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Activity 5: Consolidating Playbook plays	
1. Objectives: 1.1 Use when command in playbook for different OS distributions 1.2 Apply refactoring techniques in cleaning up the playbook codes	
2. Discussion: <p>We are going to look at a way that we can differentiate a playbook by a host in terms of which distribution the host is running. It's very common in most Linux shops to run multiple distributions, for example, Ubuntu shop or Debian shop and you need a different distribution for a one off-case or perhaps you want to run plays only on certain distributions.</p> <p>It is a best practice in ansible when you are working in a collaborative environment to use the command git pull. git pull is a Git command used to update the local version of a repository from a remote. By default, git pull does two things. Updates the current local working branch (currently checked out branch) and updates the remote-tracking branches for all other branches. git pull essentially pulls down any changes that may have happened since the last time you worked on the repository.</p> <p>Requirement: In this activity, you will need to create a CentOS VM. Likewise, you need to activate the second adapter to a host-only adapter after the installations. Take note of the IP address of the CentOS VM. Make sure to use the command ssh-copy-id to copy the public key to CentOS. Verify if you can successfully SSH to CentOS VM.</p>	
Task 1: Use when command for different distributions 1. In the local machine, make sure you are in the local repository directory (CPE232_yourname). Issue the command git pull. When prompted, enter the correct passphrase or password. Describe what happened when you issue this command. Did something happen? Why?	
<pre>joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA\$ git pull Already up to date.</pre>	

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

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

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

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

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

Make sure to save the file and exit

Input

```

joshxh@managenode: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
GNU nano 2.9.3 install_a
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

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

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

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

```

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

Process

```

joshxh@managenode:~/cpe232JMD/hoa4$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
SUDO password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.117.4]
ok: [192.168.117.5]

TASK [update repository index] *****
changed: [192.168.117.4]
changed: [192.168.117.5]

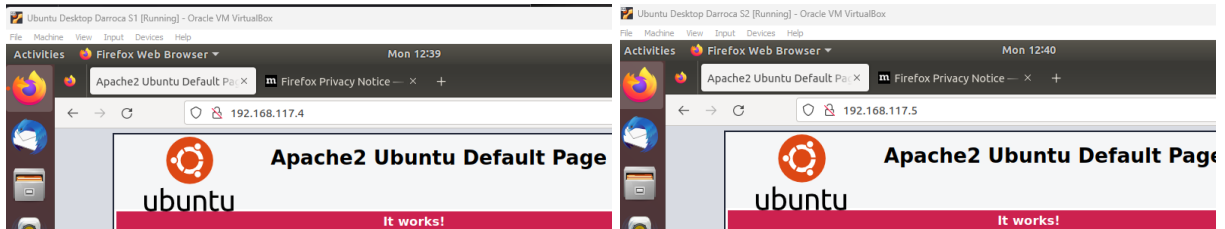
TASK [install apache2 package] *****
ok: [192.168.117.5]
ok: [192.168.117.4]

TASK [add PHP support for apache] *****
ok: [192.168.117.5]
ok: [192.168.117.4]

```

```
PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.117.4      : ok=4    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
192.168.117.5      : ok=4    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
```

Output



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Make sure to save and exit.

Input

```
GNU nano 6.2
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

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

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

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

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

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

    - name: add PHP support for apache
      yum:
```

```
      name: php
      state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

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

Process

```
joshxh@managenode: ~/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

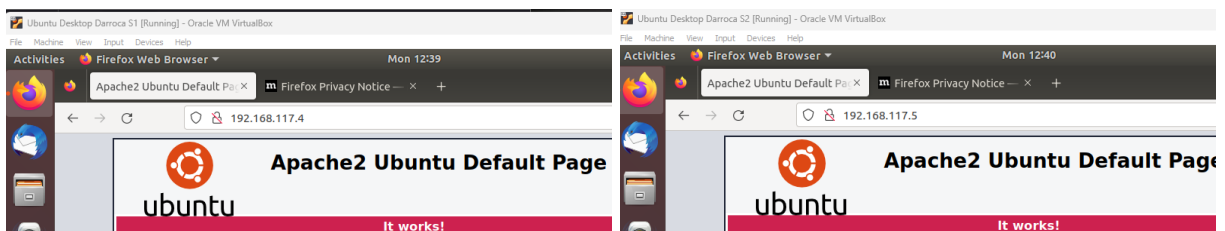
TASK [update repository index] *****
****
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache2 package] *****
****
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [add PHP support for apache] *****
****
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]

