Project Title: Network Connectivity Testing Using ping Utility

# **Objective**

To explore, analyze, and document real-world use cases of the ping command for diagnosing and validating network connectivity. This project replicates key troubleshooting scenarios relevant to IT support, network engineering, and SOC analysis roles.

#### **Tools Used**

- Operating System: Kali Linux (or any Linux distro)
- Primary Utility: ping
- Text Editors: nano, vim (for logging and note keeping)
- Optional: tee, grep, awk for output parsing

### **Skills Learned**

- Network diagnostics and troubleshooting fundamentals
- Understanding ICMP protocol and TTL values
- MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit) and packet fragmentation
- Packet loss analysis and reliability metrics
- Interface-based pinging and DNS-less connectivity checks
- Logging and scripting network checks for automation

#### **Test Scenarios Covered**

Level	Description	<b>Command Example</b>
Basic	Ping a domain and interpret round-trip time, packet loss	ping google.com -c 4
O Intermediate	Continuous ping (until stopped manually) and user interrupt techniques	ping $8.8.8.8 \rightarrow Ctrl + C$
•	Ping with specific count and delay	ping -c 10 -i 0.5 hostname.com
Advanced	Test MTU limits by sending 1500-byte payloads	ping -s 1500 google.com
Q5	Check machine status without DNS	ping <local-ip> or ping -n <ip></ip></local-ip>
Q6	Ping using specific network interface	ping -I eth0 google.com
Q7	Test TTL effect to observe hops or detect loops	ping -t 5 google.com
Q8	Log ping output for review or automation	<pre>ping google.com -c 5 &gt; ping_log.txt</pre>
Q9	Measure reliability and packet loss over long durations	ping -c 100 google.com → Analyze stats

Level	Description	Command Example
Q10	Detect jitter/intermittent loss over time	Use scripts + ping + grep time= every few seconds
Q11	Detect if a domain is firewall-blocked (e.g., dropped ICMP)	ping blockedsite.com VS traceroute behavior

## **Real-World Impact & Use Case**

Understanding ping at this depth is vital for:

- IT Helpdesk agents identifying user connectivity issues
- SOC analysts detecting DDoS anomalies (e.g., ping flood)
- Network engineers validating link stability and latency
- Diagnosing DNS resolution vs. network path issues

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