files
- Blocks
 - small chunks of data written to the storage device (physical or virtual)
- Networking and Virtualization
 - Can use virtual NICs
 - are connected to virtual switches to communicate with the physical NIC
 - Virtualization Hypervisor
 - Configured to provide access to networking services
 - Configuration options
 - o No networking



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- simulates a computer that doesn't have a NIC card at all
- o Internal option
 - virtual switch allows communication with other
 VMs on that switch
- o Private option
 - virtual switch allows communication with other
 VMs on that switch and with the host operating system
- o Public option
 - virtual switch allows communication with other
 VMs on that switch, with the host operating
 system, and with the physical NIC
- Network Address Translation (NAT)
 - Provide virtualized network functionality in physical networks
 - Virtualized networks may be thought of as "overlay networks"
 - "Headless" Mode
 - o virtualization host servers that runs Linux without a GIII
 - virsh command
 - o Interactive shell to control the virtual machines
 - Stands for virtual shell
 - o Subcommands
 - help
 - Get help
 - list

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- Get VM list
- shutdown {VM}
 - Shutdown
- start {VM}
 - Start
- reboot {VM}
 - Reboot
- create {XML file name}
 - Create
- save {VM} {file name}
 - Save the state
- console {VM}
 - Open console
- libvirt
 - o an API that provides software building blocks to write virtualization solutions
- VMM
 - o Virtual Machine Manager
 - o A virtual machine manager utility used with GNOME
 - o Used to manage connectivity to virtual machines
 - Install the virt-manager to begin using VMM
- Troubleshooting Network Issues
 - o General steps to begin troubleshooting
 - Check if the device is powered or plugged in
 - Verify and configure the network interface

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- Check if network interface is detected by Linux
- o Name resolution issues
 - Ping a destination by hostname and by IP address
 - Use host and nslookup to test the system's ability to perform DNS
- o Network traffic
 - Use the netstat command to check if the latency is high or saturation is occurring
- Failing Network Interface Card
 - check the other side connection
 - Replace the network card
- o Application performance
 - The localhost method creates a full network connection
 - completes full TCP error checking
 - Use Unix sockets (Unix domain sockets)
 - faster, but the error-checking is less detailed
- o Unrecognized network adapters
 - Verify the appropriate driver has been installed
- o Utilities and commands
 - ping command
 - Generate a response request from the sending computer
 - Possible replies
 - o <host>
 - Connection successful
 - Destination unreachable
 - No path destination
 - o timeout

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- Request reached the destination but a response did not return to the source computer
- Ping only shows that something is wrong, not what is wrong
- Syntax
 - o ping [options] {destination}
- Options
 - o -c
- Send number of pinging attempts
- 0 -V
- Specify verbose output
- o View network paths
 - traceroute command
 - Used to report the network path between the source and destination
 - hop
 - o Process of a packet traveling from one router to another
 - o traceroute shows each hop
 - Syntax
 - o traceroute [options] {destination}
 - tracepath command
 - Similar to traceroute
 - Syntax
 - o tracepath [options] {destination}
 - Traceroute and tracepath allow you to see routing loops in which traffic is routed back and forth and never reaches its destination
- o netstat utility

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- Used to gather information about TCP connections to the system
- Options
 - -v
- o Activate verbose mode
- -i [interface]
 - o Display interface information
- -C
- o Print information
- -l
- o Show port/s being listened
- Syntax
 - netstat [options]
- o ss utility
 - Stands for socket state
 - Replacement for netstat which has been deprecated
 - Information gathering utility with simpler output and syntax
 - Symptoms
 - Missing socket
 - o Service is not running
 - Closed socket
 - o Premature termination of connection
 - Options
 - -1
- o Show currently listening sockets
- dst {host}
 - Show host statistic connection

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- -i
- o Show ports that being listened
- Syntax
 - ss [options]
- o Name resolution
 - one of the most important network services so failures can cause many problems
 - dig command
 - Used for gathering information and testing name resolution
 - Syntax
 - o dig {domain name}
 - used to determine what the IP address is for a domain name
 - o dig @ {IP address} {domain name}
 - will resolve the domain name against a DNS server
 - will help determine if the issue is with your DNS server or the DNS at large
 - nslookup command
 - Tool for gathering name resolution information and testing name resolution
 - Syntax for using nslookup interactive mode
 - o nslookup
 - host
 - Capable of gathering information and testing name resolution
 - Syntax

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- o host {domain name} {IP address}
- o ip command
 - Replaced the ifconfig command for interacting with the NIC
 - Verify all settings are correct
 - Use ip addr subcommand to ensure the configuration is accurate
- o route command
 - Used to view the routing table
 - Syntax
 - To see the current routing table on the system
 - o route [options]
 - To see the default gateway by IP address
 - o route add default gw {IP address}
 - To add another host
 - o route add -host {IP address}
 - Reject subcommand
 - Used to reject or filter traffic
- o nmap utility
 - Stands for Network Mapper
 - Tool for exploring a network environment
 - Syntax
 - nmap [options] {target}
- o Wireshark
 - Common packet sniffer and network analyzer
 - Wireshark has the ability to see moving or not moving packets through an NIC
 - Requires a GUI

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- o tcpdump utility
 - One of the most popular packet sniffers available
 - Determines traffic type and content
 - Options
 - -i
- o Specify the interface to use
- -n
- o Not resolve hostnames
- -v
- o Specify verbose mode
- Syntax
 - Tcpdump [options] [-i {interface}] [host {IP address}]
- o netcat command
 - Can be abbreviated as nc depending on the distribution
 - Used to test connectivity and send data across network connections
 - Syntax
 - netcat [options]
 - nc [options]
- o iftop command
 - Displays bandwidth usage information for the system
 - Syntax
 - iftop [options] [-i {interface}]
- o iperf command
 - Used to test the maximum throughput of an interface
 - Syntax
 - Client

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- o iperf -c [options]
- Server
 - o iperf -s [options]
- Difference between Bandwidth and Throughput
 - Bandwidth
 - o Potential amount of data
 - Throughput
 - o Actual amount of data
- o mtr command
 - Combination of ping and traceroute that enables testing the quality of a network connection
 - Lost packets is a strong indicator of a network issue along the path
 - Syntax
 - mtr [options] [hostname]
- o arp command
 - Address Resolution Protocol (ARP)
 - Used to relate IP and MAC addresses
 - Syntax
 - arp [options]
- o whois command
 - Provides information on Internet DNS registrations
 - Syntax
 - whois [options] {domain name}
- o Use ping, traceroute, and iftop when experiencing slow network performance

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Study Notes

Packages and Software

Objective 1.6: Given a scenario, build and install software.

