

YAML FUNDAMENTALS IN REDHAT ANSIBLE

We have two different nodes that are named as control node and managed node. Between them, control node is a machine which runs Ansible and there should be at least one control node whereas the managed node can be any device which is being managed by control node. By connecting all these nodes an Ansible works and there is a small program which can be written in YAML programming language.

We connect the nodes over SSH and they can be removed once they are no longer required. Previously applications and servers are maintained by the administrators, but the number of application deployments and their enhancements are increasing drastically so Ansible kind of tools came to picture to work with and make the administrator works simple.

To work with Ansible we should be aware of the following terms which are frequently used in Ansible.

PlayBooks -

- contains deployment script
- written on server
- Test on Server - (Dry Run)
- Execute from : Server
- Implemented : client

YAML file always starts with the header of three dashes “—” and ends with three dots “...” formally. So, these can indicate a developer or user that the start and stop points of the YAML scripts.

```
---  
# A List of tasty fruits  
- Apple  
- Orange  
- Strawberry  
- Mango  
...
```

Yml or Yaml : **Yet Another Markup language**

File extensions : .yaml or .yml

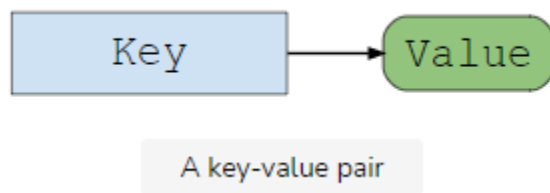
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Three formats, which exists here which we need to know A YAML format primarily uses 3 node types:

1. Key Value Pair
2. Lists
3. Maps

A **key-value pair** is a simple data structure that consists of a unique identifier (the key) and the corresponding value of that identifier.

The **key** can be any type of data, such as a text string or an integer. The **value** can also be of any type of data, including **string**, **integer**, **float**, **boolean**, **list**, or even other key-value pairs.



* data in yml is represented in the form of x: y , called as key value pair.

Example: int a=10 ; here int is data type, a is variable and 10 is value , = is a operator

* No data type concept

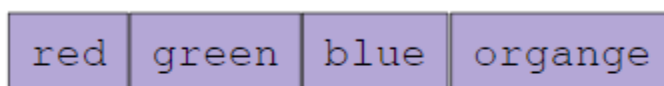
a=10 --> yml --> a: 10

b=20 --> yml --> b: 20

c="india" --> yml --> c: "india"

Arrays are available in almost all programming languages, including Perl, Python, PHP, Java, C#, Ruby, and JavaScript. They are linear data types used to represent a list of items.

array - collection of similar group of elements/data/data types, stored in a contiguous memory Location on the disk.



Array or list of colors

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Example : countries{Russia,USA,India,UK}

countries:

- Russia
- USA
- India
- UK

Example: cars{Maruthi,tata,mahindra}

cars:

- maruti
- tata
- mahindra

Note :

- No need to use double quotes for values here in lists

Lists allows us to enter unlimited values (no memory declaration

Maps/Dictionaries (YAML calls it *mapping*):

The content of a *mapping* node is an unordered set of *key/value* node *pairs*, with the restriction that each of the keys is unique. YAML places no further restrictions on the nodes.

Benefits of Ansible YAML

- It is simple to install Ansible and it is an open source.
- It is simple tool to use and the syntax of Ansible is more user friendly which can be understandable to a new user as well.
- It works as an agentless where we don't worry about installing the agents in the client machines from where we are going to connect for the communication.
- As it has better and powerful features, it can allow a user to model even the most complex workflows in IT. With these capabilities of Ansible we can orchestrate the entire application environment regardless of deployment where we did it.
- It is so efficient as it does not require no extra software for our applications.
- It uses JSON to work around with its modules. So, it can be extensible with the modules which are written in YAML programming.
- It is also used in provisioning of an application.
- It is mainly a configuration management tool so where it can maintain the consistency of a product performance. It is possible by Ansible because it records and updates the detailed information of the both hardware and software.

Playbook - Workflow

Step 1: Write ur code, using yml format or Python.

