

Linux Interview Question and Answer

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Q1) What is the difference between chmod and chown.

Chmod change the file/directory permission

The Chown to change the ownership of a file or directory and ownership away to someone else.

Q2) How to check the default run level.

Cat /etc/inittab or who -r

Q3) What is the ID for Logical volume management?

LVM Id: 8e

Q4) What is the steps if the remote server is not connecting?

Ping remote server IP. (to check alive or not)

Make sure remote server sshd service enabled

If everything is ok, login remote server ILO, open the remote console and check the status

Q5) Explain how to stop ssh connection for a particular server or network.

nmap

Q6) How we are giving file permission for the particular user.

Setfacl -m u:username:permission filename

Getfacl username (to check the user permissions)

Q7) I need to check the particular service opened or not. Please explain.

Netstat -anultp service name or port number

Q8) How to enable/disable the services in particular run level.

Chkconfig --level 2 off

Q9) Explain nfs hard and soft mount. :

Hard Mount : After restarting the server keep on search nfs mount partition until found the device, if the device not found server not will not boot,.

Soft mount: if device not found it will skip

Q10) What is the difference between YUM and rpm.

Rpm: need local rpm file and dependencies

Yum: need repository (collections of rpm) local or internet

Q11) What is the command to check the size of file or directory?

`du -sh <file/dir>`

Q12) Which one is the default sticky bit directory?

`/tmp`

Q13) How to check how many files opened in Linux.

`Lsof`

Q14) How to find zombie process and how to kill?

`ps aux | grep "defunct"` and `ps aux | grep Z` to Kill: In order to kill these processes, you need to find the parent process first.

`ps tree -p paul` and find parent process id, use `kill -9`

Q15) What is the command for extract RPM?

`rpm2cpio`

Q16) Assume the / partition got read only error, what steps has to be take.

`Remount -o rw, remount`

Q17) How to find out whether the particular user locked or not?

`/etc/passwd (!!)`

Q18) Please let us know how to stop the ssh service from a particular node.

/etc/hosts.deny à sshd: ALL except Node IP

Q19) What is the command to check password expire information for the particular user.

chage -l username

Q20) How to recover if the user deleted by mistake?

pwunconv (It creates the users according /etc/passwd file and deletes the /etc/shadow file)

Q21) How to put never expiry to a user?

passwd -x -1 <user login name> How to put never expiry to a user?

passwd -x -1 <user login name>

Q22) How to find the users who are login and how to kill them?

finger -cu (to see who are login)

finger -ck <user login name>(to kill the specified user)

Q23) How can you make a service run automatically after boot?

```
chkconfig <service name> on
```

Q24) How to check whether the ssh is running or not on the remote host?

```
nmap -p 22 <IP address of the remote host> (to see the ssh is running or not on remote system)
```

Q25) How to check the remote server services are running or not?

Nmap servername portname

Q26) Explain about kernel panic error.

Hardware error, Kernel error

Q27) Step out if you are facing too many file system while login via ssh?

Lsof | wc -l (list of open files)

If more than 65k, open /etc/sysctl.conf increase the file.mn value and execute below command

Sysctl -p

Q28) How to disable direct root login?

Using /etc/ssh/sshd_config

Q29) Which is default sticky bit directory?

/tmp

Q30) How to check the integrity of a file system or consistency of the file system?

fsck <device or partition name>command we can check the integrity of the file system.

The before running the fsck command first unmount that partition and then run fsck command.

Q31) How many types of disk space issues can we normally get?

Disk is full. Disk is failing or failed. File system corrupted or crashed. O/S is not recognizing the remote luns when scanning, ...etc.,

Q32) What is the command to check default run level.

The default run level command is /etc/inittab file in most Linux operating systems.

Q33) A system is able to ping locally but not out site. Why?

May be there is no access to outside. May be outside is in a different network from the local. May be permission is denied for that system to access outside. If there is access, but router or modem or network switch or NIC may not be working to access the outside.

Q34) If not able to create the file in any partition, what might be the issue.

