

OS1 Lab 5.2 - Linux Review Exercises

Sample Solutions

Dr. Martin O'Connor

26 February, 2025

File Permission Exercises

In this section, you will complete exercises to create a file and modify the file's permissions.

1. Create a new file called **text.txt** using the touch command .
2. What are the permissions of the file **text.txt**?

Answer:

-rw-r--r--

Please complete the following exercises to change the permissions of the file **text.txt** using the command sequence `chmod mode filename` where mode is created by concatenating characters from *who*, *opcode* and *permission*. Please write the commands you used as your

Answer:

1. Allow the owner read access to the file and deny everyone else access to the file.

Answer:

```
$ chmod u+r,go-rw test.txt
OR
$ chmod u=r,go= test.txt
```

2. Allows the owner and world to read the file but deny all access to the group.

Answer:

```
$ chmod o+r test.txt
OR
$ chmod uo=r,g= test.txt
```

3. Deny access to the file for the owner, group and world.

Answer:

```
$ chmod uo-r test.txt
OR
$ chmod ugo= test.txt
```

4. Grant the owner read and write access and grant the group and world read only access.

Answer:

```
$ chmod u+rw test.txt
OR
$ chmod u=rw,go= test.txt
```

Please complete the following exercises to change the permissions of the file **text.txt** using the command sequence `chmod octal-mode filename` where *octal-mode* is created by concatenating three digits from 0 to 7 inclusive. Please write the commands you used as your **Answer**:

1. Allow the owner read access to the file and deny everyone else access to the file.

Answer:

```
$ chmod 400 test.txt
```

2. Allows the owner and world to read the file but deny all access to the group.

Answer:

```
$ chmod 404 test.txt
```

3. Deny access to the file for the owner, group and world.

Answer:

```
$ chmod 000 test.txt
```

4. Grant the owner read and write access and grant the group and world read only access.

Answer:

```
$ chmod 644 test.txt
```

File and Text Exercises

Create a file called **capital.txt** with the following five lines:

```
Dublin is the capital city of Ireland.
Ireland is viewed as the best country in the world by many people.
```

Dublin has a population greater than 1 million people.
There are many places to see and visit in Dublin.
The largest university in Ireland is TU Dublin.

Create a second file called **cities.txt** with the following contents:

Dublin
Cork
Belfast
Galway
Waterford
Kilkenny

Please complete the following exercises and write the commands you used as your answer.

1. Display the cities in the **cities.txt** file in reverse sorted order.

Answer:

```
$ sort -r cities.txt
```

2. Create a new file called **sortedcities.txt** that contains the cities in **cities.txt** in sorted order. Hint: *Use the sort command and redirection.*

Answer:

```
$ sort cities.txt > sortedcities.txt  
OR  
$ sort < cities.txt > sortedcities.txt
```

3. Display just the last two lines in the file **capital.txt**. Hint: *Use the tail command.*

Answer:

```
$ tail -2 capital.txt  
OR  
$ cat capital.txt | tail -2
```

4. Display just the first three lines in the file **capital.txt**. Hint: *Use the head command.*

Answer:

```
$ head -3 capital.txt  
OR  
$ cat capital.txt | head -3
```

5. Display just the lines in the file **capital.txt** that contain the word Dublin. Hint: *Use the grep command.*

Answer:

```
$ grep Dublin capital.txt
OR
$ cat capital.txt | grep Dublin
```

6. Display just the lines in the file **capital.txt** that contain the word dublin case-insensitive.

Answer:

```
$ grep -i dublin capital.txt
OR
$ cat capital.txt | grep -i dublin
```

7. Display just the lines in the file **capital.txt** that **do not** contain the word dublin case-insensitive.

Answer:

```
$ grep -iv dublin capital.txt
OR
$ cat capital.txt | grep -iv dublin
```

8. Display just the count of the lines in the file **capital.txt** that **do not** contain the word dublin case-insensitive.

Answer:

```
$ grep -ivc dublin capital.txt
OR
$ grep -iv dublin capital.txt | wc -l
```

9. Display just the line number(s) in the file **cities.txt** that contains the word cork case-insensitive.

Answer:

Correct answer in this case given only one digit in the line numbers:
\$ grep -in cork cities.txt | cut -c02

Correct answer in all cases regardless of the number of lines in the file:

```
$ grep -in cork cities.txt | cut -d':' -f-1
```

-d specifies the delimiter separating the input token fields.
-f <from>-<to> specifies start and end fields to process

10. Display just the first character of each line in the file **cities.txt**. Hint: *Use the cat and cut commands with piping.*

Answer:

```
$ cat capital.txt | cut -c01
```

11. Display just the second last line of the file **capital.txt**. Hint: *Use the cat, tail and head commands with piping.*

Answer:

```
$ tail -2 capital.txt | head -1  
OR  
$ cat capital.txt | tail -2 | head -1
```

12. Display a listing in long format of all files in the current working folder whose filenames begin with the letter k and end with the extension .txt

Answer:

```
$ ls -l k*.txt
```

13. Write the command that would run the program myprogramme, discarding all output generated to the null device.

Answer:

```
All output means both stdout and stderr output. Thus, answer is:  
$ ./myprogramme 2> /dev/null > /dev/null
```

14. Display the output of the command `ps -aux` both to the screen and redirect the stdout to the file **processes.txt**.

