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Lab 4.7.5 Remove a Specific user from a Group on a Linux System
From TestOut CompTIA Security+ Course

In this lab I will be removing a given user from a given group.

The scenario for this lab is as follows:
"Corey Flynn (cflynn) currently belongs to several groups. Due to some recent restructuring, he no longer needs to be a member of the hr group.

To preserve existing group membership, use the usermod -G command to list all groups to which the user must belong. Do not include the primary group name in the list of groups.

In this lab, your task is to:

1. **Remove cflynn from the hr group.**
2. **Preserve all other group memberships.**
3. **View the /etc/group file or use the groups command to verify the changes."**

After reading the scenario I see that they would like me to use the usermod -G command to apply these changes. Let's see what that does:

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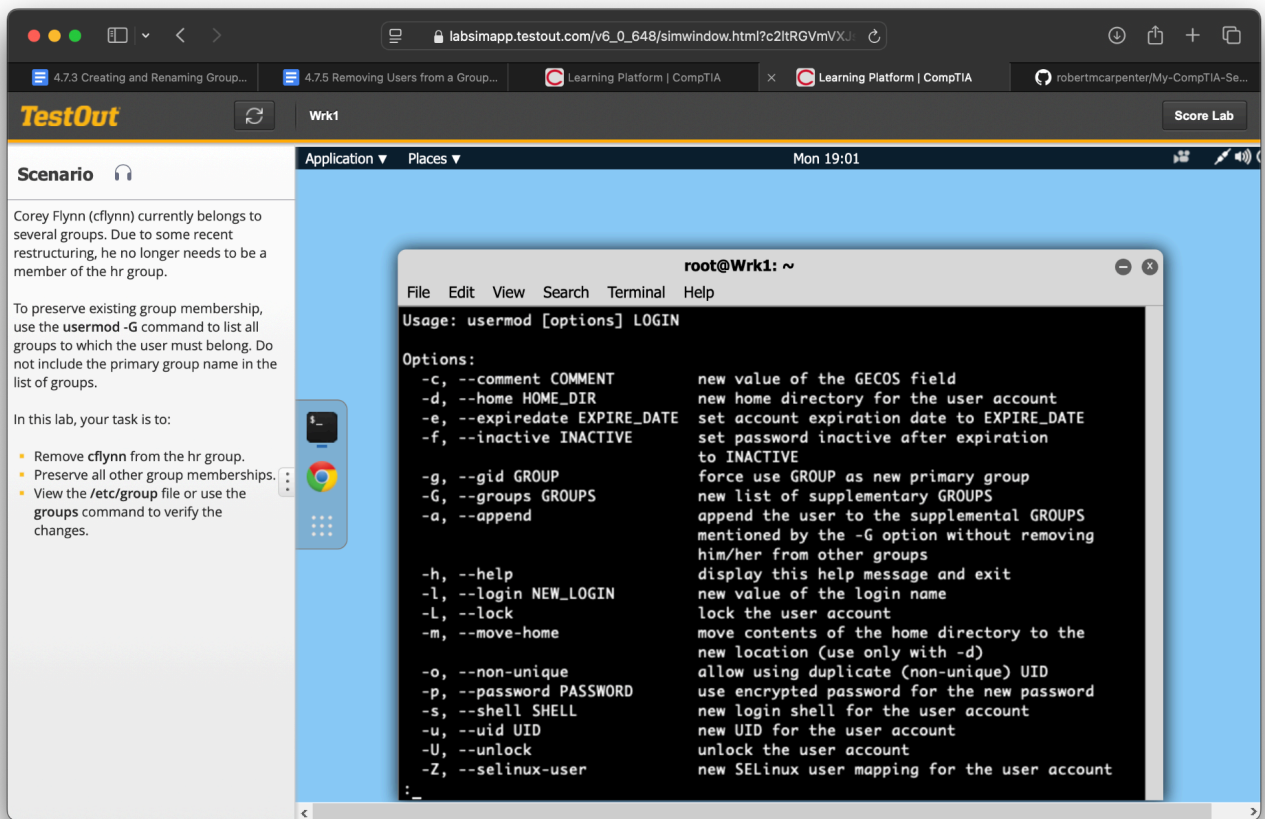
By supplying the -G flag it moves the supplied user in the argument to the groups defined and takes them out of the current groups. To see what other groups the cflynn user is apart of we can query the /etc/group file by issuing "cat /etc/group or groups"

