CHAPTER 10: Basic Linux Commands

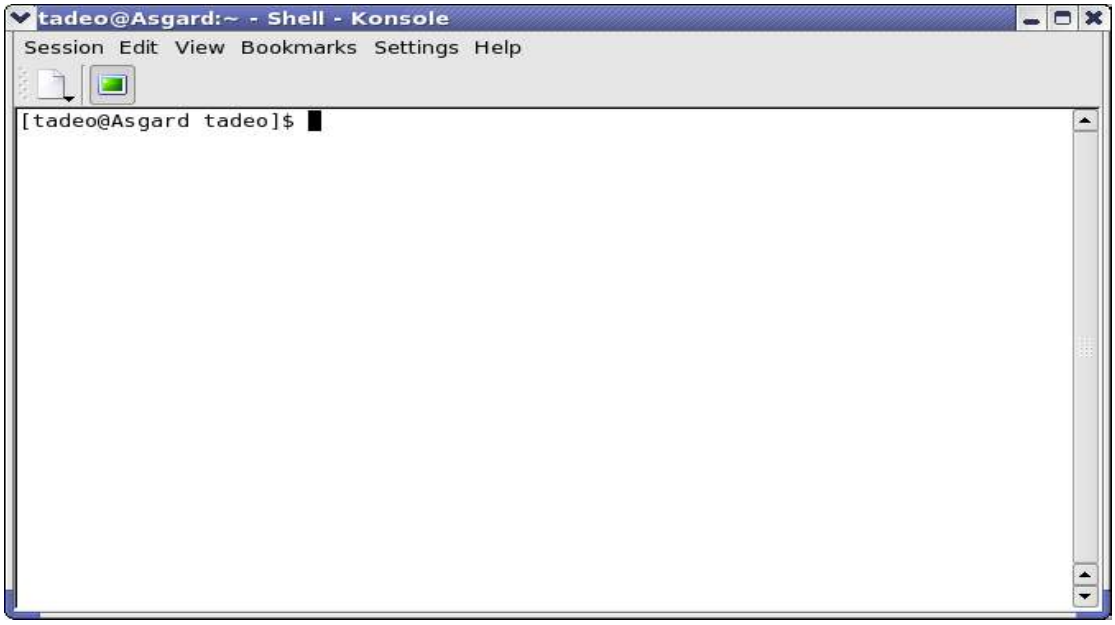
Introduction:
The command line interface is still accessible in Bayanihan Linux despite the presence of a graphical interface (KDE) because it is frequently the easiest, fastest and most powerful way to perform many tasks. The Konsole, often referred to as a terminal or a shell, offers you a command line interface on your desktop environment. The Konsole is analogous to MS-DOS Prompt in Windows although it is more powerful and easy to use.

In this chapter, you will learn how to:
- Use the command line interface

Situation:
Your instructor said that Bayanihan Linux is powerful when used in the command line interface. She gave you the following instructions to be done in a Konsole:
    - create a simple text "test_file.txt", use `cat >> <filename>`
    - list contents of the current directory using `ls`
    - create the directory "command_exercises" in the current directory, use `mkdir <directory_name>`
    - copy "test_file.txt" in the directory "command_exercises", use `cp <filename> <destination>`
    - move "test_file.txt" to the "English" directory, use `mv <filename> <destination>`
    - check for the man pages of the command used in copying files, use `man <command>`

Tasks:
1. Understand the basic Linux commands.
2. Use these commands in the command line interface.

Solution:
1. Open a Konsole, click on *Start Applications->System Tools->Terminal*.



On the main window, you will see the menu bar, the shell toolbar, and the shell where you will type the command you want to execute. **[tadeo@Asgard tadeo]** represents the user, tadeo, on computer Asgard in the current directory tadeo.

2. To create a simple text file which you will use as a test file, type

   cat >> test_file.txt Format: cat >> <filename>

   Press enter to run the command. Then type:

   This is a test file.
   I will use it in exploring the basic Linux commands.

   Press CONTROL+c to terminate the command. This will save the file "test_file.txt" in the current directory. To check if the sentences you entered were saved type

   cat test_file.txt Format: cat <filename>

   The shell will then display the contents of "test_file.txt"

```
[tadeo@Asgard tadeo]$ cat >> test_file.txt
This is a test file.
I will use it in exploring the basic Linux commands.

[tadeo@Asgard tadeo]$ cat test_file.txt
This is a test file.
I will use it in exploring the basic Linux commands.
[tadeo@Asgard tadeo]$
```

3. Use "ls" to list files and directories. Type "ls" to see a list of the files and directories located in the current directory. Typing "ls" in your current directory will give you:

```
[tadeo@Asgard tadeo]$ ls
Computer  Filipino        Mail               Science
Desktop   Home Economics  Math               Social Studies
English   Homeroom        Physical Education test_file.txt
```

4. To create a directory in the current directory, type

   mkdir command_exercises Format: mkdir <directory_name>

   Type "ls" to check if the new directory has been created.