• Package Managers

- Linux distributions rely on two different methods for managing software throughout its lifecycle
 - Package Managers
 - Install, update, inventory, and uninstall packaged software
 - Compiling software
 - Compiling code is more common for Linux administrators than for Windows or macOS users
- o Many Linux applications are modular and have dependencies which must be installed along with the applications in order for the applications to work
 - Package managers check for dependencies and download them automatically
 - Using compiling software means you have to find the dependencies and download and install them on your own
 - Compiling the software is the traditional method of managing software

o RPM

- Read Hat package manager
- Software packages that are prepared for RPM use the .rpm file extension
 - Inventory Software
 - o One of RPM's most useful features
- Main RPM package managers

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Study Notes

- Yellowdog Updater, Modified (YUM)
 - Offers a more elegant set of commands and greater flexibility for using software repositories and handling dependencies
- Dandified YUM (DNF)
 - Uses fewer resources while still maintaining support for RPM
 - o Syntax to install
 - dnf install {package name}
 - o Syntax to uninstall
 - dnf remove {package name}
- Zypper
 - o An openSUSE package manager that supports .rpm packages
 - Syntax to install
 - zypper in {package name}
 - o Syntax to uninstall
 - zypper rm {package name}

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- o dpkg
 - Debian package manager
 - Software packages with the .deb file extension can be managed using dpkg command
 - Advanced Package Tool (APT)
 - Preferred package management method in Debian-derivatives

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Study Notes

RPM Packages and YUM

- o rpm command
 - Manages RPM packages on Red Hat-derived distributions
 - Options
 - -i {package name}
 - o Install the specified software
 - -e {package name}
 - o Erase or uninstall the package
 - -v
- o Enable verbose mode to provide more detail
- -h
- o Enable verbose mode, providing more detail
- -V {package name}
 - o Verify the software components of the package exist
- Syntax
 - rpm [options] [package name]
- Options to query the rpm database
 - -qa
 - o List all installed software
 - -qi {package name}
 - o List information about a particular package
 - -qc {package name}
 - o List the configuration files for a particular package
- Options for upgrading
 - -U
- o Upgrade or install a package

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- -F
- o Freshen installed package
- o yum command
 - Improves on the functionality of rpm while still using .rpm packages and maintaining an RPM database
 - Automatic handling of dependencies
 - Use of repositories
 - Subcommands
 - install {package name}
 - o Install the package from any configured repository
 - localinstall {package name}
 - o Install the package from the local repository
 - remove {package name}
 - o Uninstall the package
 - update [package name]
 - o Update the package
 - update
 - o Update all installed packages
 - info {package name}
 - o Report information about the package
 - provides {file name}
 - o Report what package provides specified files/libraries
 - Syntax
 - yum [options] [subcommand] [package name]
 - Options
 - -y

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- o Automatically answer yes to installing additional software dependencies
- o dnf subcommand
 - Syntax
 - Syntax to install
 - o dnf install [package name]
 - Syntax to uninstall
 - o dnf remove [package name]
- Debian Packages and APT
 - o dpkg command
 - Debian's main package management program
 - Options
 - -i {package name}
 - o Install the package
 - -r {package name}
 - o Remove or uninstall the package
 - -l {package name}
 - o List information about the specified package
 - -l
- o List all installed packages
- -s {package name}
 - o Report whether the package is installed
- Syntax
 - dpkg [options] [package name]

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Study Notes

 dpkg ensures all the necessary components and dependencies are installed

o APT

- A front-end manager to the dpkg system
- Newer version of dpkg
- Older apt commands
 - apt-get
 - apt-cache
- apt command
 - Subcommands
 - o install {package name}
 - Install the package
 - o remove {package name}
 - Uninstall the package and keep its configuration files
 - o purge {package name}
 - Uninstall the package and remove its configuration files
 - o show {package name}
 - Report information about the package
 - o version {package name}
 - Display version information about the package
 - o update
 - Update APT database of available packages
 - o upgrade [package name]
 - Upgrade the package

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Study Notes

- o upgrade
 - Upgrade all packages
- Syntax
 - o apt [options] [subcommand] [package name]
- The apt-get and apt-cache commands are still functional and have more specific controls
 - apt command is updated and better than apt-get and apt cache
- o Run the apt update command prior to running apt upgrade
 - apt Update
 - Does not install any software
 - apt Upgrade
 - Upgrades all installed software

Repositories

- o Repositories
 - Storage locations for available software packages
 - also called Repos
 - Local Repository
 - Stored on the system's local storage drive
 - Centralized Internal Repository
 - Stored on one or more systems within the internal LAN
 - Vendor Repository
 - Maintained on the Internet, often by the distribution vendor
- o createrepo command
 - Updates the XML files used to reference the repository location

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- Creates a .repo Configuration File
 - Provides additional information about the repository and is stored in the /etc/yum.repos.d/ directory
 - .repo File Components
 - o [repo-name]
 - Repository name
 - o name=Repository Name
 - Human-friendly name of the repository
 - o baseurl=
 - Path to the repository
 - o enabled=1
 - Enables the repository
 - o gpgcheck=0
 - Disables GPG checking
- o yum Subcommands related to repositories
 - repolist
 - See all available repositories
 - makecache
 - Locally cache information about available repositories
 - clean all
 - Clear out-of-date cache information
- o Mirroring
 - Enables the synchronization of an online repository to a local storage location
 - reposync
 - Manages the mirroring process

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Study Notes

• Acquire Software

- o wget and curl commands
 - Can be written into scripts to automate the process of downloading package files
 - wget syntax
 - wget {web address}
 - Comparison
 - wget
 - o Command line utility only
 - o Can download files recursively
 - o Supports HTTP/S and FTP
 - o Download files
 - curl
 - o Cross-platform
 - o Cannot download files recursively
 - o Supports more network protocols
 - o Builds/manages complex requests
- o tar command
 - Stands for Tape Archiver
 - Bundles together multiple files into a single tarball with a .tar extension
 - Options
 - -c
- o Creates the tarball
- -X

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- o Extract the tarball
- -v
- o Enable verbose mode
- -r
- o Append more files to an existing tarball
- -t
- o Test the tarball or see what files are included in the tarball
- -f
- o Specify the name of the tarball in the next argument
- Syntax
 - tar [options] {file name}
- o gzip command
 - Compression utility that produces files with the .gz extension
 - It is common to compress a tarball to create the .tar.gz or .tgz extension
 - Syntax
 - gzip {file name}
 - o Compress the file and appends the .gz extension
 - gzip -d {file name}
 - o Decompress the file
- o .tar.bz2 indicates the tarball was compressed with the bzip2 utility
- Building Software from Source Code
 - o Compiler

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- Translates source code written in a human-friendly programming language into machine-readable binaries
- Software developers provide a list of all necessary libraries or dependencies for the software
 - Will be stored in either
 - o Header files (.h file extension)
 - o Library files (.a file extension)
- o Program Libraries
 - Chunks of compiled code that can be used in programs to accomplish common tasks
- o Shared Libraries
 - Enable more modular program builds and reduce time when compiling the software
 - Found in the following directories
 - /usr/lib/
 - o General access
 - /lib/
 - o Essential binary access
- o ldd command
 - Enables a user to view shared library dependencies
- o Software Compilation Process
 - Decrypt the downloaded program using tar and gzip commands and change into the directory that gets created
 - Run the ./configure command to gather system information needed by the application

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Study Notes

- Use the make command to compile the application using the information stored in the makefile
- Use the make install command to install the resulting binaries
- o makefile command
 - Contains instructions used by a compiler to build a program from source code

• Troubleshooting Software Dependency Issues

- o If you are using a package manager, first check the configuration files for your specific package manager
 - APT
 - /etc/apt/sources.list.d /etc/apt.conf
 - YUM
 - /etc/yum.repo.d
 - /etc/yum.conf
 - DNF
 - /etc/dnf/dnf.conf
- O Use the verify command to check if the software and its dependencies were properly installed
- o Run the apt update command first to get the latest versions of the dependency packages
- o Check the documentation for the compiler for issues with the compiling software itself
- o When necessary, run the make install command using sudo to assume root privileges to run certain programs or code



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- Always ensure a solid backup and restoration plan when updating and upgrading software
- o If things go wrong, check the installation logs immediately

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Study Notes

Securing Linux Systems

Objectives:

- 1.2: Given a scenario, manage files and directories.
- 2.1: Summarize the purpose and use of security best practices in a Linux environment.
- 2.3: Given a scenario, implement and configure firewalls.
- 2.4: Given a scenario, configure and execute remote connectivity for system management.
- 2.5: Given a scenario, apply the appropriate access controls.

