**Introduction to Shell**

*This sheet follows an abridged but complete summary of the Introduction to Command Line.*

Code that you should type into your terminal will be inblue and highlighted in grey.

* **Create a folder called ala-git on your desktop, using your normal method.**

Open the terminal.

Find out where you are by running a command called pwd (which stands for “print working directory”).

Once we know what directory we’re in, the next thing we often want to do is move somewhere else. This will take two steps: find out where else there is to move to, and then move to that directory. We’re going to start by LISTING ls the subfolders and files of our current directory, assuming we start at your user directory, where most terminals start. The command for this is ls - or LIST.

ls prints the names of the files and directories in the current directory. We can make its output more comprehensible by using the **option** -F (also known as a **switch** or an **option**), which tells ls to add a marker to file and directory names to indicate what they are. A trailing / indicates that this is a directory.

Run ls -F /

We’re going to CHANGE DIRECTORY cd to all move to DESKTOP then to the ala-git folder we created. Depending on where we are, this could involve going “up” or “down” in the file structure.

cd Desktop

pwd

cd ala-git

cd can only see sub-directories inside your current directory. To move up, use cd ..

.. is a special directory name meaning “the directory containing this one”, or more succinctly, the **parent** of the current directory.

cd ..

pwd

Move back to ala-git by running cd ala-git

pwd

ls -F /

Make a biography: mkdir biography

Start a text document: nano draft.txt

Add a sentence: My name is [your name.] Close by pressing CONTRL (^) X, pressing Y (to save) and ENTER.

Add another sentence: nano draft.txt (find old commands by pressing the UP ARROW). Add a sentence about what you do or want to do. Close by pressing CONTRL (^) X, pressing Y (to save) and ENTER.

**Moving**

pwd

ls

mv draft.txt biography

ls

ls biography

mv biography/draft.txt biography/biography.txt

ls biography

**Copying**

cp biography.txt my-biography.txt

cd biography (using tab)

cp biography.txt my-biography.txt(using UP ARROW)

ls

**Recursive copying**

cd ..

pwd

cp -R biography biography\_backup

ls biography biography\_backup

**Deleting**

cd biography

pwd

ls

***THINK FOR A SECOND BEFORE TYPING: DO YOU WANT TO DELETE THIS?***

rm biography.txt

ls