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```
                                root@Wrk1: ~
  File   Edit   View   Search   Terminal   Help
 saslauth:x:493:
 mailnull:x:492:
 smmsp:x:491:
 mysql:x:490:
 haldaemon:x:489:
 sshd:x:488:
 wadams:x:500:
 rcronn:x:501:
 vedwards:x:502:
 cflynn:x:503:
 mbrown:x:504:
 placy:x:505:
 bcassini:x:506:
 aespinoza:x:507:
 bkahn:x:508:
 schawla:x:509:
 mgmt1:x:510:wadams,rcronn,placy,aespinoza,cflynn,mbrown,schawla
 mgmt2:x:511:wadams,rcronn,vedwards,bkahn,schawla
 hr:x:512:wadams,vedwards,placy,cflynn,bcassini,mbrown,schawla
 sales:x:513:bkahn,schawla
 devel:x:514:mbrown
 it:x:515:rcronn,aespinoza,cflynn
 proj:x:516:placy

 root@Wrk1:~# _
```

From here we can see that the cflynn user is apart of the MGMT1, HR, and IT groups. Since the usermod -G commands puts that user in the groups we define and removes them from any we don't supply. So in order to remove cflynn from the HR group but keep them in the MGMT1 and IT groups we simply just need to supply those groups to the arguments of the command. Since the HR group is omitted from the command options the usermod command will assign cflynn to those groups and those ONLY. Issuing the command "usermod -G mgmt1,it cflynn" we get:
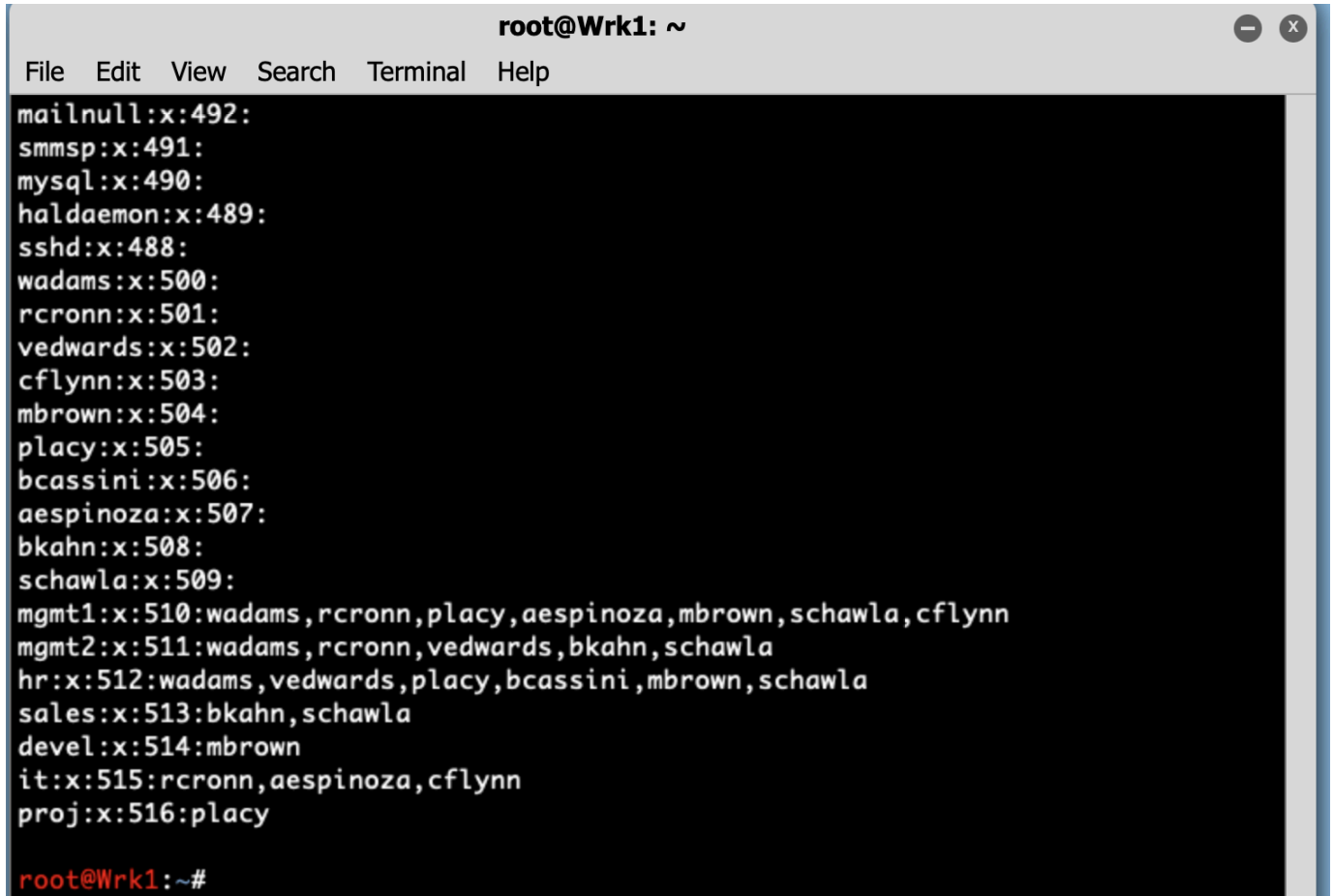
```
root@Wrk1:~# usermod -G mgmt1,it cflynn
root@Wrk1:~# cat /etc/group
```

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To view the changes enter the second command above "cat /etc/group." This will query the groups file in order for us to see group membership.

Awesome! I can see that the cflynn user is no longer apart of the hr group and has membership still to the other groups they were apart of. Note that this approach is better since sometimes the group file can be quite large and there might be lingering memberships to other groups we don't notice. That way we effectively take them out of EVERY group and then assign them to the groups only we want them to be in.

This now concludes this lab!

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