• Cybersecurity Best Practices

- o Linux is the operating system used on most network devices and security appliances
- o Cybersecurity
 - Protection of computer systems and digital information resources
 from unauthorized access, attack, theft, or data damage
 - CIA Triad
 - Confidentiality
 - o Keeps the information and communications private and protected from unauthorized access
 - o Confidentiality is controlled through encryption and access controls
 - Integrity
 - o Keeps the organizational information accurate, error-free, and without unauthorized modifications

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- o Integrity is controlled through hashing, digital signatures, certificates, and change control
- Availability
 - o Ensures that computer systems run continuously, and authorized users can access data
 - o Availability is controlled through redundancy, fault tolerance, and patching
- o Authentication
 - Enables an organization to trust the users
 - Ways to authenticate users
 - Knowledge factors
 - o PINs
 - o Passwords
 - o Passphrases
 - Possession factors
 - o Token
 - Any unique object (physical or digital) used to verify identity
 - Inheritance factor
 - o Biometrics
 - Authentication scheme that verifies a user's identity based on physical characteristics
 - Authentication protocols
 - Remote Authentication Dial-In User Service (RADIUS)
 - o Internet standard protocol that provides authentication, authorization, and accounting (AAA) services

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Study Notes

- Terminal Access Controller Access-Control System (TACACS)
 - o Provides AAA services for remote users
 - o TACACS+
 - More secure and scalable than RADIUS
- Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)
 - o TCP/IP-based directory service protocol

o Kerberos

- Authentication service based on a time-sensitive ticket-granting system
- kinit command
 - Authenticate Kerberos ticket if successful
 - subcommands
 - o kpassword
 - Change the user's Kerberos password
 - o klist
 - List the user's ticket cache
 - o kdestroy
 - Clear the user's ticket cache
 - o klist -v
 - Verify ticket

o Privilege Escalation

- User is given access additional resources or functionality
- While changing a permission (SUID/SGID), consider using the lowest permissions needed for the task
- Chroot Jail

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- Way to isolate a process and its children from the rest of the system
- o Encryption
 - Cryptographic technique that converts data from plaintext form into coded or ciphertext
 - Decryption
 - Converts ciphertext back to plaintext
 - Algorithm (Cipher)
 - Responsible for the conversion process
 - Encryption is one of the most fundamental cybersecurity techniques for upholding the confidentiality of data
 - Data at rest encryption
 - Full Drive/Disk Encryption (FDE)
 - o Encrypts a storage drive, partition, or volume using hardware/software utilities
 - File Encryption
 - o Encrypts individual files and folders using software utilities
- o Linux Unified Key Setup (LUKS)
 - Used to encrypt storage devices in a Linux
 - LUKS standardizes the format of encrypted devices
 - shred command
 - Used to securely wipe a storage device
 - cryptsetup command
 - Used as the front-end to LUKS and dm-crypt
 - LUKS extensions

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- o isLuks
 - Identify if a device is a LUKS device
- o luksOpen
 - Open a LUKS storage device
- o luksClose
 - Remove a LUKS storage device
- o lucksAddKey
 - Associate new key with a LUKS device
- o luksDelKey
 - Remove key material from a LUKS device
- Syntax
 - o cryptsetup [options] {action} [action arguments]
- o Hashing
 - Transforms plaintext input into an indecipherable, fixed-length output
- o Best Practices in Network Configurations
 - Enable SSL/TLS
 - Configure SSH
 - Change service defaults (SSH and HTTP/S)
- o Security through Obscurity
- o Setting up SSL and TLS on an Apache Server
 - Generate OpenSSL
 - Download and install mod ssl package (/etc/httpd/conf.d/ssl.conf)
 - Point SSLCertificateFile
 - Point SSLCertificateKeyFile
 - Restart Apache

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Study Notes

- Open the browser and verify certificate
- o Best practices for managing user access
 - Protect the boot loader configuration with a password
 - Enable password protection in the system's BIOS/UEFI
 - Ismod command
 - o Search for USB storage an any dependent modules
 - modprobe -r command
 - o Unload relevant modules from kernel
 - /etc/modprobe.d/
 - o Create a block list file
 - Ensure user IDs are not being shared
 - Establish a public key infrastructure
 - Restrict access to cron (Linux job scheduler)
 - Disable the use of Ctrl+Alt+Del
 - Enable the auditd service
 - Add a banner message to /etc/issue
 - Separate operating system data and other types of data
 - Monitor regularly the Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE) database
 - Harden the system by disabling or uninstalling unused and/or insecure services

• Identity and Access Management

- o IAM
 - Identity and Access Management

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- Security process that provides identity, authentication, and authorization mechanisms
- o SSH Protocol
 - Supports many authentication method
 - Public Key Authentication
 - Used for interactive and automated connections
 - Improves security
 - Usability benefits such as single sign-on
 - Automated passwordless login
 - Files used to configure
 - Most files are found in the ~/.ssh/ Directory
 - Contains files related to SSH keys
 - o id_rsa
 - Contains the user's private key
 - o id_rsa.pub
 - Contains the user's public key
 - o authorized_keys
 - Lists the public keys that server accepts
 - o known hosts
 - Contains the lists the public keys that the client accepts
 - o config
 - Configures SSH connection settings
 - Commands used when working with ssh files
 - ssh-keygen command
 - o Generate public/private key pair

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- ssh-copy-id command
 - Append user's public keys to remote server's authorized_keys file
- ssh-add command
 - o Add private key identities to the SSH key agent
- o /etc/ssh/sshd_config File
 - Used to configure an SSH server
 - Settings that can be configured in this file
 - PasswordAuthentication
 - o Used to enable or disable password-based authentication
 - PubkeyAuthentication
 - Used to enable or disable public key-based authentication
 - UsePAM
 - o Enables or disables support for Pluggable Authentication Modules (PAM)
 - Port
 - o Used to change the port number to bind the SSH service
 - SyslogFacility
 - o Used to change the logging level of SSH events
 - ChrootDirectory
 - o Used to reference a chroot jail path for a user
 - AllowUsers/AllowGroups
 - o Used to enable user-specific access by allowing the specified users or groups access over SSH

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- DenyUsers/DenyGroups
 - o Used to restrict the specified users or groups from accessing the server over SSH
- PermitRootLogin
 - Used to enable or disable the ability for the root user to log in over SSH
- o TCP Wrapper
 - Checks the allowed and denied hosts before permitting the host to connect with the SSH service
 - Configure in
 - /etc/hosts.allow File
 - o Allow host
 - /etc/hosts.deny File
 - o Deny host
- o Pluggable Authentication Modules (PAM)
 - Used to help applications make proper use of user accounts in Linux
 - PAM configuration files are located in /etc/pam.d/ directory
 - Each file has a directive which includes
 - *Module Interface*
 - o Defines functions of the authentication and authorization process contained within a module
 - Control Flag
 - o Indicates what should be done upon a success or failure of the module
 - Module Name
 - Module Argument

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- o Additional options that can pass into the module
- Example: password required pam_cracklib.so retry=5
- Module interfaces
 - Account Module
 - Checks user accessibility
 - Auth
 - Used to verify passwords and set credentials (Kerberos tickets)
 - Password
 - o Used to change and verify passwords
 - Session
 - o Configures and manages user sessions
- Control flags tell PAM what to do with the result
 - Optional
 - o Module result is ignored
 - Required
 - o Module result must be successful for authentication to continue
 - Requisite
 - Notifies the user of the first failed required/requisite module
 - Sufficient
 - o Module result is ignored upon failure
- Examples of Pam policies
 - password requisite pam_pwquality.so local_users_only
 - Requires the user to entera strong password

