2.3 Text Editors

As you study this section, answer the following questions:

- Why is it important to know how to run a text editor on a Linux system?
- What are the four different modes available in the vi editor, and how can you tell the current mode?
- Which vi mode would you use to overwrite existing text?
- How can you list all the keystroke shortcuts in the nano text editor?

In this lesson, you will learn to:

- Navigate a text file using vi.
- Open and edit an existing text file using the vi and nano text editors.
- Create a new file using the vi and nano text editors.

Key terms for this section include the following:

Term	Definition
vi or vim	A utility that creates and modifies text files. Due to the *vim* interface being virtually identical to *vi*, the names *vi* and *vim* have become interchangeable and the shorter name *vi* is used when describing both editors.
vi operating modes	Four different modes that the vi text editor operates under: Command Mode, Command Line Mode, Insert Mode, and Replace Mode.
vi commands	Keystroke sequences that control the vi editor, including cursor movement, cutting, copying and pasting text, finding and replacing text and writing the buffer to a file.
nano	A utility that creates and modifies text files.
nano keyboard shortcuts	Keystroke sequences that control the nano editor, including cursor movement, cutting, copying and pasting text, finding and replacing text and writing the buffer to a file.

This section helps you prepare for the following certification exam objectives:

Exam	Objective
CompTIA Linux+	2.3 Given a scenario, create, modify and redirect files. - Text Editors - nano - vi