Permission check and disk space getting full

Q35) Explain ping Command?

The ping command is used to determine connectivity between hosts on a network

```
$ ping google.com
```

Q36) Explain how to check cron job particular user.

`Crontab -l -u rbtadmin`

Q37) Kernel path

`/boot/grub/grub.conf`

Q38) What is linux library file extension,

`'.so'`

Q39) What command use for check IP address?

`ifconfig`

Q40) How many type of class and explain?

There are Three types of class

class A 1-126 class B 128-191 class c 192-221

Q41) What command use for save and exit?

`:wq`

Q42) Explain restart the system?

`systemctl restart network`

Q43) How to create the user?

`useradd linux`

Q44) How to assign password the user?

```
passwd linux
```

Q45) How to login the user?

```
su linux
```

Q46) How to check user list?

```
cat /etc/passwd
```

Q47) How to create group?

```
groupadd my group
```

```
cat /etc/my group
```

Q48) How to add user the group?

```
useradd -d/root/abi abhi
```

Q49) Explained date Command?

The date command displays/sets the system date and time like this.

```
$ date
```

```
$ date --set="8 JUN 2017 13:00:00"
```

Q50) What is relevance of \$?

It reflects the status of previous command

If 0 – Success If Non-Zero – Not Success == Q51) What happens if #/bin/php as shebang in a script.

It considers the script as a PHP script

Q52) Whether Nested if-else is possible in bash scripting?

YES

Q53) Which is the best command that can be used for checking selinux activation status

getenforce

Q54) If we need to escape single quote (') in echo, what is the process

Two ways

echo "hi" echo \'hi\'

Q55) What is load-average in linux.

It's the average of the usage of each CPU

It can be found with 4 commands

w uptime top cat /proc/loadavg

Q56) How tree format of format listed

pstree -pua

ps ax -forest

Q57) What is the use of the command top

This command is the task manager of linux. We could able to find load average, memory usage, swap usage, total number of processes, CPU, Memory usage of each processes in sorted format.

Q58) What is symbolic link or symlink?

It is shortcut of a big command, we can do this using the command 'ln'

Eg: `ln -s /usr/local/redis/bin/redis-cli /usr/bin/redis-cli`

We can directly use the command `redis-cli`

Q59) What are the features of /proc folder

All process identification is stored in this folder

It will list all process id as folders `/proc/12435` It will show the command used by the process It will show the files used by the process Memory dump etc

Q60) How to find a pattern from a file or command?

Use 'grep' command

Eg: `cat /proc/meminfo | grep MemFree`

Q61) Find who all are logged in to the system?

Use command

`who -Hu`

Q62) Which Terminal you are working in?

Find it using 'tty' command or `who` command

Q63) What to do if \$PATH is lost, and its output is blank?

Fix it by adding atleast the system binary path, so that basic command

`export PATH=/sbin:/usr/bin:/usr/sbin`

Q64) Command ifconfig is not found in my system, how to get my ip address

Use command

`ip a`

Q65) What is the method to run a command in background?

command &

Q66) How to list selinux users?

semanage user -l

Q67) My command 'setenforce 0' is not working, what to do?

Edit /etc/selinux/config and change the enforcement to disabled and reboot the server.

Q68) What are the known commands for disk partitioning?

fdisk, parted

Q69) Can we have dynamicity for my disk?

Yes, use LVM

Q70) What make LVM different from ext3 and ext4

LVM is a utility for dynamically extent or shrink a volume. ext3, ext4, it is not possible.

Q71) When I executed 'vgchange -ay', I could find another lvm disk attached. How to get it mounted in my system.

Once the above command is executed, the new volgroup will be available to use.

Then mount to a location like

```
mount /dev/mapper/VolGroup/pv /mnt
```


Q72) How many primary partitions are created by default?

4

Q73) Which is the hexadecimal code for LVM

8e

Q74) A rpm package is owned by some third-party vendor. How to get the vendor details of an rpm?

`rpm -qi <package>`

Q75) `rpm -qf /sbin/vi` : What is the output of this command?