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- password requisite pam_pwhistory.so remember=90
 - o Enforce a password history for 90 days
- password sufficient pam_unix.so sha512 use_authtok
 - o Allow the module not to do any password checks
- Pam modules
 - pam_faillock
 - Recommended as it is newer and improves upon pam_tally2
 - pam_tally2
 - o Supports user lockout when authentication is done
 - o Place user lockout directives in
 - /etc/pam.d/password-auth
 - /etc/pam.d/system-auth
- pam_ldap module
 - Specifies other directives (log in/access resources)
 - add into to the /etc/pam.d/common file
- /etc/securetty
 - Determines the controlling terminals the root user has access to
 - Configure this to determine what terminals a root user can use to access PAM
- o PKI can be publicly available or maintained privately by an organization
 - Components of the PKI system
 - Digital Signature
 - o Encrypted message digest with a user's private key
 - Digital Certificate

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Study Notes

- o Electronic document that associates credentials with a public key
- Certificate Authority
 - o Issues digital certificates for entities and maintains the associated private/public key pair
- Certificate Signing Request (CSR)
 - o Message sent to the certificate authority in which an entity applies for a certificate
- openssl command
 - Open-source implementation of the SSL/TLS protocol for securing data in transit using cryptography
 - OpenSSL is one of the most common tools for generating and managing components of a PKI
 - Syntax
 - o openssl [subcommand] [options]

o VPNs

- Internet Protocol Security (IPSec)
 - Used to secure data traveling across the network or the Internet
 - Creates VPNs in two modes
 - o Transport Mode
 - Packet contents are encrypted, whereas the header is not
 - o Tunnel Mode
 - Both the packet contents and header are encrypted

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- StrongSwan Utility
 - o Can set up username and password authentication and generate digital certificates
 - o /etc/strongswan/ipsec.conf
 - Contains the main configuration file for StrongSwan
 - o /etc/strongswan/ipsec.secrets
 - File where user accounts are configurable
- SSL/TLS
 - Used as a VPN authentication and encryption protocol
- OpenVPN
 - Supports password-based, certificate-based, and smart card-based authentication mechanisms for clients
 - Configuration files are stored in the /etc/openvpn/ directory
- Datagram Transport Layer Security (DTLS)
 - Implements SSL/TLS over datagrams
- o Troubleshooting
 - Users must have set up proper credentials and transmit them to SSH or VPN
 - Check if user remote connection attempts are triggering a policy violation
 - Sign on with the local account (service issue or networking issue)
 - Ensure the user identities are correctly configured
 - Lax PAM policies are leading to unauthorized users accessing resources they shouldn't

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- Privileged access should be granted on an as-needed basis
- SELinux or AppArmor
 - o Access Control Models
 - Mandatory Access Control (MAC)
 - System-enforced access control based on subject clearance and object labels
 - Context-Based Permissions
 - Permission scheme that defines various properties for a file or process
 - SELinux and AppArmor are two types of Context-Based Permissions
 - Discretionary Access Control (DAC)
 - Each object has a list of entities that are allowed to access it
 - o SELinux
 - Default context-based permissions scheme provided with CentOS and Red Hat Enterprise Linux
 - Enforces MAC
 - 3 main contexts for each file and process
 - User
 - o Defines what users can access the object
 - o Most common user types
 - unconfined_u
 - All users
 - user u
 - Unprivileged users

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- sysadm_u
 - System administrators
- Root
 - Root user
- Role
 - o Permits or denies users access to domains
 - o object_r
 - the role that applies to files and directories
- Type
 - o Groups objects together that has similar security requirements or characteristics
- Level
 - o Optional
 - Describes the sensitivity level called "Multi-level security"
- Modes
 - Disabled
 - o SELinux is turned off and the DAC method will be prevalent
 - Enforcing
 - o SELinux security policies are enforced
 - Permissive
 - o SELinux is enabled but the security policies are not enforced
- Types of policies
 - Targeted Policy

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- o Default SELinux policy used in Red Hat Enterprise Linux and CentOS
- Strict Policy
 - o Every system subject and object is enforced to operate on MAC
 - o Higher level of security
- Commands for SELinux
 - semanage command
 - o Configure SELinux policies
 - sestatus command
 - o Get SELinux status
 - getenforce command
 - o Display SELinux mode
 - setenforce command
 - o Change SELinux mode
 - o Examples
 - setenforce 1
 - Enable enforcing mode
 - setenforce 0
 - Enable permissive mode
 - getsebool command
 - o Display the on or off status of Boolean values
 - setsebool command
 - o Change the on or off status of a SELinux Boolean value
 - ls -Z command
 - o List directory contents

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- o example
 - ls -Z {file or directory name}
 - List directory contents along with each object's security context
- ps -Z command
 - o List running process
 - o Check the context of a specific process
 - ps -Z {PID}
- chcon command
 - o Change the security context of a file
 - o Basic Syntax
 - chcon {-u|-r|-t} {context value}
 {file or directory name}
- restorecon
 - o Restore the default security context
 - o Restore Objects
 - o Syntax
 - restorecon {file or directory name}
- Violations
 - Violation occurs when an attempt to access an object or an action goes against an existing policy
 - sealert command
 - o makes sure all alert messages are sent to the logs
 - audit2why command
 - o Allows you to see the violations in the logs

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- o Translates violation into more human readable form
- audit2allow command
 - Used to gather information from the denied operations
 log
 - Will generate SELinux policy allow rules for denied operations
 - o audit2allow -w -a
 - Read the audit log and display the human-readable description of the blocked activity
 - o audit2allow -a -M [RuleName]
 - Generate a loadable module to allow the activity to occur
 - Creates two files in the directory
 - RuleName.pp
 - o Policy package file
 - RuleName.te
 - o Type enforcement file
 - o semodule -i {rulename.pp}
 - Loads the two files to install the rule into SELinux
- o AppArmor
 - Alternative context-based permissions scheme and MAC implementation for Linux
 - Difference between AppArmor and SELinux
 - AppArmor

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- o Works with file system objects
- o Easier to work with
- SELinux
 - o References inodes directly
 - o More difficult to configure
- /etc/apparmor.d Directory
 - contains profiles for AppArmor
- Main rules that can be configured
 - Capabilities
 - o Provide the executable in question access to system functionality
 - Path Entries
 - o Enable the executable to access a specific file on the file system
- Modes
 - Complain Mode
 - o Profile violations are logged but not prevented
 - Enforce Mode
 - Profile violations are both logged and prevented
- Tunables
 - Mechanism for tuning configuration in AppArmour without profile adjustments
 - Stored in
 - /etc/apparmor.d/ tunables/home
 - o Contains the most common tunable to adjust
- Commands

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- apparmor_status
 - o Display the current status
- aa-complain
 - o Place a profile in complain mode
- aa-enforce
 - o Place a profile in enforce mode
- aa-disable
 - o Disable profile
- aa-unconfined
 - o List processes with open network sockets
- AppArmor is configured to reduce the potential attack surface and provide greater in-depth defense
- AppArmor can only do so much to protect against exploits in application codes

Firewalls

- o Firewall
 - Program interface between a private network and the Internet
- Main Generations
 - Packet Filters
 - Make decisions based on rules that correspond to network packet attributes
 - Packet filtering firewalls are also called stateless firewalls
 - Stateful
 - Identifies past traffic related to a packet
 - Application Layer Firewall

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- Inspects the contents of application layer traffic
- o Stateless Firewall's ACL
 - Allows or denies packets based on various factors
 - Used by all of the main generations of firewalls
 - Actions taken when a packet matches a rule
 - Accept
 - o Traffic is allowed through the firewall and sent to its destination
 - Reject
 - o Traffic is blocked at the firewall and the firewall notifies the sender
 - Drop
 - o Traffic is blocked at the firewall and does not notify the sender
- o Tools
 - iptables
 - Applies to a certain context and consists of rule sets (chains)
 - o packets are checked against rule sets one by one
 - if it doesn't match the first rule set, it is then checked against the next rule set, like links in a chain
 - Continues until it passes through all of the rules or matches one of them
 - If the packet matches a rule, it can be accepted, rejected,
 or dropped
 - Syntax for running iptables

