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## How to learn shell scripting in windows

SummaryLearn Windows PowerShell in a Month of Lunches, Second Edition is an innovative tutorial designed for administrators. Just set aside one hour a day—lunchtime would be perfect—for a month, and you'll be automating Windows tasks faster than you ever thought possible. You'll start with the basics—what is PowerShell and what can you do with it. Then, you'll move systematically through the techniques and features you'll use to make your job easier and your day shorter. Purchase of the print book comes with an offer of a free PDF, ePub, and Kindle eBook from Manning. Also available is all code from the book. About the TechnologyPowerShell is both a language and an administrative shell with which you can control and automate nearly every aspect of Windows. It accepts and executes commands immediately, and you can write scripts to manage most Windows servers like Exchange, IIS, and SharePoint.About the BookThis book is a tutorial designed for busy administrators. Just set aside one hour a day for a month and you'll learn all the practical techniques you need to make your job easier and your day shorter. This totally revised book covers new PowerShell features that run on Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2, and later. This edition is appropriate for PowerShell version 3 and later.Experience with Windows administration is helpful. No programming experience is assumed.What's InsideLearn PowerShell from the beginning—no experience required!Covers PowerShell 3 and later running on Windows 7, Windows Server 2008R2, and laterEach lesson should take you one hour or lessAbout the AuthorsPowershell MVPs Don Jones and Jeffery Hicks bring years as successful trainers to this concise, easy-to-follow book. Don blogs at PowerShell.com and you can find Jeff at jdhtsolutions.com/blog.Table of ContentsBefore you beginMeet PowerShellUsing the help systemRunning commandsWorking with providersThe pipeline: connecting commandsAdding commandsObjects: data by another nameThe pipeline, deeperFormatting—and why it's done on the rightFiltering and comparisonsA practical interludeRemote control: one to one, and one to manyUsing Windows Management InstrumentationMultitasking with background jobsWorking with many objects, one at a timeSecurity alert!Variables: a place to store your stuffInput and outputSessions: remote control with less workYou call this scripting? Improving your parameterized scriptAdvanced remoting configurationUsing regular expressions to parse text filesAdditional random tips, tricks, and techniquesUsing someone else's scriptNever the endPowerShell cheat sheet A list of top frequently asked Shell Scripting interview questions and answers are given below. 1) What is shell script? A shell script is a command containing text file that contains one or more commands. 2) Why is the use of shell script? It is used by system administrators to issue numbers of commands to accomplish the task. All commands are added together in a text file (shell script) to complete daily routine tasks. 3) What are the advantages of shell scripting? These are the two main advantages of shell scripting: It facilitates you to develop your own operating system with relevant features best suited for you. You can design software applications according to their platform. 4) What are the disadvantages of shell scripting? Following are the main disadvantages of shell scripting: A weak design can destroy the entire process and could prove a costly error. If a typing error occurs during the creation then it can delete the entire data as well as partition data. Its initial process is slow and improves gradually. Portability between different operating system is difficult. 5) What are the different types of variables used in shell script? There are two types of variables used in shell script: System defined variables: These variables are defined or created by operating system itself. User defined variables: These variables are defined by system users. 6) What is the syntax of "nested if statement" in shell scripting? if [ Condition ] then command1 command2 ..... else if [ condition ] then command1 command2 ..... else command1 command2 ..... While writing the shell script, the "\$?" sign is used with "if statement" to check whether the previous command is executed successfully or not. 8) What is the use of break command? The break command is used to escape from a loop in progress. 9) What is GUI scripting? GUI stands for Graphical User Interface. It is used for controlling a computer and its applications. GUI scripting supports different applications. It mostly depends on the operating system. 10) What are the various stages of a Linux process it passes through? A Linux process generally passes through four stages: Waiting: In this stage, the Linux process waits for resource. Running: In this stage, the Linux process is currently being executed. Stopped: In this stage, the Linux process is stopped after successful execution. Zombie: This stage is known as zombie because the process has stopped but still active in process table. 