IBM i Development Setup on Linux Mint

Step 1: Install Prerequisites

Install Java and Visual Studio Code using the following terminal commands:

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install default-jdk
sudo snap install code --classic
```

Step 2: Download IBM Access Client Solutions (ACS)

1. Visit https://www.ibm.com/support/pages/ibm-i-access-client-solutions
2. Log in with your IBM ID or create a free account.
3. Download the Linux version (e.g., acs-linux-x86_64.zip).
4. Extract and run it:

```
unzip acs-linux*.zip -d ~/acs
cd ~/acs/Linux_Application
java -jar acslaunch_linux.jar
```

Step 3: Install Code for IBM i in Visual Studio Code

1. Open VS Code.
2. Go to Extensions (Ctrl+Shift+X).
3. Search for 'Code for IBM i' and install it.

Step 4: Connect to PUB400.com

1. In VS Code, go to Code for IBM i panel.
2. Click Connections -> + New Connection.
3. Enter the following:
   - Host: pub400.com
   - Username: (your PUB400 username)
   - Password: (your password)
   - Home directory: /home/YOURUSER
   - Source/Output library: MEJILLARDB (example)
4. Click Connect.

Step 5: Write and Compile COBOL or CL Programs

- Create a .cbl or .clp file in VS Code.
- Use right-click options to Upload, Compile, and View job logs.
- Use Run Actions to manage build processes.

Summary

- IBM ACS: For 5250 terminal, SQL, file transfer.
- Code for IBM i: Write, upload, and compile COBOL/CL in VS Code.
- Java: Required for running ACS.
- PUB400.com: Free IBM i server for practice.