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- o iptables [option] [-t table] [commands]
 {chain/rule specification}
- Have 5 tables that can be activated by default in your kernel
 - o Filter table
 - Default table used for typical packet filtering functionality
 - o Nat table
 - Used to implement Network Address Translation rules
 - o Mangle table
 - Used to alter the packets' TCP/IP header
 - o Raw table
 - Used to configure exceptions involved in connection tracking
 - o Security table
 - Used to mark packets with SELinux security contexts
- Different distros allow for persistence of iptables when rebooting
 - o CentOS/RHEL Distros
 - Install the iptables-services package and issue the service iptables save command
 - o Debian-based Distros
 - Install the iptables persistent package
 - Iptables-persistent service will automatically run at boot and load rules after installation

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- Enabling logging Syntax
 - o Create a new chain
 - iptables -N LOGCHN
 - Ensure all incoming packets not processed by any prior rules will jump to the LOGCHN chain
 - iptables -I INPUT -j LOGCHN
 - o Performs the actual dropping of packets
 - iptables -I LOGCHN -j DROP
- Events for iptables are written to the /var/log/messages or /var/log/kern.log files
- o Uncomplicated Firewall (UFW)
 - iptables management tool
 - Makes the iptables service easier to configure
 - Examples of rules/commands
 - ufw allow http/tcp
 - o Allow rule for HTTP
 - ufw logging
 - o Turn on logging
 - ufw enable
 - Enable firewall
 - Syntax
 - ufw [options] {actions}
 - For more detailed control, edit one of the following files
 - /etc/default/ufw
 - Configure high-level settings like policy defaults and kernel module usage

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- /etc/ufw/ directory
 - o Contains more granular configuration files
- o Firewall Daemon (firewalld)
 - Used to dynamically manage a firewall without requiring a restart
 - Firewall zones are the rule sets that apply to network interfaces
 - Default zones have different levels of trust
 - Example
 - o drop
 - Zone with the lowest level of trust
 - Commands
 - firewall-cmd
 - o Configure firewalld by querying, adding, modifying, and deleting zones and services as desired
 - o Syntax
 - firewall-cmd [options]
 - o Options
 - --get-zones
 - Lists Available firewalld Zones
 - --zone=dmz --list-all
 - Lists Details dmz Zone
 - --zone=dmz change-interface=<device ID>
 - Add Specified Interface to the dmz Zone
 - --zone=dmz --add-service=http
 - Add HTTP Service to the dmz Zone
 - --zone=dmz --add-port=21/tcp
 - Add TCP Port 21 (FTP) to the dmz Zone



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- --zone=dmz --remove-service=http
 - Remove HTTP Service from the dmz Zone
- --zone=dmz --remove-port=21/tcp
 - Remove TCP Port 21 (FTP) from the dmz
 Zone
- --reload
 - Reloads Zone's Configuration
- --permanent
 - Persist Change

- Netfilter
 - Handles packets that traverse a network interface
 - Netfilter (nftables) was designed as a replacement for iptables and is installed by default on Debian
- o IP Forwarding
 - Enables incoming traffic on one network interface to another
- o IP Set
 - Stored collection of IP and MAC addresses, network ranges, port numbers, and network interface names
 - iptables tool leverages IP sets for more efficient rule matching
 - ipset command
 - Create and modify IP sets
 - syntax
 - o ipset [options] {command}
 - test subcommand
 - o used to test the entry exists
 - o often linked to ports

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- Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA)
 - Trusted Ports/Privileged Ports
 - o 0-1023
- The test subcommand is used to test the entry exists
- Check the firewall rule set to ensure there are no overtly blocked ports in the system
- ACL can be configured to only block specific source ports
- o Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)
 - Security appliance
 - Monitors and evaluates a system for attack signs and blocks traffic that it determines malicious
 - second layer of defense that monitors traffic
 - Common third party IPSs
 - DenyHosts
 - o Protects SSH servers from brute force password cracking attacks
 - o /etc/denyhosts.conf
 - Primary configuration file for DenyHosts
 - Settings that can be adjusted
 - ADMIN EMAIL
 - o Define email address to send alert
 - BLOCK_SERVICE
 - o Define services to be blocked from unauthorized users
 - DENY_THRESHOLD_VALID



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Study Notes

o Defines number of times a user can attempt to log in

- Fail2ban
 - o Monitors log files with an authentication component
 - o Primary Configuration file
 - /etc/fail2ban/jail.conf
 - Copy file to /etc/fail2ban/jail.local or make a custom .conf file within /etc/fail2ban/jail.d/
 - o Settings that can be configured
 - Bantime
 - Defines a host being blocked from accessing a resource
 - Maxretry
 - Defines the number of times a host can fail before being blocked
 - ignoreip
 - Defines a whitelist of accepted hosts

Logging Services

- o Operating System Log
 - Provides a wealth of diagnostic information about a computer
- o System Log
 - Records of system activities and events
- o Remote Logging
 - Centralized logging server that receives and processes syslog data
- o /var/log/ Directory

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- location for System Logs storage
- Subdirectories and their contents
 - Debian based
 - o /var/log/syslog
 - All types of system events
 - o /var/log/auth.log
 - Authentication messages
 - Red Hat/CentOS based
 - o /var/log/messages
 - General non-critical system events
 - o /var/log/secure
 - Authentication messages
 - Both Debian and CentOS based
 - o /var/log/kern.log
 - Kernel messages
 - o /var/log/[application]
 - Miscellaneous applications (cron, firewalld, mailog) messages
- o Log Rotation
 - Practice of creating new versions of a log file
 - logrotate command
 - Used to perform automatic rotation of logs
 - Can also be configured using
 - /etc/logrotate.d/
 - o Log Rotation Behavior
- o To change configurations on the rsyslogd Service edit/etc/rsyslog.conf

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- /etc/rsyslog.conf is laid out in columns
 - The first column lists message facilities and/or severities
 - o severities are defined in word format, not numbers
 - The second column defines actions for the messages
- o syslog-ng
 - Replacement for syslogd
- o Centralization of log data
 - The syslog standard is not universally supported on all platforms
 - Third party Agents must be used to facilitate actions between syslog and non-syslog platforms
 - Agent
 - o A software program that acts on behalf of some other program or service
- o Logging Commands
 - journalctl command
 - Enables the viewing and querying of log files
 - Prints a journal log
 - Queries journald log data used in syslogd or rsyslogd
 - configure journald log data by altering etc/systemd/journald.conf
 - Syntax
 - o journalctl [options] [matches]
 - Options
 - o -n {number of lines}
 - Specify number of lines of journal logs to display
 - o -o {output format}

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- Specify format of the output
- o -f
- Display most recent journal entries
- о -р
- Filter journal log output by severity
- o -u
- Filter journal log output by the name of service
- o -b [boot ID]
 - Show log message from Boot ID specified
- systemd Journal
 - o Stores logs in memory
 - o cleared out on reboot
 - To make them persistent, create a /var/log/journal/ directory
- last command
 - Displays the user's history of login and logout events
 - Syntax
 - o last [options
 - Example
 - o last 1
 - will show the history of login and log out events for terminal 1
- lastlog command
 - Lists all users and the last time a user logged in
 - Retrieves Information from /var/log/lastlog

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Study Notes

• Backup, Restore, and Verify Data

- o Backup Strategy
 - Data protection that directs data backup and recovery policy actions
 - Backup
 - Copy of data that exists in another logical or physical location
 - Types of backups
 - Full Backup
 - o All selected files are backed up
 - Differential Backup
 - o Focuses on the files that have changed since the last full backup
 - Incremental Backup
 - o Only backs up the changed data found in files
 - Snapshot
 - o Records the state of a storage drive at a certain point in time
 - Image-Based Backup
 - o Saves the state of an operating system in an image file format
 - Cloning
 - Copies all the contents of a storage drive to another storage medium
- o tar command
 - Tape archive
 - Enables the creation of data archives
 - Syntax