It gives the package in which the provided binary associated.

Q76) Which command will list the current time source?

`ntpd -q`

Q77) Write the command to list all ports added in firewall.

`Firewall-cmd --list-ports`

Q78) What does the following command does?

`(firewall-cmd --zone external --permanent --add-forward-port port=25:proto=tcp:toaddr=10.10.1.80)`

It will forward the inward traffic of SMTP to the IP mentioned.

Q79) What are the list of sequence of commands to enable Kerberos authentication

kadmin, ktadd, authconfig, kinit

Q80) What to do for enabling remote logging?

Open /etc/rsyslog.conf and add the following line.

```
*.* @@IP:514
```

systemctl restart rsyslog

Q81) Which Directive in Apache Virtualhost defines the path of the web files?

DocumentRoot

Q82) What is the relevance of DirectoryIndex?

It defines the file to be considered as index file. Eg 'DirectoryIndex index.php index.html' : In this it will find index.php first when the URL is accessed, if this file is not available, it will search for index.html as index page.

Q83) What is the difference between passwd and htpasswd

Passwd is used for setting the password for a System User. Htpasswd is used for setting the password for Apache Web User.

Q84) Which SELinux policy is used for Apache WebServer?

For web files, httpd_sys_content_t is used For NFS mount files, httpd_use_nfs

Q85) Instead systemctl, which all commands used for handling apache service.

apachectl

apachectl -t : Checks Syntax apachectl start/stop/restart : For handling service

Q86) How to display all WebSite VirtualHost?

Use command : httpd -D DUMP_VHOSTS

Q87) How to set the SMTP port for all IPs in the servers? How to do this without editing the configuration in Postfix.

Execute command : postconf -e inet_interfaces=all

Q88) If we have 2 smtp service installed in the server, how to switch to the required one?

Use : alternatives --config mta (mta is mail transfer agent)

Q89) What is PTR record in Bind Zone?

Its is Pointer Record for reverse lookup : Inorder to get hostname if IP is queried.

Q90) Which are two main command in bind inorder to make sure that Bind will work perfectly.

`named-checkzone named-checkconf`

Q91) How to lookup a domain using public DNS?

`dig @8.8.8.8 domainname`

Q92) How to reverse lookup for IP address?

`dig -x IP-Address`

Q93) How to take backup of my wordpress DB?

Use command : `mysqldump -hHOST -uUSER -pPASSWORD DB_NAME > DB_NAME.sql`

Q94) Restore wordpress DB to mySQL

`mysql -hHOST -uUSER -pPASSWORD DB_NAME < DB_NAME.sql` (Create DB prior using 'create database db_name')

Q95) Instead of using 'reboot' or 'shutdown -r', which command can be used in Linux to do this.

Use Init command : `init 6` (6 option is for reboot in Linux Runlevels)

Q96) Which attribute is set for executable on group level.

`setgid`

`chmod g+s /usr/bin/wall`

Q97) Mkdir -p can create

- A.Both b and c
- B.Parent directory
- C.Sub directory
- D None of above"]
- A.Both b and c

Q98) Changing from current directory to root directory

- A.cd /root
- B.cd ..
- C.cd /boot
- D.cd /"]
- B.cd ..

Q99) Bash shell has inbuilt cmds.

They are

- A.pushd
- B.Popd
- C .both
- D.none
- C .both

Q100) What option in touch cmd allows to display Time of our wish.

- A.Touch -t 201812190820 file
- B.touch -t yyyymmddhrmin file
- C.touch file

D.none”]

B.touch -t yyyymmddhrmin file

Q101) To reduce the risk of accidentally removing file what option must be used.

A.Rm -i

B.Rm -rf

C.Rm

D.none of above”]

A.Rm -i

Q102) To preserve permission and Time stamp on file while copying.