5. To copy "test_file.txt" in the new directory "command_exercises", type

   cp test_file.txt command_exercises/
   Format: cp <filename> <destination>

6. Go to the command_exercises to check if “test_file.txt” was copied, type

   `cd command_exercises` Format: cd <directory>

   This will make “command_exercises” your current directory. Type “ls” to check if the file has been copied in the “command_exercises” directory.

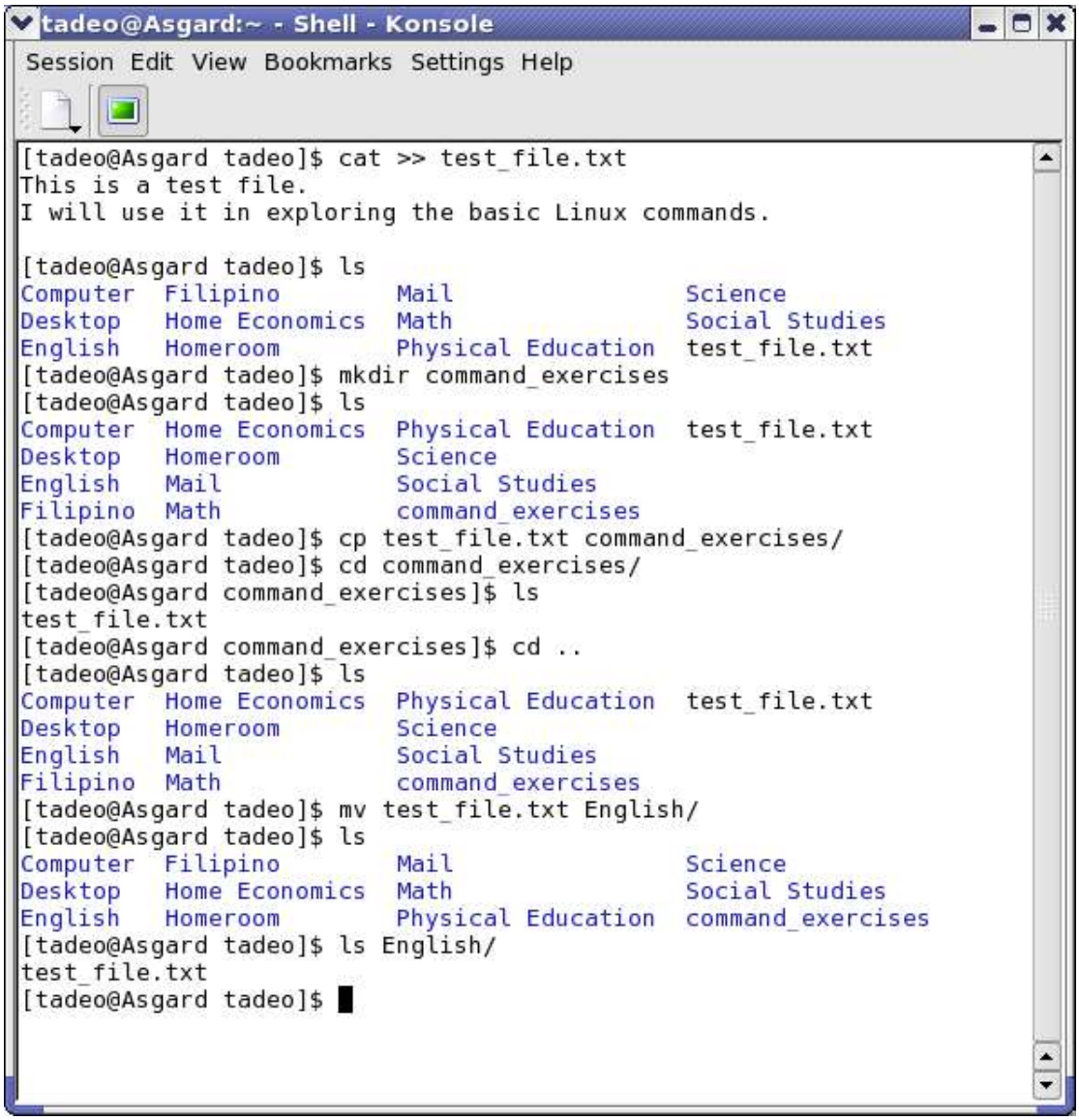
7. To move up one directory, use the command

   `cd ..`

   You are now back to your home directory.

