Essential Navigation Commands

Goal:

The goal of this exercise is to practice moving around within a file.
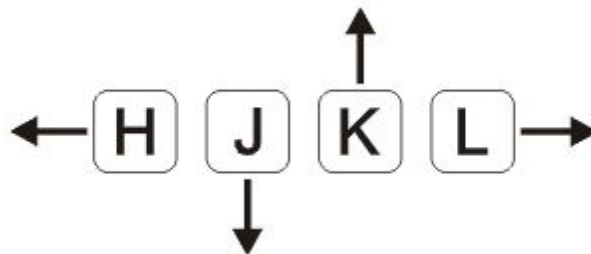
Instructions:

Open the nav.txt file

First, start a command line session on your local machine. Next, use vim to open the "nav.txt" file that came in the course downloads. To do that, navigate to the location of the file. Remember this could be different for you depending on where you extracted the contents of the file. This example assumes the course download was saved into your Downloads folder and extracted from there.

```
cd Downloads
cd vimclass
vim nav.txt
```

Practice moving the cursor by one line or one character

Press the **j** key 10 times to move down 10 lines. This will move you down to this line in the file:

```
You can also press and hold a navigation key so that it repeats.
```

Press the **k** 4 times to move up 4 lines. This will move the cursor to the beginning of this line:

```
To move to the right, press "l".
```

Press the **l** key 8 times to move to the word "to."

Press the **j** key 2 times to move to this line:

```
To move to the left, press "h".
```

Notice how the cursor is in the same column. (The cursor is the same distance from the left of the line as it was before.)

Now move the cursor to the beginning of the line by pressing the **h** key to that it repeats.

Finally, move the cursor to the very top of the file by pressing and holding the **k** key so that it repeats.

Practice moving the cursor by page

Press **Ctrl-f** to move down one page.

Press **Ctrl-b** to move back up one page.

Hold down the **Ctrl** key and press **f** as many times as needed to get to the bottom of the file. The number of times you need to page down will vary based on the size of your screen. Remember that the tildes represents lines beyond the end of the file.

This is what it might look like when you get to the bottom of the file. (Again, this will vary based on your screen size.) Notice the tildes.

```
This training is being provided by LinuxTrainingAcademy.com.

~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
```

Move up one page by holding down the **Ctrl** key and pressing **b**.

Practice moving the cursor by word

Place your cursor at the beginning of the following line. One easy way to do this would be to press and hold the **k** key until you reach the line. If you go above it, return to the line by pressing **j**.

```
    Far far away, behind the wild mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and
```

Press lowercase **w** 4 times. Your cursor will be at the first comma (,) in the line. Press lowercase **w** 5 more times. Your cursor will now be at the second command (,) in the line.

Move back to the first word in the sentence (Far) by pressing the lowercase **b** key 8 times. Notice how it also considers the comma to be a word.

Now move forward to the word "behind" by pressing uppercase **W** 3 times. Notice how your cursor does not stop at the comma. Move forward to the word "far" by pressing uppercase **W** 4 more times.

Return to the first word of the line by repeatedly pressing uppercase **B**. You'll need to press **B** 7 times to do this.

Practice moving the cursor to a specific line number

Go to the first line in the file by typing **gg**.

Go to the last line in the file by typing uppercase **G**.

Go back to the first line by typing **1gg**. Notice how it does the same thing as **gg**. Now, go to line 29 by typing **29gg**.

You can also use **G** to go to a specific line number. Go to line 3 by typing **3G**.

Now use line mode to move to line 44. Type **:44<ENTER>**. Now move to the last line in the file by typing **:$<ENTER>**.

Confirm that you are indeed on the last line by typing **Ctrl-G** and displaying information about the file you're editing. (You should see 100% displayed on the status line.)

Your turn

If you're up to it, have some fun navigating around the file using what you know.

Quit vim

When you are done practicing your file navigation skills, quit with **:q!<ENTER>**.

Deleting Text

Goal:

The goal of this exercise is to practice deleting text in a file. You'll also practice the [count][operator]{motion} pattern.