A.cp -p

B.cp -s

C.cp -d

D.none of above”]

A.cp -p

Q103) how to display cat output in reverse order

A.cat file reverse

B.concat file

C.tac file

D.none”]

C.tac file

Q104) Dir that contain data which is served by system

- A./
- B./root
- C./srv
- D./proc"]
- C./srv

Q105) Cmd to exit current shell

- A.ctrlld
- B.exit
- C.logout
- D.all of above"]
- D.all of above

Q106) Cmd to get list of color output

- A.Ls – -color
- B.Ugoa rwx
- C.421 rwx
- D.Chmod u=rwx,g+x file name."]
- A.Ls – -color

Q107) binary form of r-x

- A.5
- B 101
- C.401
- D.1001"]
- 1. 101

Q108) cmd to find files between 15-20 days

A.find /dirpath -mtime 15-20

B.find /dirpath -mtime +15 -mtime -20

C.find /dirpath |grep mtime 15-20

D.all”]

B.find /dirpath -mtime +15 -mtime -20

Q109) cmd to view files

A.cat

B.more/less

1. head/tail

D.all”]

D.all

Q110) Navigating letters inside vi editor

A.dfgp

B.hjkl

C.rpmn

D.none”]

B.hjkl

Q111) comparing two files cmds.

A.none

B.vimdiff

C.sdiff

D.all”]

D.all

Q112) what option with grep cmd give the count of number of occurrence in file

A.-i

1. -c

C.-v

D..none of above.”]

1. -c

Q113) cmd to combine standard error and standard output

A.2>&1

B.2>

1. 1&2>

D.None”]

A.2>&1

Q114) if 0 to 6 are week indication in crontab then scheduling

Job in Monday will be”]

A.0

B.2

C.6

D.1”]

D.1

Q115) su – user. What happen do

A.Setup user login environment similar as that of direct user

B.we need to use because it’s the only format to use su cmd

C.none of above

D.both a &b”]

A.Setup user login environment similar as that of direct user

Q116) wich of the directory can be. Considered as black hole in Linux

A./Dev/null

B./Dev/tty

C./sbin

D./Mnt”]

B./Dev/tty

Q117) system user has uid value is

A.0

B.1-499

C.500 to 65534

D.only root user have uid's”]

B.1-499

Q118) if source file gets deleted, which one can still access the destination file

A.Hard link

B.Source file cannot be delated

C.Soft link

D.Destination file is independent of source file”]

A.Hard link

Q119) remote file systems are

A.ext3

B.ext2

C.nfs

D.a&b”]

C.nfs

Q120) What blocks are created when formatting file system using extend file system in Linux

A.Master and superblock

B.Data and inode block

C.Both a&b

D.None

C.Both a&b

Q121) option to erase rpm package in Linux.

A.-d

B.-dv

C.-q

D.-ev”]

D.-ev

Q122) to remove a file system..unmounting is done first

A .ture

B.False”]

A .ture

Q123) cmd to check ram available space in linux

A .free -ram

B.free -m

C.none

D.both”]

B.free -m

Q124) Which file in system is responsible for providing sudo access

A./etc/config

B./etc/sudoers

C./etc/proc

D./etc/visudo”]

B./etc/sudoers

Q125) Cmd to put user password to non-expiry state.

A.Passed user

B.Passwd -x 99999 user

C.Psswwd -e user

D.None”]

B.Passwd -x 99999 user

Q126) cmd to copy files in between the connected server

A.scp filename user@server:/destination

B.winscp filename user@server:/destination

C.cp -v filename user@server:/destination

D.None”]

A.scp filename user@server:/destination

Q127) cmd to make ext file systems

A.resize2fs ext

B.mkfs ext

C.pvcreate ext

D.lvcreate ext”]

B.mkfs ext

Q128) authentication logs are available in

A./Var/log/messages

B./var/log/secure

C./var/log/auth.log

D./var/log/dmseg”]

C./var/log/auth.log

Q129) rebooting server can be followed by

A.reboot

B.init 6

C.init 0

D.Both a&b”]

D.Both a&b

Q130) What is the directory name where ssh key pair gets generated(ssh-keygen -t rsa)

A./etc/config

B..ssh

C.ssh

D./etc/security"]