Answer:

```
$ ps -aux | tee processes.txt
```

15. Append the string "test" to the file **/etc/passwd** redirecting all error messages to the file **error.txt** in the current folder. Hint: *Use the echo command with redirection.*

Answer:

```
$ echo "test" 2> error.txt > /etc/passwd
```

16. Delete the file **/etc/passwd** (without prompting the user for confirmation) redirecting all error messages generated by appending them to the file **error.txt** in the current folder.

Answer:

```
$ rm -f /etc/passwd 2>> error.txt
```

17. The command `seq` generates a sequence of numbers. For example, the command `seq 5` generates a sequence of numbers from 1 to 5. Try it out for yourself.

1. Create a new file called **numbers.txt** with the sequence of numbers from 1 to 4 each on a separate line. Hint: *Use the seq command with redirection.*

Answer:

```
$ seq 4 > numbers.txt
```

2. Now, using one command, appended the sequence numbers from 1 to 6 to the end of the file **numbers.txt**, each number on a separate line.

Answer:

```
$ seq 6 >> numbers.txt
```

3. Display the contents of the file **numbers.txt** sorted in ascending order.

Answer:

```
$ sort -n numbers.txt  
OR  
$ cat numbers.txt | sort -n
```

4. Display the contents of the file **numbers.txt** sorted in ascending order, with duplicates removed. Hint: *Use the cat, sort and uniq commands with piping.*

Answer:

```
$ sort -n numbers.txt | uniq -u  
OR  
$ cat numbers.txt | sort -n | uniq -u
```

5. Display how many times each line is duplicated in the file **numbers.txt**.

Answer:

```
$ sort -n numbers.txt | uniq -c  
OR  
$ cat numbers.txt | sort -n | uniq -c
```

6. Display only the unique (non-duplicate lines) in the file. **numbers.txt**.

Answer:

```
$ cat numbers.txt | sort -n | uniq -u
```

Exercises on Processes

1. Start five processes in the background as indicated below:

```
$ sleep 1000 &          P1  
$ sleep 2000 &          P2  
$ sleep 3000 &          P3  
$ sleep 4000 &          P4  
$ sleep 5000 &          P5
```

Please complete the following exercises, and write the commands and/or keystrokes you used as your answer.

2. Terminate process P1 without using the kill command.

Answer:

Run the command

```
$ jobs
```

to obtain the job number of process P1.

Bring the process to the foreground by running the command

```
$ fg %jobnumber
```

Kill the process by pressing Ctrl-C

3. Identify the process identifier (PID) of process P2.

Answer:

Run the command

```
$ ps -x
```

to list all processes initiated by the current user, including process P2.

To more quickly identify the process identifier of process P2, run the command

```
$ ps -x | grep -i "sleep 2000"
```

4. Terminate process P2 using the kill command.

Answer:

```
$ kill 2334 [Replace the number with the correct PID]
```

5. Suspend process P3.

Answer:

Run the command

```
$ jobs
```

to obtain the job number of process P3.

Bring the process to the foreground by running the command

```
$ fg %jobnumber
```

Suspend the process by pressing Ctrl-Z

OR

```
$ kill -s stop 2337 [Replace the number with the correct PID]
```

6. Bring process P4 to the foreground and then terminate it.

Answer:

Run the command

```
$ ps -x
```

to list all processes initiated by the current user, including process P4.

To more quickly identify the process identifier of process P4, run the command

```
$ ps -x | grep -i "sleep 4000"
```

Then run the command

```
$ kill 2342 [Replace the number with the correct PID]
```

7. Terminate process P5 by force using the kill command.

Answer:

Run the command

```
$ ps -x
```

to list all processes initiated by the current user, including process P5.

To more quickly identify the process identifier of process P5, run the command

```
$ ps -x | grep -i "sleep 5000"
```

Then run the command (note the command line option -9)

```
$ kill -9 2348
```

[Replace the number with the correct PID]

8. Terminate process P3 without using the kill command.

Answer:

Run the command

```
$ jobs
```

to obtain the job number of process P3.

Bring the job to the foreground by running the command

```
$ fg %jobnumber
```

Kill the job by pressing Ctrl-C