8. To move “test_file.txt” to the “English” directory, type

   `mv test_file.txt English/`
   Format: mv <filename> <destination>



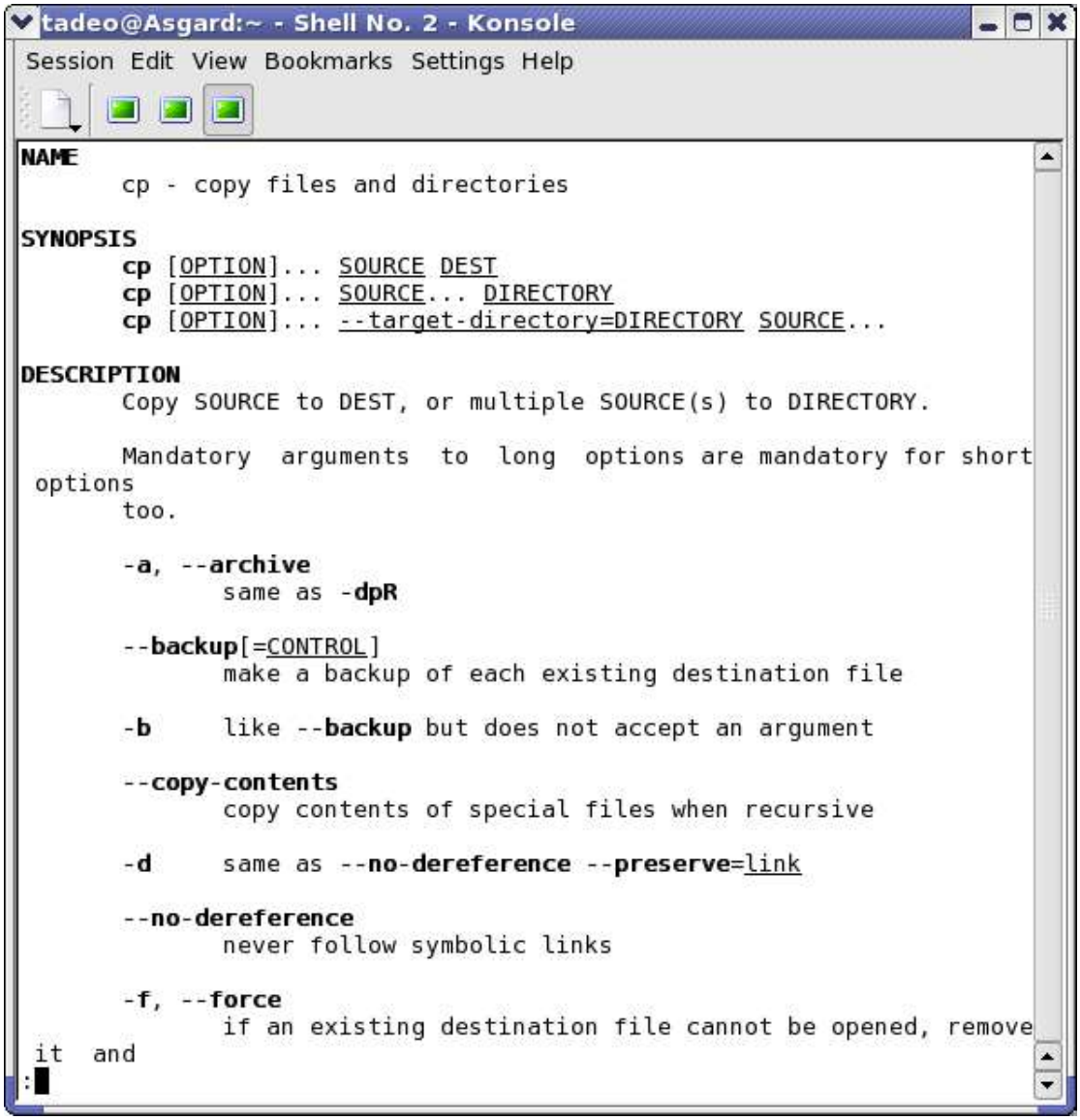
9. You can also pull up information about a Linux command. Type

man cp Format: man <command>

to get detailed information about how to use the command. Key in

ESC : q

to exit the man page.



Summary:

You are now able to**:**

- Use the command line interface.