Instructions:

Open the practicedeleting.txt file

First, start a command line session on your local machine. Next, use vim to open the "practicedeleting.txt" file that came in the course downloads. To do that, navigate to the location of the file. Remember this could be different for you depending on where you extracted the contents of the file. This example assumes the course download was saved into your Downloads folder and extracted from there.

```
cd Downloads
cd vimclass
vim practicedeleting.txt
```

Practice deleting individual characters

Move to the 3rd line of the file. Remember, you can do this in a few different ways. You can press the **j** key until you're there, you can use **3gg**, **3G**, or **:3<ENTER>**.

Remove the extra "k" in the word "mistakke" by positioning your cursor under one of the additional letters and hit the **x** key. Here is what the sentence looks like before your edit:

```
First, fix this spelling mistakke.
```

Here is what it looks like after:

```
First, fix this spelling mistake.
```

Move to the 4th line of the file. Remove the repeated letters from each of the words. Use **x** to delete the character under your cursor to do so. Here is what the sentence looks like before:

```
Fixx theese allso.
```

After you delete the additional "x", "e", and "l", it will look like this:

```
Fix these also.
```

Move down to the next line:

```
Delete this text with the X command.
```

Position your cursor at the end of the line. You can repeatedly press the **l** key, or if you want to be really efficient you can use the **$** key. Now delete all the text you can with **X** key. You'll find that only the period remains on the line:

```
.
```

To delete that character, press **x**. Now the line is empty.

Practice deleting motions

Move down to the next line:

```
Who let the dogs out? cats
```

Position your cursor one character right of the question mark. Your cursor will be in the space between "?" and "cats". Delete the remaining text on the line. You can use **d$**, or an even shorter version of the command **D**. After your edit, the line will look like the following:

```
Who let the dogs out?
```

Now position the cursor at the beginning of line 43. (Hint: **43gg** works.) Delete the first word of the line with the **d** operator. Remember the pattern of [count][operator]{motion}. To delete that first word you can use **dw** or even **dW**. Here is the line before the first word is deleted:

```
Far far away, behind the wild mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and
```

Here is the line after the first word is deleted:

```
far away, behind the wild mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and
```

Delete the second word, too. Now the line looks like so:

```
away, behind the wild mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and
```

Delete the text "away, " with two keystrokes. Remember that the **w** motion will stop at punctuation while the **W** motion ignores punctuation and stops the cursor after white space. So, to delete "away, " in two keystrokes you use **dW**. Now the line looks like this:

```
behind the wild mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and
```

Position your cursor at the beginning of the first occurrence of the word "the". Delete the first word in the sentence using an operator and a motion. To do that, type **db**. You could have also used **dB**. Here is how the line appears now:

```
the wild mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and
```

Now, delete words "the wild ". One way to do this is to use **2dw**.

```
mountains, far from the countries Vokalia and
```

Now delete "mountains, far ". A motion that moves your just past "mountains, far " is **2W**. So, use **d2W** to delete the text. This is what remains on the line, now:

```
from the countries Vokalia and
```

Practice deleting lines

Delete the line by using **dd**. Your cursor is now placed on this line:

```
Consonantia, there live the blind texts. Separated they live in Bookmarksgrove
```

To delete multiple lines use, **[count]dd**. Let's delete these lines:

```
Consonantia, there live the blind texts. Separated they live in Bookmarksgrove
right at the coast of the Semantics, a large language ocean.
```

Notice that there are 3 lines in total. One line begins with "Consonantia", the next with "right" and the third line is blank and doesn't have any text at all. To delete those 3 lines, use **3dd.** Now your cursor is placed on this line:

```
A small river named Duden flows by their place and supplies it with the
```

Delete the next three lines by using one keystroke. Simply type a period and the previous command will be repeated. When you press **.** the following three lines will be deleted:

```
A small river named Duden flows by their place and supplies it with the
necessary regelialia. It is a paradisematic country, in which roasted parts of
sentences fly into your mouth.
```

Save your work (or not!)

If you want to save your changes and keep vim running, you can use **:w<ENTER>**. To save your changes and immediately exit, type **:wq<ENTER>**. If you want to abandon your changes, use **:q!<ENTER>**. It's up to you.

Your turn

If you're up to it, have some fun deleting text in the file using what you know.