11) Is it possible to substitute "ls" command in the place of "echo" command? Yes. 12) What is the syntax of while loop in shell scripting? The while loop is used to repeat its block of commands a number of times. It is different from for loop, it iterates until the while condition is no longer true. while [ test condition ] do commands... done Inode: Each file contains an index number known as "inode" which is comprised of metadata about the associated file. Hard Link: is the mirror of original linked file. In such case, hard link and original file contains same inode. Hard link remains linked whether original file is removed. Soft Link: is like shortcut feature of Windows OS. In such case, hard link and original file contains different inode. Soft link will not work correctly if original file is removed. 14) What is the use of "\$#" in Shell Scripting? The \$# shows total number of arguments passed to the script. 15) What are the Zombie processes? Zombie processes are the processes which are died but exit status is not picked by the parent process. 16) What are the 3 standard streams in Linux? 0 - Standard Input 1 - Standard Output 2 - Standard Error Shell programming or shell scripting consists of most of the features that modern programming languages have to offer. Any script, simple to complex, can be developed using Shell scripting. It is a series of UNIX commands written to accomplish a particular task using a plain text file. Tasks of day-to-day life can be automated with the help of shell scripting. If you are new to the concepts of Unix, shell, and Perl, read it here. If you have knowledge about shell scripting and have to face a related job interview, then this shell scripting interview questions and answer article will help you with the top shell scripting interview questions that can make your preparation easy. Let's get started with some shell scripting interview questions for beginners. 1. What is a superblock in shell scripting? A superblock is a program containing specific file systems' records. The characteristics available in the block are size, counts of filled and empty blocks, usage information, size of block groups, and location and size of inode tables. 2. What do you understand by a shell? Shell is a command-line interpreter that translates user-entered commands into kernel understandable language. The shell interprets the command typed in at the terminal and calls the required program. 3. Name commonly used shells on a typical Linux system. There are mainly two kinds of Linux shells- C-shell and Bourne shell. Their derivatives are as follows: C-shell: TENEX C-Shell, Z-Shell Bourne shell: Korn Shell, POSIX Shell, Bourne-Again Shell 4. Tell about the four stages of the Linux Process. The four stages include: Waiting- The Linux process is waiting for the resource Running- The Linux process is currently running Stopped- The Linux process has been stopped after successful execution Zombie- The Linux process is still active in the process table, but it has stopped. 5. How can you connect to a database server? To connect to a database server from Linux, use the isql utility that comes with the open client driver. Here is how: isql -S serverName -U username -P password 6. Give the purpose of the shebang line. The shebang line is at the top of each script used to determine the engine's location and is used to execute the script. 7. Define Shell Variable. Shell variable forms the core part of a shell script or program. The variable allows the shell to manipulate the stored information within a shell program. It is generally stored as a string variable. 8. How many kernels and shells are available in the UNIX environment? There can be multiple shells available, but there is only one kernel in the UNIX environment. 9. What is the alternative command for echo? The alternative command for echo is tput. This command allows us to control how the output is displayed on the screen. 10. What is a metacharacter? Metacharacter is a unique character included in a program or data field of a shell. It offers information about other characters. For example: to list all files beginning with character 's', use the 'ls s\*' command. Here are some intermediate level shell scripting interview questions! 1. Tell us about the disadvantages of shell scripting. Shell scripting has the following disadvantages: The process is slow initially and improves gradually Portability is not easy Typing errors can partition as well as delete entire data Weak designs can prove to be costly and can destroy the whole process. 2. What do you understand by GUI scripting? GUI or Graphical User Interface controls a computer and its applications. GUI scripting mostly depends on the operating system and supports different applications. 3. Tell us about the '\$#' use in shell scripting. '\$#' is used to display the total number of passed arguments to the script. 4. Name standard streams in Linux. The standard streams in Linux are Standard Input, Standard Output, and Standard Error. 