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

Output



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

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

systemctl status httpd

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

5.2 Issue the following command to start the service:

sudo systemctl start httpd

(When prompted, enter the sudo password)

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

(The result should be a success)

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

Input

```
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ sudo yum install httpd
Loaded plugins: fastestmirror, langpacks
Loading mirror speeds from cached hostfile
 * base: mirror.xtom.com.hk
 * extras: mirror.xtom.com.hk
 * updates: mirror.xtom.com.hk
Resolving Dependencies
--> Running transaction check
---> Package httpd.x86_64 0:2.4.6-99.el7.centos.1 will be installed
--> Processing Dependency: httpd-tools = 2.4.6-99.el7.centos.1 for package: h
ttpd-2.4.6-99.el7.centos.1.x86_64
--> Processing Dependency: /etc/mime.types for package: httpd-2.4.6-99.el7.ce
ntos.1.x86_64
--> Processing Dependency: libaprutil-1.so.0()(64bit) for package: httpd-2.4.
6-99.el7.centos.1.x86_64
--> Processing Dependency: libapr-1.so.0()(64bit) for package: httpd-2.4.6-99
.el7.centos.1.x86_64
--> Running transaction check
---> Package apr.x86_64 0:1.4.8-7.el7 will be installed
```

```
complete.
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ systemctl status httpd
● httpd.service - The Apache HTTP Server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/httpd.service; disabled; vendor pr
   eset: disabled)
   Active: inactive (dead)
     Docs: man:httpd(8)
          man:apachectl(8)
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ sudo systemctl start httpd
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ sudo firewall-cmd --add-port=80/tcp
success
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ █
```


Process

```
joshxh@localhost:~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
  
Dependencies Resolved  
  
=====
```

Package	Arch	Version	Repository	Size
---------	------	---------	------------	------

```
=====
```

Installing:

httpd	x86_64	2.4.6-99.el7.centos.1	updates	2.7 M
-------	--------	-----------------------	---------	-------

Installing for dependencies:

apr	x86_64	1.4.8-7.el7	base	104 k
apr-util	x86_64	1.5.2-6.el7_9.1	updates	92 k
httpd-tools	x86_64	2.4.6-99.el7.centos.1	updates	94 k
mailcap	noarch	2.1.41-2.el7	base	31 k

Transaction Summary

```
=====
```

Install 1 Package (+4 Dependent packages)

Total download size: 3.0 M
Installed size: 10 M
Is this ok [y/d/N]: y
Downloading packages:
(1/5): apr-util-1.5.2-6.el7_9.1.x86_64.rpm | 92 kB 00:00

Installed:

```
httpd.x86_64 0:2.4.6-99.el7.centos.1
```

Dependency Installed:

