

Lab 03

User environment: tonight we dine in shell

Hands-on Unix system administration DeCal

2012-09-17, due 2012-09-24

Your answers should only contain commands or brief responses. Please save trees, don't print out your computer's output.

If you don't know what a command does, skim the manpage, e.g. `man tee`.

1. What is the meaning of `A < B > C`? What about `D | E >> F`? What is the difference between how `C` and `F` are treated if the files already exist?
2. What is the difference between `echo "$PATH"` and `echo '$PATH'`?
3. Create a file using `touch` with a single space as the filename. Now remove it using `rm`, without using quotes in the command.
Hint: use the escape character.
4. Create a file using `touch` with a single dash (`-`) as the filename. Now remove it using `rm`.
Hint: you will not be able to remove the file using quotes or the escape character because `rm` will think that you're passing an option. Recall that each directory has a special hidden subdirectory which points to itself.
5. Create a file using `touch` that contains newlines in the filename. (To remove it, try using tab-completion. You don't need to provide this in your answer.)
Hint: use quotes.
6. Print "Error, \$world not found!" on standard error (`stderr`).
Hint: use `echo` to print the message to `stdout` (be sure to properly escape or quote the dollar sign) and redirect `stdout` to `stderr`. If you're unsure how to redirect `stdout` to `stderr`, a search online should quickly provide you with answers.
7. Print your machine's hostname on `stdout` while simultaneously *appending* the hostname to a file.
Hint: redirection using `>` will not work. You will need to pipe your output to `tee`.
8. Display the last line of `/etc/group`.
Hint: use `tail`.
9. Print `/etc/passwd` in numeric order of UID (third column).
Hint: use `sort` on OCF. You will need to take a look at `-n`, `-k`, and `-t` options.
10. File `alice` is supposed to contain only one a single line of input but has not been properly sanitized. Save only the alphanumeric characters of `alice` in a file `bob`.
Hint: use `tr` with `-c` and `-d` options.
11. Using `find` and `xargs` separated by the null character, concatenate all `.conf` files in `/etc` and save the output in a file `conf_files`, while hiding error messages.
Hint: to separate records with `NUL`, you will have to provide the `-print0` option to `find` and the `-0` option to `xargs`. To hide errors, redirect `stderr` to `/dev/null`.
12. Write a regular expression that matches hyphenated Social Security numbers.

Extra for Experts™!

The Fall 2008 lecture on shell scripting may be a useful reference for this problem. You can find it at: http://decal.ocf.berkeley.edu/2008-fall/intermediate/week06_slides.pdf.

Write a shell script, `piglatin`, that converts English into Pig Latin, one word at a time. Assume that sentences only contain letters and spaces — don't worry about numbers and other special cases. You can either use standard input (look up the shell command `read`), or command line arguments, whichever you think is easier. That is, your program should have one of the following interfaces:

- `echo "The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog" | piglatin`
- `piglatin The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog`

The Pig Latin algorithm: For each word w ,

- if w starts with a consonant, move its first letter to its end and append “-ay.”
- if w starts with a vowel, just append “-ay.”

And some tips:

- If you plan using a `read` loop, be warned that `read` will read a whole line into a variable. To split it into words, you'll want to change `bash`'s Internal Field Separator.
- You can check the first character of a word using `case`. For example (note that your script has to handle uppercase letters as well):