Step 2 : Push code to server

Step 3: Do Dry Run or Dry Test

Note - ** it will check only syntax-errors only and not logical

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Step 4 : Execute Program/playbook

Step 5 : Verify the results. (it is referred as REPORTS/FACTS)

Sample code for execution process:

```
-
  name: play on sample execution
  hosts: client1
  tasks:
    - name: use case of yum module
      yum:
        name: git
        state: present
```

Playbook - Dry Run

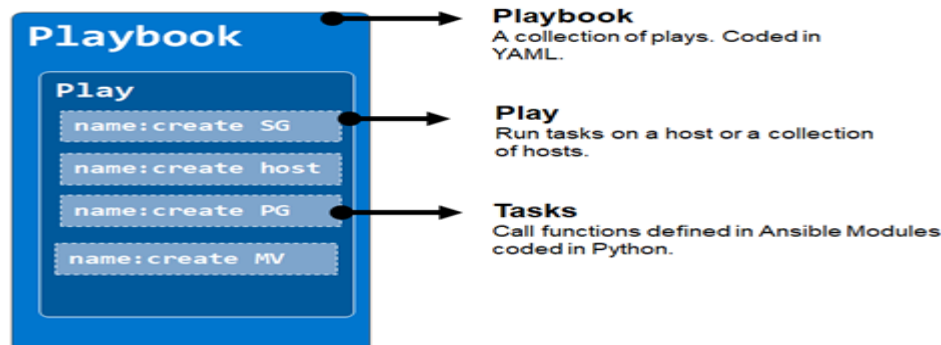
*** command to do syntax-check *** (Ansible - DRY RUN / DRY TEST)

ansible-playbook <pb_name> -i <inventory_file> --syntax-check

Playbook - Execution

*** command to execute ansible playbooks ***

syntax : **ansible-playbook <playbook_name> -i <location of inventory file>**



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cat

```
- name: Playbook
  hosts: webserver
  become: yes
  become_user: root
  tasks:
    - name: ensure apache is at the latest version
      yum:
        name: httpd
        state: latest
    - name: ensure apache is running
      service:
        name: httpd
        state: started
```

1 Name of Playbook
2 HostGroup Name
3 Sudo (or) run as different user setting
4 Tasks

Simple Ansible Playbook1.yml

```
-
  name: Play 1
  hosts: localhost
  tasks:
    - name: Execute comand "date"
      command: date
    - name: Execute script on server
      script: test.sh
    - name: Install httpd package
      yum:
        name: httpd
        state: present
    - name: Start web server
      service:
        name: httpd
        state: started
```

Example :

```
-
  name: play for install of httpd
  hosts: client1
  tasks:
    - name: httpd install
      yum:
        name: httpd
```

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state: absent

- name: play for install of docker

hosts: client1

tasks:

- name: docker install

yum:

name: docker

state: absent

example :

-

name: play on execution process

hosts: client2

tasks:

- name: code for install of httpd app

yum:

name: httpd

state: present

- name: code for use case of service module

service:

name: httpd

state: started

***** Structure of Playbooks *****

There are two types of Playbooks.

1. Single Structure PB
2. Multi Structure PB

Single Structure PB

-

Name:

Host:

Tasks:

- Name:
Module
Properties

Module

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Properties

Module properties

```
[root@ansible-server project]# ansible-playbook ex3-multi-structure-pb.yml -i /etc/ansible/hosts
PLAY [play for install of httpd] *****
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [client1]
TASK [httpd install] *****
changed: [client1]
PLAY [play for install of docker] *****
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [client1]
TASK [docker install] *****
changed: [client1]
PLAY RECAP *****
client1 : ok=4    changed=2    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0
```

Understanding of Modules:-

Ansible module are reusable, standalone scripts that can be used by the ansible API, or by the ansible or ansible-playbook programs.

Ansible Modules:

- Cloud
- Clustering
- Command
- File
- Database
- System
- Windows
- Monitoring

- Index of all the modules is available at below URL

https://docs.ansible.com/ansible/2.9/modules/modules_by_category.html

While making a reference to Documentation when we open the module index.

- 1st - Language level
- 2nd - OS level → Devop Eng..

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- Once, reference module page opens up make sure we are looking at right documentation
- Read below items under module documentation
 1. Synopsis
 2. Requirements
 3. Parameters
 4. Examples*

Exercise - Command Module

Exercise 1:

Create a folder with name "USA" under /opt

hint: command module

Example 1:

-

name: pb on command module

hosts: client1

tasks:

- name: to create a folder USA in /opt
- command: mkdir /opt/USA

Example 2:

- Create a folder 'RUSSIA' under /opt
- Create a file 'sample1' under /opt/RUSSIA
- Remove httpd application

-

name: use case on command module

hosts: all

tasks:

- name: code to create directory
- command: mkdir /opt/RUSSIA
- name: code to create a file
- command: touch /opt/RUSSIA/sample1
- name: code to remove application httpd
- command: yum remove -y httpd

Exercise :

Write a PB for below -

To install httpd application on Linux clients [hint: command module]

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```
# yum install httpd -y
To start httpd services [hint : use command module]
# service httpd start
or
# systemctl start httpd
```

```
-
name: pb on command module
hosts: client1
tasks:
  - name: install httpd package
    command: yum install httpd -y

  - name: start httpd service
    command: service httpd start
```

[Exercise - File Module](#)

Exercise :

1. create a file called notes.txt at /opt
2. need to write a word called "hello world" into that file.

hint: refer to document of file module and copy module.