5. Explain Crontab. Crontab means cron table because the tasks are executed using the job scheduler "cron." It is a list of commands that run on a regular schedule, and the name of the command also manages the list. Crontab is the schedule and also the name of the program used to edit the schedule. 6. Differentiate between \$@ and \$\*. \$\* considers an entire set of positional arguments as a single string whereas, \$@ treats each quote argument as a separate argument. 7. What is the lifespan of a shell variable? A variable is inside the shell script only until the end of execution. 8. Tell us how you can compare strings in a shell script. To compare the text strings, we use the 'test' command. This command compares text strings by comparing each character of each string. 9. When the script is running in the UNIX, can you pass arguments to it? Yes, arguments can be passed, and it is a commonly followed practice. It is carried out to ensure the system does not have an error in executing commands and scripts run smoothly. 10. Can you separate hard and soft links in shell scripting? How? Shell scripting is a powerful approach that uses links to create shortcuts, just like Windows. Soft links do not have any specific location and can be anywhere on the same file system, and are generally related to the file name. At the same time, hard links remain present on the same file system. Hard links are related to nodes and have a particular fixed location in most cases. Here are some shell scripting interview questions for the experienced candidates! 1. Name two files of the crontab command. The two crontab command files are: cron. deny- decides the user that needs to be prevented from using crontab command cron. allow- decides the user that needs to be permitted to use the crontab command 2. How will you debug problems encountered in the shell program? Some standard methods of debugging the problems in the script are: use of set-x to enable debugging Insert debug statements in a shell script to display information that helps in the identification of the problem. 3. What will be the status of a process executed using the exec command in the shell? All the new forked processes get overlays on executing exec. The command gets executed without any impact on the current process, and no new process is created in the scenario. 4. Why is bash a weakly typed language? Bash is a weakly typed language because it does not require declaring data type at the time of variable declaration. Bash variables are treated as strings, and the type of variable is set based on the current value. Bash variables can be defined by using declare command. However, to define data types, options are limited and do not support all data types. For example: declare command cannot be used for the float data type. 5. What is the alternative to if-else if-else statements in bash? An alternative to if-else if-else statement is a case statement. Its syntax is different from switch case. 'case' block is closed by 'esac,' and no break statement is used. Syntax case in Match pattern one) commands; Match pattern two) commands;; esac 6. How can you print a substring in bash? Bash does not have a built-in function like other languages. However, a parameter expansion can be used to cut any string value. The three parts defined in parameter expansion are the primary string variable that has to be cut, starting position, and length of the cutting string. The first two are mandatory; the last one is optional. The starting position is counted from 0, and length must be counted from 1 of the main string. 7. Please tell us how you will check if a file exists on the filesystem. Using the following: if [ -f /var/log/messages ] then echo "File exists." fi 8. Use the echo command to get part of a string variable. This is how we can get part of string variable using echo command only: echo \${variable:xy} Where X is the starting position and y is the string length. example: variable="Her name is Jen, and she is a developer." echo \${variable:12:6} # will display Jen 9. What is the difference between [[ \$string == \*efg\* ]] and [[ \$string == efg\* ]] ? [[ \$string == efg\* ]] - checks if string begins with efg. [[ \$string == \*efg\* ]] - checks if string is efg. 10. In what ways, shell script get input values? a. By reading command: read -p "Destination backup Server:" dest host.b. By parameters. .script param1 param2 Are you a web developer or interested in building a website? Enroll for the Full Stack Web Developer - MEAN Stack Master's Program. Explore the course preview! With the help of these shell-scripting interview questions, you can understand that shell is mainly an interface between the operating system and the user that interprets user-entered commands to the operating system or kernel. Thus, you know the importance of a shell in the operating system and can present your understanding in your next shell scripting interview. You can also enrich your knowledge with Simplilearn's certification and courses. Explore right away!



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