B..ssh

Q131) which of the below is not a filter cmd

A.sed

B.pipe

C.export

D.cat"]

C.export

Q132) jobs can be schedule using

A.crontab

B.at cmd

C.both a and b

D.sudoers file"]

C.both a and b

Q133) which cmd gives info on how long server is running after it starts

A.time

B.server time

C.uptime

D.reboot time"]

C.uptime

Q134) How to make a file immutable / undeletable in linux ?

chattr +i filename

Q135) which is network related cmd in linux

A.Ifconfig

B.traceroute

C.netstat -m

D.all"]

D.all

Q136) which cmd is used to renice the process or priority

A.nice

B.ps

C.renice

D.all of above"]

C.renice

Q137) Cmds to see system usage on linux

A.top

B.ps

C.vmstat

D.only a b

E.all"]

E.all

Q138) troubleshooting tools in Linux

- A.fuser
- B.vmstat
- C.chroot
- D.all”]
- D.all

Q139) The partitioning of disk in primary partition defines under

- A.bootloader
- B.Master boot record
- C.Kernel
- D.None of them.”]
- B.Master boot record

Q140) to mark the created swap space as permanent..one must put entry in

- A./etc/crontab
- B./etc/config
- C./etc/fstab
- D.None”]
- C./etc/fstab

Q141) Where is rpm database located in linux

- A./Var/lib/
- B./Var/lib/db/rpm
- C./Var/rpm

D.Var/lib/rpm”]

D.Var/lib/rpm

Q142) cmd to change hostname to Rakesh

A.sysctl kernal.host=Rakesh

B.sysctl kernal.hostname=Rakesh

C.both b and a”]

D.None

B.sysctl kernal.hostname=Rakesh

Q143) To check the status of inbuilt firewall in Linux

A.service iptables status

B.service network status

C.both of them

D.none of them.”]

A.service iptables status

Q144) cmd to create samba password

A.smbpassword -a user

B.passwd user

C.sambapasswd user

D.None of them.”]

A.smbpassword -a user

Q145) ssh protocols features are

A.to provide secure channel

B.no one can intercept the communication

C.authentication info are less secure.

D.a &b”]

D.a &b

Q146) removing subscriptions cmds in linux

A.subscription-manager --remove --serial=serial number

B.subscription-manager remove --serialnumber

C.subscription-manager remove --serial=serial number

D.none”]

C.subscription-manager remove --serial=serial number

Q147) Explain the softcopy and hard copy and syntax.

Ls -s <source> <target> Ls <source> <target>

Q148) Describe the fields' ls -lrt fields

It will give 9 fields file type, dir/file, file permissions, file owner, file group, file size, file access time, file name

Q149) How to find all the opened files in a dir

By using lsof

Q150) How to transfer files from one server to another server

Using ftp, sftp

Q151) How to get +100 MB files in file system

Find . -type f -size +100M

Q152) How to get the count of word in a file

Grep -c "pattern" <file_name?

Q153) How to kill the process

Kill -9 , Kill -9 and kill -15 difference

Q154) How to replace a string

Using sed

Q155) How to get 90 line form file

Sed -n 90 filename

Q156) What is the use of scp command in linux ?

SCP command stands for secure copy. It is used to copy/download data from one machine to another machine.

Q157) What is telnet and what does it do ?

the telnet command is used to check the connectivity to other servers. It helps you to check whether you are able to talk to another server or now. Ex: telnet 192.0.0.1 22 where 22 is the port number.

Q158) What is a bastion host ?

A bastion host is also known as jump server. It is used to connect from one machine to another machine securely. Bastion hosts are used to connecting to private servers securely.

Q159) Name some of the text editors that are available in Linux ?

Some of the common text editors that are available in Linux are vi/vim, nano, subl, gedit, atom, emacs. Vi is the default editor that you have in Linux machines.

Q160) What are the different zip files formats that are available in Linux ?

The different zip formats in Linux are zip, gzip and bzip.

