Linux Commands – Simple & Clear Explanation

What are Linux Commands?

Linux commands are instructions typed in the terminal to make the computer perform tasks.

They are like giving direct orders to the system.

Why Do We Use Linux Commands? (Interview Answer)

1. Control the system without GUI

- Create/Delete files

- Navigate folders

- Install software

- Check system info

2. Used in servers, DevOps, cloud

Linux is the backbone of:

- Software Development

- DevOps

- Cloud (AWS, Azure, GCP)

- Cybersecurity

- Data Engineering

Where Do Linux Commands Run?

They run in the terminal/shell:

- Bash

- Zsh

- Sh

(Most common: Bash)

How Linux Commands Work?

A command has 3 parts:

- Command → ls

- Option → ls -l

- Argument → ls -l /home/nikhil

Top Linux Commands (With Examples)

1. **pwd** — Print Working Directory

Shows your current path.

Example: pwd → /home/nikhil/Desktop

2. **ls** — List directory contents

Options:

- ls -l

- ls -a

Example: ls -la

3. **cd** — Change Directory

Examples:

cd Documents

cd ..

cd /

4. **mkdir** — Make Directory

Example: mkdir myFolder

5. **rmdir** — Remove empty directory

Example: rmdir myFolder

6. **rm** — Remove files/folders

rm file.txt

rm -r folder

7. **cp** — Copy files

cp file1.txt backup.txt

cp -r folder1 folderBackup

8. **mv** — Move or rename

Move: mv file.txt /home/nikhil/Desktop/

Rename: mv old.txt new.txt

9. **touch** — Create empty file

touch newfile.txt

10. **cat** — View file content

cat notes.txt

11. **head** — View first lines

head -5 data.txt

12. **tail** — View last lines

tail -10 log.txt

13. **grep** — Search text inside files

grep "error" logfile.txt

grep -r "main" .

14. **find** — Find files

find /home -name "test.txt"

15. **chmod** — Change permissions

chmod 777 test.sh

chmod +x test.sh

16. **chown** — Change owner

sudo chown nikhil file.txt

17. **echo** — Print text

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echo "Hello Nikhil"
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