Ubuntu Basic Commands

1. Basic System Information & Navigation

#Understanding the system

hostname # Display the name of the machine

who # Show logged-in users

date # Show current date and time

cal # Display a calendar

env # Show environment variables

uptime # Display system uptime

uname # Display system information uname -a # Show detailed system info

man uname # Manual for uname command

Navigating the File System

pwd # Show the current directory

path ls # List files in the current directory
ls -l # Detailed list view with permissions

ls -a # Show hidden files

ls -t # Sort files by modification time
ls -R # Recursively list directory contents

man ls # Manual for ls command cd test_dir/ # Move into a directory

cd .. # Go back to the previous directory

mkdir new_dir # Create a new directory

rmdir new_dir # Remove an empty directory

2. File Management

Creating and Editing Files

touch file.txt # Create an empty file
gedit file.txt # Open file in text editor
echo 'Hello Linux' > file.txt # Create and write into a file

echo 'Welcome to OS Lab' >> file.txt # Append text to a file

Copying, Moving, and Deleting Files

cp file.txt copy_file.txt # Copy file to another file mkdir dir # Create a directory

mkdir -p dir # Create parent directory if needed

cp file.txt dir/ # Copy file to a directory my file.txt renamed file.txt # Rename or move a file

rm renamed file.txt # Delete a file

rmdir dir #Delete empty directory

rm -r dir/ # Delete a directory and its contents

Searching for Files

find / -name file.txt # Search for file.txt in the entire system find . -type f -name "*.txt" # Find all .txt files in the current directory

locate file.txt # Quickly find a file

3. User and Permission Management

Managing Users and Groups

sudo adduser student# Add a new usersudo groupadd student_group# Create a new group

sudo usermod -a -G student_group student # Add user to group

sudo groupdel student_group #Delete a group

id student # Check user and group info groups student #Check user's all group info

Managing File Permissions

ls -l file.txt # Check file permissions

chmod u+x file.txt # Give execute permission to the user

chmod go+x file.txt # Give execute permission to group & others

chmod -x file.txt # Remove execute permission chmod 766 file.txt # Set specific permissions

(owner: rwx, group:rw, others: rw)

sudo chown student file.txt # Change file ownershipsudo chgrp group file.txt # Change group ownership

4. Viewing and Processing Files

Displaying File Content

cat file.txt # Display file contents more file.txt # View file with scrolling

less file.txt # Similar to more but with better navigation

Viewing Parts of a File

head -5 file.txt # Show the first 5 lines tail -5 file.txt # Show the last 5 lines

Sorting and Counting Content

sort file.txt # Sort file contents

wc file.txt # Count lines, words, and characters

wc -w file.txt # Count words only

Searching Within Files (grep Commands)

grep 'Linux' file.txt # Search for 'Linux' in file.txt grep -i 'linux' file.txt # Case-insensitive search

grep -r 'error' /var/logs/ # Search recursively in logs directory grep -n 'Linux' file.txt # Show line numbers for matches grep -c 'Linux' file.txt # Count occurrences of 'Linux'

5. Advanced File Redirection & Piping history

Show command history

history > cmd.txt # Save history to a file

echo 'New Entry' >> cmd.txt # Append a new line to a file

head -4 file.txt | tail -2 # Extract specific lines

man ls > lsmanpage # Save manual page output to a file

cat -n Ismanpage # Display file contents with line numbers