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- tar [options] {file names}
- Example
 - tar -xvf
 - o Restores the contents of a source file
- o dar command
 - disk archiver
 - Offers more backup and archiving functionality
 - Examples
 - dar -R mydata -c full.bak
 - o Full Backup
 - dar -R mydata -c diff1. bak -A full.bak
 - o Differential Backup
 - Options
 - -x extract
 - o extract
 - o Recover a Backup
 - -w
- o Overwrites Changes
- o cpio command
 - Copies files to and from archives
 - Modes
 - Copy-out
 - o Used to copy files into an archive
 - Copy-in
 - o Used to copy files from an archive
 - Copy-pass

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- o Used to copy files from one directory tree to another
- Examples
 - ls | cpio -o > dir archive
 - o Archive Directory Content
 - cpio -i < dir archive
 - o Extract Archive (copy-in)
- o dd command
 - disk duplicate
 - Copies and converts files to be transferred from one type of media to another
 - Options
 - if={file name}
 - o Specify file to be read
 - of={file name}
 - o Specify file to be written
 - bs={bytes}
 - o Block size to read and write in bytes
 - count={count}
 - o Specify number of blocks to be written
 - status={level}
 - o Specify information to print to standard error
 - Syntax
 - dd [options] [operands]
 - Examples
 - o dd if=/dev/sda of=/dev/sdb
 - Copy Full Backup of Storage

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- o dd if=/dev/sda2 of=/backup/full.dd
 - Copies full backup to a file
- o mirrorvg command
 - Creates copies of logical volumes in a specified logical volume group
 - Syntax
 - mirrorvg [options] {volume group}
- o mklvcopy command
 - Mirrors individual logical volumes in a volume group
- o lvcreate command
 - creates mirrors of logical volumes
 - Option
 - -m#
 - Example
 - lvcreate -L 10G -ml -n mirrorlv volgr
 - o creates one 10 gigabyte mirror called mirrorly
- o off-site
 - Physical location outside of the main site that stores copies of data
- Tools for transporting data safely
 - scp tool
 - Used to copy data to or from a remote host over SSH
 - Secure File Transport Protocol (SFTP)
 - Uses an SSH tunnel as a transportation mechanism to encrypt data
 - rsync
 - Used to copy files locally and to remote systems

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Study Notes

Bash Scripting

Objective 3.1: Given a scenario, create simple shell scripts to automate common tasks.

• The Bash Shell Environment

- o Basic Terms
 - Shell Environment
 - Mechanism by which Bash maintains settings and other behavioral details
 - Shell Spawning
 - Process of creating a new session
 - Script
 - Any computer program that automates the execution of tasks
- o Variables
 - Entity whose values change from time to time
 - Set variables syntax
 - VAR=value
 - Example: create a variable called MYVARIABLE
 - o MYVARIABLE=123
 - To view the variable syntax
 - o \${VARIABLE NAME}
 - To view contents of MYVARIABLE syntax
 - o echo \${MYVARIABLE}
 - Environment Variable
 - Variable that is inherited from parent shell processes and passed to the child processes
 - Default Variables

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- o HOSTNAME={hostname}
 - Specifies the system hostname
- o SHELL={shell path}
 - Specifies the system shell path
- o MAIL={mail path}
 - Specifies the mail path storage
- o HOME={home directory}
 - Specifies user's home directory
- o PATH={user path}
 - Specifies the search path
- o HISTSIZE={number}
 - Specifies the command history
- o USER={username}
 - Specifies the user's name
- Edit the /etc/locale.conf File to configure environmental variables and assign the locale to the variable
 - o Examples
 - LC_*={locale}
 - Collection of Localization Environment Variables
 - LANG={locale}
 - Locale for LC_* variables
 - LC_ALL={locale}
 - Locale for All Options
 - TZ={time zone}
 - System Time Zone

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- Commands
 - export command
 - o used to effectively changes a shell variable into an environmental variable
 - o Example:
 - export SHELL VAR
 - makes SHELL_VAR an environmental variable
 - export SHELL_VAR="New value"
 - makes SHELL_VAR an environmental variable and gives it a new value
 - o Syntax
 - export [options] [NAME[=value]]
 - env command
 - o Used to run a command with modified environment variables
 - o changes it for the session only
 - o Syntax
 - env [options] [NAME=value][command]
 - set command
 - o Use without arguments to print all shell variables, environment variables, and shell functions
 - o Syntax
 - set
 - Differences

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- o export
 - Change the variable value for child processes
- o env
 - View or change variables for a specific command
- o set
- View or change the value of a shell command
- Search Path
 - Sequence of various directory paths to locate files
 - Can be assigned to the PATH environmental variable
 - o has a list of all the directory names separated by colons
- HISTFILESIZE Variable
 - Sets the maximum number of lines in the command history file
 - Default history file value is 1000
- o alias command
 - Used to customize the shell environment by generating command-line aliases
 - Can create shortened versions of commands
- o time command
 - Used to gather information about how long to execute a command
 - gives three pieces of information by default
 - Elapsed real time between invocation and termination
 - User CPU time
 - System CPU time
 - Syntax
 - time [options] [command]
- o Troubleshooting

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Study Notes

- When adding an alias, check the syntax
- When executing scripts, add their location to the PATH variable
- Use the export command to set a variable for all shell child processes
- Configure environment variables in the ~/.bash profile file
- Ensure values are set for any environment variables that a software package has a dependency on

Scripting and Programming Fundamentals

- o Bash
 - Powerful scripting language
 - Bash scripts support modern programming elements (loops and conditional statements)
 - Bash script syntax is similar to CLI
 - #!/bin/bash
 - Instructs the operating system to use the Bash shell interpreter
- o Assigning Variable
 - Symbolically associate a piece of information with a name
 - All Bash variables are treated as strings
 - Syntax
 - variablename='value'
 - make sure there are no spaces before or after the =
- o Substitution or Parameter Expansion
 - Act of referencing/retrieving the value of a variable
 - Takes place after it has been assigned
 - Syntax
 - \$variablename

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- o Comparisons
 - Operators
 - Objects that can evaluate expressions in different ways
 - Operands
 - Values being operated on
 - Types of Operators
 - Arithmetic operators
 - o Includes addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and other operations
 - o Example, adding variables syntax
 - \$((var1 + var2))
 - Comparison operators
 - o Includes checking if operands are equal
 - o use bracket [], not parentheses ()
 - o Example of comparison syntax
 - [\$var1 -qe \$var2]
 - Logical operators
 - o Connect multiple values (AND, OR, and NOT)
 - Example of testing two variables
 - 'AND' , [\$var1 -ge \$var2] &&
 [\$var3 -le \$var4]
 - o OR symbol is ||
 - o NOT symbol is !=
 - String operators
 - o Used in operations that manipulate strings
 - o Example: concatenate two variables syntax

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- \$var1\$var2
- o String Literal
 - Any fixed value that represents a string of text within source code
 - Can use single or double quotes
 - When using variables, use double quotes
 - Always put quotes around strings being assigned to a variable
- o Reserved Characters
 - Escape Character
 - Used to remove special meaning from special characters
 - Escape character in Bash is a single backlash (\)
 - o Also us single quotes
 - array
 - Enables to store multiple values in a single variable
 - Compound assignment in Bash arrays uses parentheses with a value separated by a space
 - function
 - Block of code that can reuse to perform a specific task
 - put code between { }
 - #
- Every character after it is part of a comment
- o Metacharacters
 - Special characters that the Bash shell will interpret in a certain way
 - >
- Output redirection
- >>
- Output redirection (in different manner)