```
-
name: pb on file-module
hosts: client2
tasks:
  - name: create a file using file-module
    file:
      path: /opt/notes.txt
      state: touch

  - copy:
      content: "HELLO WORLD"
      dest: "/opt/notes.txt"
```

[Exercise - file and lineinfile modules](#)

1. Create a file --> russia.txt --> at path /opt/india
2. Make sure that folder india exists in /opt, if not then create it
3. Write the content " HELLO WORLD " into Russia.txt file

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4. Make sure `ruddia.txt` user has execute permission on the file.

hint : refer to documentation of `file` and `lineinfile` modules

* this is a exercise to understand that we have to rearrange the logically task and implement solution

-

name: pb on use case of multiple modules

hosts: all

tasks:

- name: code to create directory using file

file:

path: `/opt/india`

state: directory

- name: code to create a file "`ruddia.txt`"

file:

path: `/opt/india/ruddia.txt`

state: touch

- name: code to write content "`Hello world`"

lineinfile:

path: `/opt/india/ruddia.txt`

state: present

line: "`Hello World`"

- name: code to give execute permission to the file

command: `chmod u+x /opt/india/ruddia.txt`

Exercise - lineinfile module

Q. Replace word "`Hello World`" in `/opt/india/ruddia.txt` with "`India is great`"

Hint: lineinfile module

-

name: pb for to replace content

hosts: all

tasks:

- name: replace content

lineinfile:

path: `/opt/india/ruddia.txt`

state: present

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regexp: "Hello World"
line: "india is great"

Variables

** in ansible we use a keyword/property/attribute "vars" is used to declare the variables

** purpose : to store data/value

ex:(in a c language)

int a=10

int	data type
a	variable
=	assignment operator
10	value

Normal, a=10 here in ansible -> yml --> a: 10

** the variables should be declared in key value pair format.

** there is no concept of Data Types in ansible.

** variables are case sensitive

call the variable value {{}} ==> jinja templating...

a: 10 {{a}} --> o/p : 10

b: 20 {{b}} --> o/p : 20

** variables should be declared using a parameter called vars

Sample program on vars:

example 1:

-

name: playbook on use case of variables

hosts: pc1

vars:

a: 10

b: 20

tasks:

- name: below code to create a file if does not exist

file:

path: /opt/variables.txt

state: touch

- name: below code to write the content into the file

lineinfile:

path: /opt/variables.txt

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```
state: present
line: "The value of A is {{a}} and the value of B is {{b}}"
```

example 2:

-

```
name: play for use case of variables
hosts: client1
vars:
```

```
  a: 10
  b: 20
  c: "india is a great country"
```

```
tasks:
```

```
- name: below code is to create the file
  file:
    path: /opt/01-sep-2021
    state: touch
```

```
- name: below code is example of vars
```

```
  lineinfile:
```

```
    path: /opt/01-sep-2021
    state: present
```

```
    line: "The value of A is: {{a}} and the value of B is: {{b}}, the value of c is: {{c}}"
```

Example 3:

-

```
name: pb for variable concept
hosts: all
vars:
```

```
  a: 10
  b: 20
  c: "WELCOME TO INDIA"
```

```
tasks:
```

```
- name: below code to create a directory
```

```
  file:
```

```
    path: /opt/var-concept
    state: directory
```

```
- name: below to create a file data.txt
```

```
  file:
```

```
    path: /opt/var-concept/data.txt
    state: touch
```

```
- name: below code to write variables into the file
```

```
  lineinfile:
```

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```
path: /opt/var-concept/data.txt
state: present
line: " The value of A is {{a}} \n The value of B is {{b}} \n The value of C is {{c}}"
```

Loops

- undergoing a lot of changes
- versions of ansible - syntax loops are different. They look more similar to a language.
- loops, we will use along with modules
- not every module will work with loops
- ** ansible -- reduce the dependencies on loops concept

Example 1: past

-

name: pb on use case of loops

hosts: client1

tasks:

- name: below code for yum installation

yum:

name: "{{ item }}"

state: present

with_items:

- git
- docker
- net-tools
- finger
- httpd

*** Note: format followed for with_items is "list/arrays"

Example 2: future (2.11)

-

name: example on loops

hosts: client1

tasks:

- name: Ansible Loop example

yum:

name: ['git', 'finger', 'docker', 'httpd', 'net-tools']

state: present

Example 3: Current (2.9)

-

name: example on loops

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hosts: client1

tasks:

- name: Ansible Loop example

yum:

name: "{{ item }}"

state: absent

loop:

- git
- finger
- docker
- httpd
- net-tools