Q161) What is the difference between cp and mv command ?

cp command stands for copy and is used to copy data from one location to another. mv stands for the move and is used to move data from one location to another.

Q162) How can you run a process in the background in Linux ?

You can run a process in the background by pressing ctrl+z command.

Q163) What is the use of 'chown' command ?

chown stands for 'change ownership' and is used to change the ownership of a file or directory. Eg: chown username.username <filename>.

Q164) What is Server?

A server is a tool which does the activity like storing, load balancing, running the application process (Mobile/laptop which has more memory) whatever if accessible in the network, we may name that as differently, But all are servers only. Exam: routers, LDAP, switch, etc

Q165) why do we need OS – Operating system?

OS is supporting between the hardware and the user request in every Application. this will do background processes hardware don't understand what the user needs

Q166) Linux Commands?

mkdir – create the directory cd – to go Path for directory rm,rf removing the directory or files scp – file moving from one server to another server

Q167) how to connect one server from another server?

using SSH, we can connect we have to keep the public key of A server to B server then we can connect A server from B server

Q168) What is Memory?

RAM ROM Cache

Q169) how application works?

for an application (depends on the requirement) needs below:

Apache tomcat Database Load balancer SSO – Single Sign-On LDAP

Q170) when user access the application url, it will go to recursive resolver (There it will check the urls end like .org,.com,etc..)then root server from there it will connect with other root servers then will find the IP from DNS (Domain name system). DNS will be available between particular regions with interconnection

After finding the IP address of an Application will search with that for that Subnet will help on that In this OSI model will come

Q171) Types of layers

physical,Data(MAC) ,network(IP), transport(TCP/UDP), Session, Presentation, Application

while finding the destination IP Address then it will go to many topics

Firewall Types of networks (Private/Public) Routers Ports, SFTP,FTP,HTTP Ethernet ISP – Internet Service Provider Wi-Fi

Q172) Then the request will to user System,vice versa

In the destination server,via Apache, tomcat the request would be analyzed and based on the request that will reply to the user

Q173) In the Windows we can Check the logs from the Event viewer, Linux under Server logs,Catalina.out,nohup.out

nohup would be useful to run the process when the user logged off

Q174) what is the commnd to check the free memory in server

free -m

Q175) file to check the O.S user,home directory details

/etc/passwd

Q176) file to check the group and groupid detaiks

/etc/groups

Q177) command to display filesystems

df -h

Q178) command to check interface/ip details

ifconfig

Q179) file to check/change the hostname details

/etc/hosts

Q180) commsnd to securely login to server

ssh

Q181) which user in server has all the administrative privileges

root

Q182) how do a normal user executed the highly root privileges

using SUDO

Q183) command to check all the process running on the server

ps -ef

Q184) frequently used editor in linux

vi

Q185) command to search the files for required pattern

grep

Q186) command to check the top process,CPU utilizatio,swap utilization

top

Q187) command to list the volumes attached to the server

lsblk

Q188) how to you create a soft link for the file

ln -s

Q189) command to delete the file

rm

Q190) command to change the permission of the file

chmod

Q191) command to create user

useradd

Q192) command to create directory

mkdir

Q193) command to create a file

cat

Q194) command to create a file with 0 bytes

touch

Q195) command to view the file page/page

more

Q196) command to reboot the server

`reboot`

Q197) command to install updates in silent

`yum update -y`

Q198) command to install http

`yum install -y httpd`

Q199) command to start apache

`svctl start http`

Q200) how do you switch user

`su - <username>`

Q201) where do tempfiles stored

`/tmp`

Q202) how to configure passwordless login between servers

generate the ssh keys and store it in `.ssh/Authorizedkeys`

Q203) Do commands in linux are case sensitive

Yes

Q204) how to redirect output to the file

`cat test >> output.log`

Q205) command to overwrite the logfile

logfile

Q206) Command to append to the logfile

>

Q207) file to enter the filesystem information so that they will be mounted automatically after reboot

/etc/fstab

Q208) command to know the logged in username

whoami <OR> id

Q209) Command to change ownership of the file

chown