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•	<	
_	<<	Input redirection
		Input redirection (here documents)
		Piping
•	"	• Weak string literals
•	•	
	`	• Strong string literals
	\	Breaking out a string literal
	Ì	Escaping characters
•	=	• Variable assignment
•	\$	• Variable substitution and other types of shell expansion
•	#	• Commenting
-	Ш	
•	&&	Logical OR operations
	*	Logical AND operations
	•	• Wildcard matching

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•	?		
		•	Wildcard matching applied in a single character matched

- []
- Wildcard matching applied any characters between brackets matched
- {}
- Parameter substitution and arrays
- ()
- Grouping commands
- &
- Running a process in background
- ;
- Separating multiple commands on the same line
- -!
- Referencing command history
- o exit Code/Exit Status
 - Programs can pass a value to a parent process while terminating
 - Status code of 0
 - o Successful
 - Exit code 1 or higher
 - o Error
 - Redirection and Piping (CLI)
 - Determine where you want stdout/stderr/ stdin to go
- o Shell Expansion
 - Process by which the shell identifies special tokens and substitutes values for them

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Study Notes

- Variable Substitution
 - Identifies the \$ special character and expands into its actual value
 - A type of shell expansion
- Expands in a specific order
 - 1. Brace expansion
 - 2. Tilde expansion
 - 3. Parameter and variable expansion
 - 4. Arithmetic expansion
 - 5. Command substitution
 - 6. Word splitting
 - 7. Filename expansion
- Expansion allows for the use of output from a command to become input for the next command
 - increases the complexity and functionality of commands

o Globbing

- Used for matching or expanding specific types of patterns
- Used for searches
- Uses wildcard charachters
 - Asterisk (*)
 - o Used to match any number of characters
 - Question mark (?)
 - o Used to match a single character
 - Square brackets ([])
 - o Used to match any of the characters listed
- o Positional Parameter

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- Variable within a shell script that is assigned to an argument when the script is invoked
- Example:
 - dion.sh arg1 arg2 arg3
- o exec
 - Replaces the bash with the command to be executed
 - prevents a user from returning to a parent process inside your script
- o source
 - Used to execute another command within the current shell process
- o File extensions in Linux are optional
 - Adding .sh as an extension to a shell script does not imbue the script with any special meaning
- o Use two permissions for each user that needs to run the script
 - Execute (x) bit on the script
 - Write (w) and execute (x) bits on the directory containing the script

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Study Notes

Task Automation

Objectives:

- 1.4: Given a scenario, configure and use the appropriate processes and services.
- 1.6: Given a scenario, build and install software.
- 3.2: Given a scenario, perform basic container operations.
- 3.3: Given a scenario, perform basic version control using Git.
- 3.4: Summarize common infrastructure as code technologies.
- 3.5: Summarize container, cloud, and orchestration concepts.

• Schedule Jobs

- o Bash Scripting
 - Powerful part of system administration and development
 - Bash contains sets of commands which are used to automate the execution of tasks
 - Utilities that allow the scheduling
 - Cron command
 - o Repetitive task
 - At service
 - o One-time task
 - at command
 - Schedules a command to run once at a particular time
 - Syntax
 - o at [options] {time}
 - Options
 - o -m
- Send mail to the user

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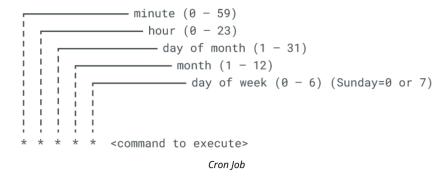
- o -M
- Prevent sending mail to the user
- o -f {file name}
 - Read a job from a file
- o -t {time}
 - Run the job at the specified time value
- o -v
- Time the job will be executed
 - Noon
 - o 12 P.M.
 - Teatime
 - o 4 P.M.
 - Midnight
 - o 12 A.M.
 - 3 minutes from now
 - o now + 3 minutes
 - 1 hr from now
 - o now + 1 hour
- Additional time commands
 - atq command
 - Used to view the current queue of tasks scheduled by at command
 - atrm command
 - o Used to delete a scheduled task
- o Cron Daemon
 - Used to manage scheduled tasks called cronjobs

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Study Notes

- Crontab command
 - can create, view, and delete crontab files
 - Options
 - о -е
- Edit crontab for current user
- o -l
- View crontab for current user
- o -r
- Delete current crontab file
- o -u
- Create crontab file for specified user
- Syntax
 - o crontab [options] [file/user]
- Crontab also used by system administrators to do tasks at routine intervals inside Linux
 - *****/path/to/command
 - o $45\ 23**6$ /home/user/scripts/exportdump.sh

Each line in this file represents a job, and is formatted as follows:



Examples

o
$$*20**1-5$$
/path/to/command

- 230 -

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Study Notes

- 8 P.M., Monday through Friday
- o 15 2 * * * /path/to/command
 - 2:15 A.M., daily
- o 30 4 1 * * /path/to/command
 - 4:30 A.M. on the first day of each month
- Scheduled crontab Files found in
 - o /etc/cron.d/ directory
 - o /var/spool/cron/ directory
- Crontab files are user specific
 - The Root User and Services can use the /etc/cron.d/directories file to schedule system-wide tasks
 - Regular users are not allowed to populate the /etc/cron directories
 - Standard users can schedule tasks in a personal directory located at /var/ spool/cron
 - /etc/cron.hourly
 - /etc/cron.daily
 - /etc/cron.weekly
 - /etc/cron.monthly

• Version Control using Git

- o Git
- Mature, actively maintained open-source project
- Syntax
 - git [options] {subscommand}

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- o Git Repository
 - Storage area where versions of code and related files are stored
- o Subcommands
 - config
 - Set options for repository or Git users
 - init
- Create Git repository or reinitialize an existing one
- clone
 - Create a copy of an existing repository
- add
 - Add files to be tracked by Git repository
- commit
 - Update the Git repository with changes (snapshot)
- status
 - Display status of the repository
- branch
 - Manage branches (after changes)
- merge
 - Integrate changes into a master branch
- pull
 - Acquire and merge changes
- push
 - Upload local working copy of a repository to a remote repository
- log
- Display the changes made (local repository)

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- checkout
 - Switch to a specific branch
- tag
- Add a tag to your git repository
- rebase
 - one of two utilities that specialize in integrating changes from one branch to another
 - moves or combines a sequence of commits to a new base
 - rewrites historical features
 - maintains the lineage history
- merge
 - one of two utilities that specialize in integrating changes from one branch to another
 - merges two bases into one
 - o the new one will be the base used going forward
- o Process for making changes
 - Configure global settings including username
 - Example:
 - o git config -global user.name 'User'
 - Create a directory where the project will reside
 - Example:
 - o mkdir /dev-project
 - Use cd command to change into /dev-project
 - Change into the created directory and then initialize it with Git to designate it as a Git repository
 - Example:

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Study Notes

- o git init /dev-project
- Add project files to the repository
 - use clone command to create a working copy
 - Example:
 - o git clone /dev-project
- Add project files into the Git tracking system, specifically, myfile
 - Example:
 - o git add myfile
- Commit the changes to take a snapshot of the project
 - enter a note that indicates what has been done
 - Example:
 - o git commit -m 'Initial commit'
 - See the status of the Git repository
 - o Example:
 - qit status

o Branching

- Feature available in most modern version control systems
- A pointer to the snapshot of the different changes you have made
- Spawn a new branch to encapsulate your changes
 - Do this so you can work on the master branch without affecting all of the other developers
 - Syntax to create Branch Master Copy
 - o git branch newbranch
- When you are done, you need to merge the changes back into the master branch
 - Syntax to change and save to master branch