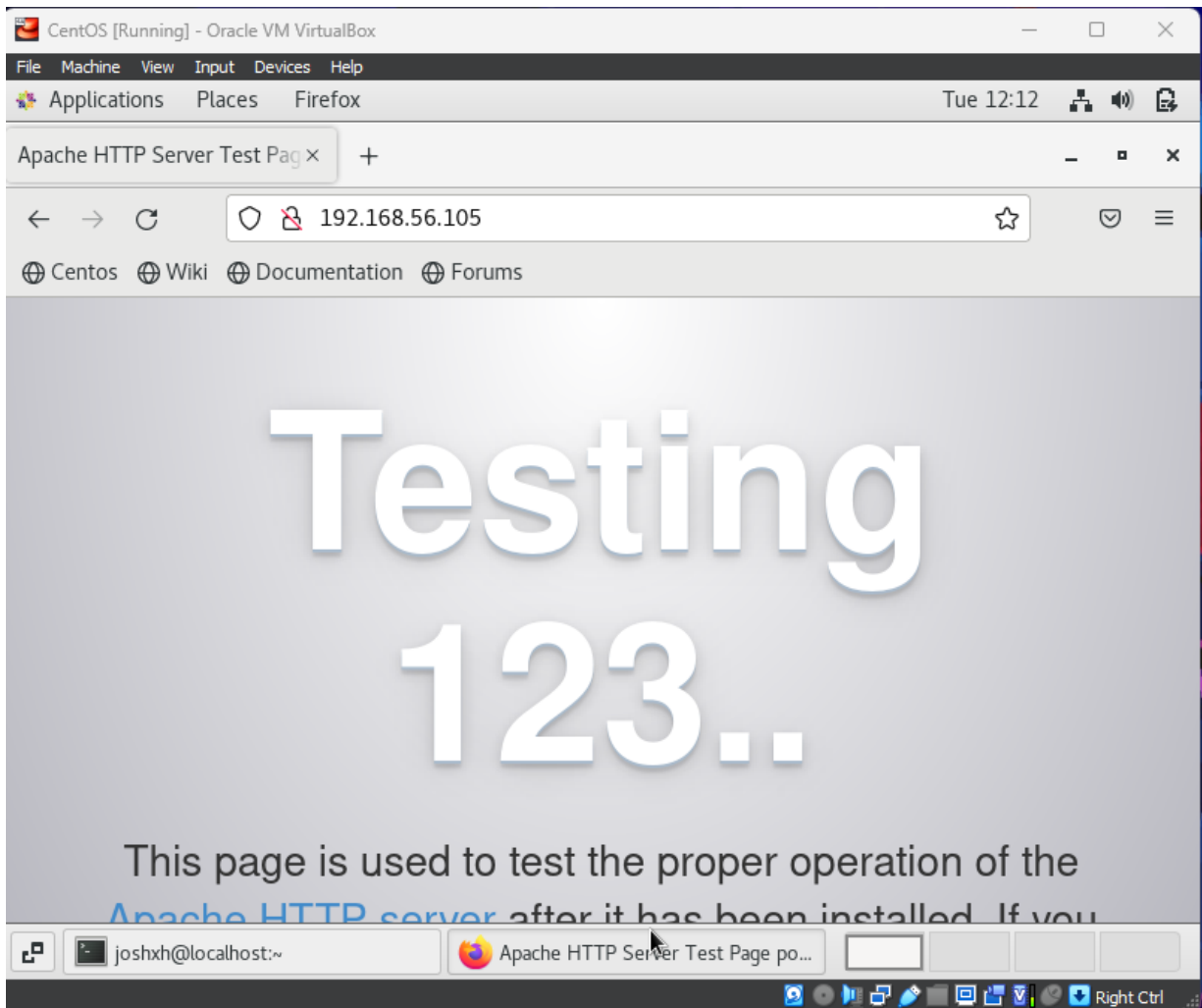
```
apr.x86_64 0:1.4.8-7.el7  
apr-util.x86_64 0:1.5.2-6.el7_9.1  
httpd-tools.x86_64 0:2.4.6-99.el7.centos.1  
mailcap.noarch 0:2.1.41-2.el7
```

Complete!

```
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ systemctl status httpd  
● httpd.service - The Apache HTTP Server  
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/httpd.service; disabled; vendor preset: disabled)  
   Active: inactive (dead)  
     Docs: man:httpd(8)  
           man:apachectl(8)  
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ sudo systemctl start httpd  
[joshxh@localhost ~]$ sudo firewall-cmd --add-port=80/tcp  
success
```

Output

```
PLAY RECAP *****
****
192.168.56.102      : ok=4    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.103      : ok=4    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.105      : ok=4    changed=2    unreachable=0    failed=0
skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0
joshxh@managenode: ~/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B$
```



Task 2: Refactoring playbook

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Input

```
GNU nano 6.2
--
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

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

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

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

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

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

Process

```
joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARR0CA/H0A4B$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.105]

TASK [update repository index] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.105]
changed: [192.168.56.102]
changed: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.105]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [update repository index] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.105]

TASK [install apache and php packages for CentOS] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.105]
```

Output

```
PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.56.102      : ok=3    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.103      : ok=3    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.105      : ok=3    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
joshxh@managenode: ~/CPE232_DARROCA/H0A4B$
```

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

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

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

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

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Input

```
GNU nano 6.2
---
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

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

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

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

Process

```
joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/H0A4B$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.105]

TASK [install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.105]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache and php packages for CentOS] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.102]
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.105]
```

Output

```
PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.56.102      : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.103      : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.105      : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0

joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/H0A4B$
```

3. Finally, we can consolidate these 2 plays in just 1 play. This can be done by declaring variables that will represent the packages that we want to install. Basically, the `apache_package` and `php_package` are variables. The names are arbitrary, which means we can choose different names. We also take out

the line when: ansible_distribution. Edit the playbook *install_apache.yml* again and make sure to follow the below image. Make sure to save the file and exit.

