*Learning objectives

- Use diffrent source of documentation.

- Use the man Pages.

- Access the GNU info System.

- Use the help command and --help option.

- Use other documentation sources.

* Linux Documentation sources

The man
Pages

Documentation
Sources

GNU info

Command help

Other
Documentation
Sources
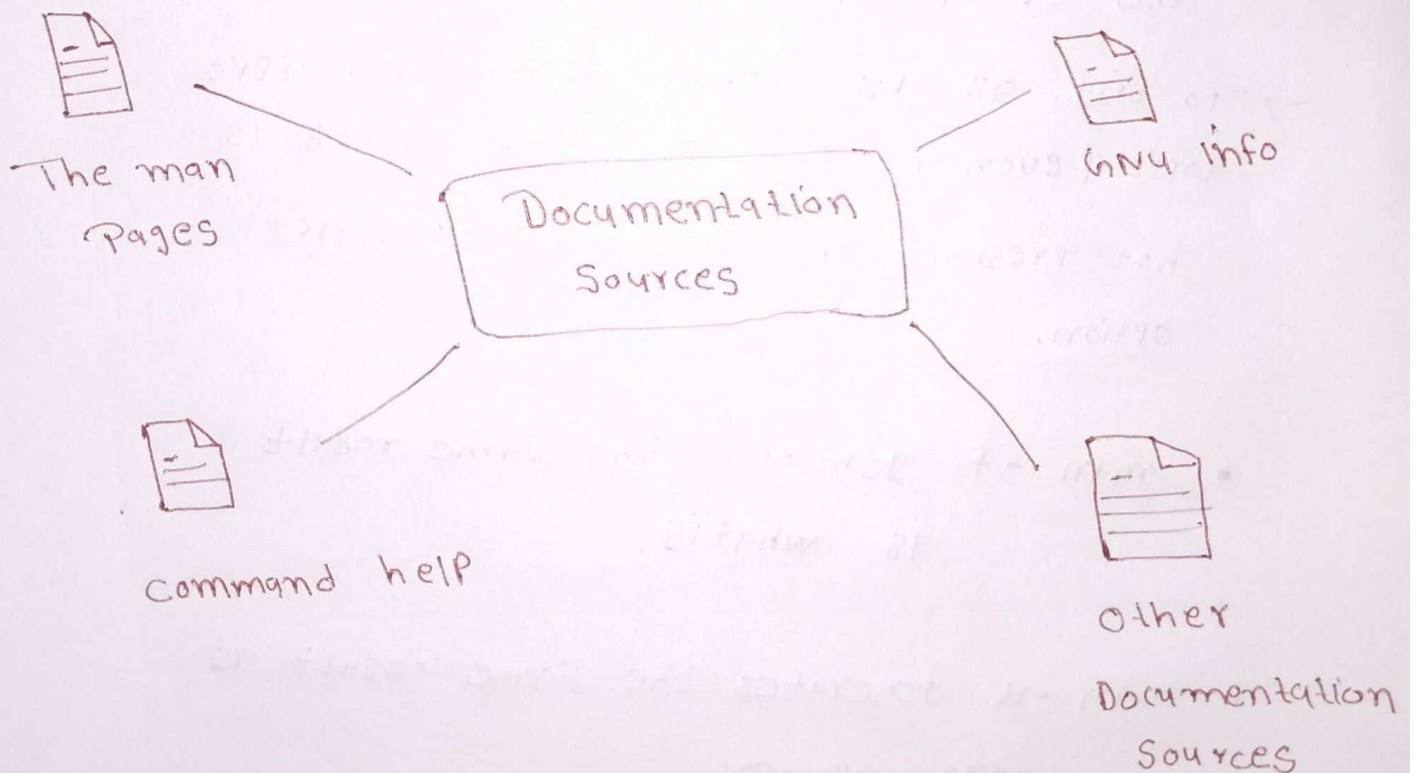
* man

-> The man program searches, formats and displays the information contained in the man page system.

-> A given topic may have multiple pages associated with it and there is default order determining which one is displayed when no options or Section number is specified.

-> To list all pages on the topic, use the -f option.

-> To list all pages that discuss specific topic (even if the specified subject is not present in the name), use -k option.

• man -f generates the same result as whatis.

• man -k generates the same result as apropos apropos.

-> The default order is specified in /etc/man.db.conf and is roughly (but not exactly) in ascending order.

* Manual Chapters

→ The man Pages are divided into chapters number 1 through 9.

→ In Some cases, a letter is appendend to the chapter number to identify a specific topic.

→ For Example, many pages describing part of the X windows API are in chapter 3X.

→ The chapter number can be used to force man to display the pages from a Particular chapter.

→ with the -a parameter, man will display all pages with the given name in all chapter, one after the other as in

$ man -a socket

* The GNU info system

ⅰ) Using info from the command line

→ Typing info with no arguments in a terminal window displays an index of available topics.

→ You can browse through the topic list using the regular movement keys: arrows page up and page down.

→ You can view help for a particular topic by typing <topic name>. The system then searches for the topic in all available info files.

→ Some useful keys are: q to quit, h for help and Enter to select a menu item.

* info Page Structure

→ The topic which you view in an info page is called a node. The table lists the basic keystrokes for moving between nodes.

→ Items function like browser links and are idenfied by and astrisk (*) at the beginning of the item name.

→ Named items (out side menu) are idenfifyed with double-colons (::) at the end of the item name.

Key	Functions
n	Go to the next node.
p	Go to the previous node
u	move one node up in the index

Table: Keys and Functions

* The --help option

-> most commands have an available short
   description which can be viewed using
   --help or the -h option along with
   the command or application.

-> For Example to learn more about the
   man command you can type.

$ man --help

-> The --help option is useful as a quick
   reference and it displays information
   ~~fass~~ faster than the man or info pages.

* Other Documentation Sources

   . Desktop help system.

   . package documentation.

   . other resources