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- o git merge newbranch
- Allows collaboration
 - Requires a process flow
 - o To pull in another developer's code and changes and put it in a remote repository
 - git pull other branch
 - o Then push your changes into the remote repository
 - git push <remote repository> mybranch
 - Changes made locally can be uploaded to the central repository using the Git push command
 - git log command
 - o shows all of the changes that have happened over a specific amount of time
 - o used for troubleshooting
- checkout subcommand
 - allows navigation and switching between branches of a project
 - svntax
 - o git checkout specificbranch
- o .gitignore File
 - Identifies files that should be ignored during a commit action
- o *.git/ Directory
 - Contains all files Git uses to manage version control for a project
- Orchestration Processes and Concepts
 - o Basics

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- Orchestration
 - Automation of multiple steps in a deployment process
- Automation
 - Process of accomplishing a configuration task without human intervention
- Difference between the two:
 - Automation
 - o Single task
 - Orchestration
 - Series of tasks
 - o Orchestration is the automation of the automations
- To complete automation and orchestration you need to break down the process so you know what the workflow looks like
- o Rapid elasticity computing would not be possible without orchestration
 - Resource Orchestration
 - provisions and allocates resources
 - Workload Orchestration
 - management of applications and other cloud work
 - Service Orchestration
 - deploys services in the cloud
- o Third-party orchestration platform is protection from vendor lock-in
 - vendor lock-in
 - having to have all parts of the orchestration from the same vendor
- Tools for Orchestration
 - Chef

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- Uses "cookbooks" to deliver configuration declarations to cloud and on-premises managed systems
- Puppet
 - Uses manifest files to define infrastructure as code for application, cloud, and infrastructure orchestration
- Ansible
 - Uses YAML files to create repeatable "playbooks"
- Docker
 - Open platform for developing, shipping, running, and deploying applications using container- based virtualization
- Kubernetes
 - Provides container deployment and application orchestration for cloud and on-premises container environments
- OpenStack
 - Deployed as an IaaS solution to manage cloud resources
- GitHub
 - Service that allows the developers to share code
- o Agent-Based vs. Agentless Orchestration
 - Agent-Based
 - Requires a software component to reside on the managed device
 - Agentless-Based
 - Does not require additional software to exist on the managed system
- Orchestration tools
 - Inventory Management of Hardware

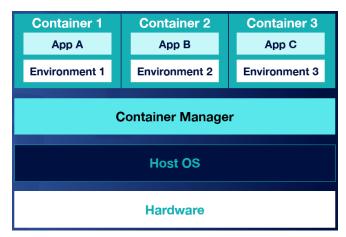
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Study Notes

- Virtual machines
- Operating systems
- Applications
- Configurations
- o Benefits of Configuration management
 - Consistent configured system
 - Enforced security
 - Service-level agreements
 - Efficient change management

• Containerization

- o Containerization
 - A type of virtualization applied by a host OS to provision an isolated execution environment for an application



What Containerization looks like

- o Virtualization software
 - Kubernetes

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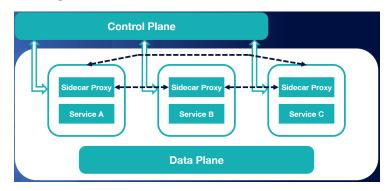
- An open-source system for the automated deployment, scaling, and management of containerized applications
- Node
 - o An object that runs the containerized applications
- Pod
 - o One or more containers that have shared storage and network resources
- Sidecar
 - o Designed to run alongside the main container or pod
 - o Sidecars enhance and extend the functionalities of the main container without modifying its codebase
 - o Ambassador Container
 - A special type of sidecar container that simplifies the process of accessing data and services outside of a given pod
 - PersistentVolume
 - PersistentVolumeClaim

- o Storage
 - Needs a persistent storage device because containers are non-persistent by default
 - To create a persistent storage device use
 - o PersistentVolume
 - o PersistentVolumeClaim that is bound to that storage
- o Container Registry
 - A place to store, manage, and secure container images
- o Service Mesh

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Study Notes

 Manages the network traffic between different services, containers, and pods



• Container Operations

- o Commands for podman
 - podman build
 - Build a container image
 - podman push
 - Push a container image to a specified destination
 - podman pull
 - Pull a container image from a container registry
 - podman images
 - List out the container images available on the local system
 - podman rmi {Image ID}
 - Remove a container image
- o Podman uses the exact same syntax as Docker
 - replace the word podman with docker and all of the commands above will work in the same way with Docker
- o Container Operations
 - Starting/stopping containers

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Study Notes

- podman start {container image name}
- Inspecting containers
 - podman inspect {container image name}
- Listing containers
 - podman pod list
- Deploying existing images
 - use a template to make this easier
 - create a template
- Connecting to containers
 - podman attach {container image name}
- Logging actions in containers
 - podman logs {container image name}
- Exposing ports for containers
 - podman create --expose=port
 - podman run --expose=port

• Sandboxed Applications

- o Benefits of Sandboxing
 - Improves security
 - Increases application integrity
- o Tools to sandbox application
 - Snap
 - A bundle that contains an app and its dependencies that work without modification across all Linux distributions
 - To manage and maintain Snaps or applications, run the snapd

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Study Notes

- snap command
 - o Used to find a snap or application to install
 - By default, applications are installed under the /snap/bin directory
- snapd
 - o Snap daemon
 - o The backend daemon that runs the Snaps on a system
- Flatpak
 - Runs in a sandbox that contains everything needed for the programs to operate
 - Syntax to run
 - o flatpack [options] {command}
- AppImage
 - A universal package manager where the apps are installed without modifying system libraries or system preferences
 - Create a directory under the home directory to put all the AppImage applications

Infrastructure as Code (IaC)

- o Infrastructure as Code (IaC)
 - A provisioning architecture in which deployment of resources is performed by scripted automation and orchestration
 - Infrastructure as Code allows for the use of scripted approaches to provisioning infrastructure in the cloud
- o Robust orchestration can lower overall IT costs, speed up deployments, and increase security

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Study Notes

o Snowflake Systems

- Any system that is different in its configuration compared to a standard template within an IaC architecture
- Lack of consistency leads to security issues and inefficiencies in support

o Idempotence

- A property of IaC where an automation or orchestration action always produces the same result, regardless of the component's previous state
- IaC uses carefully developed and tested scripts and orchestration runbooks to generate consistent builds

o IaC Methodologies

- Terraform
 - A modern method used to provision, change, and version resources on any cloud-based environment using automation and orchestration
 - Commonly used for
 - o IaC and multi-cloud deployments
 - o Kubernetes management
 - o Network infrastructure
 - o Virtual machine images
 - o Policy as code enforcement
- SaltStack (Salt)
 - A configuration management and orchestration tool commonly used with IaC deployments

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Study Notes

SaltStack eliminates the manual processes used by legacy IT operations

- CI/CD
 - o In the past development and deployment was done in a linear fashion
 - Steps
 - Development
 - Testing/Integration
 - Staging
 - Production
 - Drawbacks
 - Slow
 - Internal conflict
 - o CI/CD attempts to speed up development
 - Common source repository holds the code that is developed
 - Integrated through a continuous integration server
 - Builds
 - Tests
 - Provides results (success or failure of the code)
 - Goes back to developers for the next step
 - o Continuous Integration
 - A software development method where code updates are tested and committed to a development or build server/code repository rapidly
 - The process of creating, testing, and committing updates can be done multiple times per day

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- Focused on detecting and resolving development conflicts early and often
- o Continuous Delivery
 - If you are doing continuous delivery, you must be doing continuous integration
 - A software development method where application and platform requirements are frequently tested and validated for immediate availability
 - Ready for release
- o Continuous Deployment
 - A software development method where application and platform updates are committed to production rapidly