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

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

Input

```
GNU nano 6.2
--
- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

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

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

Process

```
joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache2.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.105]

TASK [install apache and php] *****
fatal: [192.168.56.102]: FAILED! => {"msg": "The task includes an option with an undefined variable. The error was undefined\n\nThe error appears to be in '/home/joshxh/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B/install_apache2.yml': line 6, column 5: exact syntax problem.\n\nThe offending line appears to be:\n\n\n  - name: install apache and php\n    ^ here\n"}
fatal: [192.168.56.103]: FAILED! => {"msg": "The task includes an option with an undefined variable. The error was undefined\n\nThe error appears to be in '/home/joshxh/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B/install_apache2.yml': line 6, column 5: exact syntax problem.\n\nThe offending line appears to be:\n\n\n  - name: install apache and php\n    ^ here\n"}
fatal: [192.168.56.105]: FAILED! => {"msg": "The task includes an option with an undefined variable. The error was undefined\n\nThe error appears to be in '/home/joshxh/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B/install_apache2.yml': line 6, column 5: exact syntax problem.\n\nThe offending line appears to be:\n\n\n  - name: install apache and php\n    ^ here\n"}
```

Output

```
PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.56.102      : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=1    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.103      : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=1    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.105      : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=1    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0

joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/H0A4B$ sudo nano install_apache.yml
joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/H0A4B$
```

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

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

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

Input

```
GNU nano 6.2
[servers]
192.168.56.102 apache_package=apache2 php_package=libapache2-mod-php
192.168.56.103 apache_package=apache2 php_package=libapache2-mod-php
192.168.56.105 apache_package=httpd php_package=php
```

Process

```
joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/H0A4B$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.105]

TASK [install apache and php] *****
[WARNING]: Updating cache and auto-installing missing dependency: python-apt
fatal: [192.168.56.105]: FAILED! => ("changed": false, "cmd": "apt-get update", "msg": "[Errno 2] No such file or directory", "rc": 2, "stderr": "", "stderr_lines": [], "stdout": "", "stdout_lines": [])
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
```

Output

```
PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.56.102      : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.103      : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.105      : ok=1    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=1    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0

joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/H0A4B$
```

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

Input

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

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

Process

```
joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install_apache.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.105]

TASK [install apache and php] *****
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.105]
```

Output

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

joshxh@managenode:~/CPE232_DARROCA/HOA4B$
```

Reflections:

Answer the following:

1. Why do you think refactoring of playbook codes is important?
 - It makes consolidation of playbooks more convenient and less tedious. If we were to type an individual command every time, imagine the time spent on typing and checking that. Compared to refactoring, we can just type multiple names of what we want to do in a single command. Good thing that the package command exists, it will replace the 'apt' or 'dnf/yum' so that you will not worry about what OS you're using.
2. When do we use the "when" command in playbook?
 - We use the 'when' command in times where we declare what type of installation process we want. If we declare the command as 'apt' in the script, we will use 'when' to indicate that its distribution is a Debian distribution or specifically, Ubuntu. On the other hand, if we declare it as 'dnf/yum', we will indicate that its distribution is affiliated with the RedHat distribution or in this activity, CentOS.

Conclusion:

In this activity where we are tasked to perform scripts in order to install apache, httpd, and their php support. I was able to perform all of the required task from using the 'when' command in the playbook across Debian and RedHat distributions to applying refactoring techniques in cleaning up playbook codes. In spite of all the errors that I've faced in this activity, I was still able to accomplish a late submission. One of the errors that became a roadblock for me is having a functional CentOS 7 because some of that OS that I have installed always gave me the error that prevented me from moving forward. Thankfully, after several re-installation of CentOS 7, I was able to move on and it finally worked. Because of this occurrence, it dawned on me that no matter how hard you try, sometimes the problem is just doing things from the start all over again. All in all, this activity helped me to learn more about system administrations especially in the field of making playbooks and how to make them less tedious to do and I hope I can learn more in the future.

