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Automate the boring stuff with powershell pdf online test questions answers

PowerShell serves as an automation tool for system administrators, employed in both IT departments and external entities, such as managed service providers, because of its scripting capabilities. PowerShell modules enable admins to reference, load, persist and share code. Previously, if you wanted to check for errors mid-pipeline, it was messy and required you to extend the pipeline to include if statements to nest the next command in the pipeline. It isn't stored or loaded to persistent storage. In a branding change, Microsoft will drop the Core part of the PowerShell name in version 7. The context-sensitive help displays matching cmdlets when the user starts to enter a command. As an alternative, see the code below with the new AND (&&) operator using a pipeline operator. Using ping.exe as an example, here's how a user can run the executable program using PowerShell: Start-Process -FilePath 'ping.exe' -ArgumentList 'google.com' -Wait -NoNewWindow & 'ping.exe' google.com ping google.com Invoke-Expression -Command 'ping.exe google.com' Page 2 Most of the additions to the upcoming PowerShell 7 add operators and cmdlets that are more of creature comforts and tools that make using the open source version of PowerShell better for everyone. PowerShell ISE provides tabs to enable work on multiple administrative tasks. A PowerShell array is a component that enables the storage of more than one item in a variable or a field. The PowerShell language, similar to Perl, offers several ways to automate tasks: with cmdlets, which are very small .NET classes that appear as system commands; with scripts, which are combinations of cmdlets and associated logic; with executables, which are stand-alone tools; and with the instantiation of standard .NET classes. PowerShell, built on the .NET framework, works with objects, whereas most command-line shells are based on text. For a while now, PowerShell has had several ways to run multiple processes in parallel using workflows, background jobs and runspaces. Since this removes the simplicity of using the pipeline, most people opt to split this type of work into multiple commands and then do error-checking in between. Binary module: A .NET framework assembly (DLL file) that contains compiled code. PowerShell 7 continues to expand on this list of Windows-only commands by using a new process for handling the commands. The while statement repeats code as long as the following conditional expression is true: while (\$i -eq 0) { ## Do somthing } The do loop is similar to the while loop. In 2016, Microsoft open sourced PowerShell and made it available on Linux and macOS. This feature can simplify and condense the simple if statements that are already being used. Great Learning is an ed-tech company that offers impactful and industry-relevant programs in high-growth areas. If there are no help topics for a module, the Get-Help command displays autogenerated help. Previously, you would have to remember where each property is buried. Help capabilities. To help, PowerShell 7 has a new Get-Error command. PowerShell ISE comes with multiple features, such as syntax coloring, multiline editing, context-sensitive help and tab completion. Users can learn more about PowerShell principles and particular components such as cmdlets through the Get-Help cmdlet. Admins can check the available DSC resources on a machine with the Get-DscResource command. Below is an example of the way you would code this before PowerShell 7: if (\$null -eq \$Path) { \$Path = "C:\" } With the null conditional operator (??=), you can make this a single line of code as shown below: \$Path ??= "C:\" The null conditional operator checks if the expression is null and, if it is, it makes the variable equal the second expression. switch (\$i) { 0 { Write-Host "I is 0" } 1 { Write-Host "I is 0" } Default: { Write-Host "I is not 0 or 1" } } Loops. Conditionals. PowerShell Core was developed to work alongside the existing Windows PowerShell installation to help administrators with the transition process. Discoverability. Wait a moment and try again. The transition from Windows-only PowerShell to the cross-platform PowerShell Core 6 left behind a lot of commands administrators and other IT workers used frequently. \$Path : "C:\" \$Property2 = ((Get-Date).DayOfWeek -eq "Monday") ? PowerShell has had if statements from the start, but now the PowerShell developers are introducing the ternary operator to the mix. Variables can also have different scopes, such as global, local, script, private and numbered scopes. While there are a couple of changes that are performance-oriented, many are focused on making PowerShell 7 the go-to version for all users, including those who are still using Windows PowerShell. The Get-DscResource command retrieves the available Desired State Resources on a machine. With a strong presence across the globe, we have empowered 10,000+ learners from over 50 countries in achieving positive outcomes for their careers. Cmdlets are written in a compiled .NET language, such as C#, while functions are written in PowerShell and aren't compiled. For instance, to assign multiple values to a variable, use the following script: \$a=1,2,3 PowerShell treats each item in an array as a separate element. An example of a PowerShell function is: function Set-Something { [CmdletBinding()] param ([Parameter()] [string]\$Thing) Write-Host \$Thing } A function contains one or more option parameters inside of a parameter block and a body. The only difference is PowerShell executes the do loop at the end of the loop. PowerShell Integrated Scripting Environment (ISE), introduced by Microsoft in PowerShell version 2.0, is a PowerShell host application used to write, test and debug scripts or write commands in a Windows graphical user interface (GUI). Details on additional features can be found in the following sections. The biggest advantage of PowerShell is that it automatically handles array insertions, so arrays don't have to be manually destroyed or created when adding or removing elements. As an example, look at the code block below which contains several if statements: if (Test-Path \$Path) { " \$Property1" = \$Path } else { " \$Property1" = "C:\" } if ((Get-Date).DayOfWeek -eq "Monday") { " \$Property2" = "Monday" } else { " \$Property2" = "Not Monday" } In PowerShell 7, instead of using up all these lines to handle the simple if statements, you can use the ternary operator as shown below: \$Property1 = (Test-Path \$Path) ? Below is an example of running a command to import a module and then run a command from the module with error handling: try { Import-Module TestModule Test-Module } catch { #Does nothing } The try...catch statement works, but it takes up a lot of space. Those data stores include file system drives and Windows registries. PowerShell's role as a command-line shell is how most users become acquainted with the technology. To view all the help topics, use the Get-Help command. When importing a module into a session, PowerShell automatically imports the help topics for that module. Setup costs are less because management runs from a device, but a notification gets lost if the device isn't connected to the network. Another useful feature is the ability to keep different versions of a command in the editor and run commands you need in the PowerShell ISE. With PowerShell, commands can be linked together through the pipe operator, symbolized as |. While adding the Parallel switch is not going to make every script run faster, it can make a significant different in some cases. In PowerShell 7, you can use Get-Error to present all the data in an easily readable list. \$array = ('item1','item2','item3') foreach (\$item in \$array) { \$item } Use a for loop to execute statements repeatedly until a condition is met. DSC has two modes of operation: push mode and pull mode. The OR (||) operator is another useful pipeline chain operator new to PowerShell 7. For instance, the File resource manages files and folders, the Environment resource manages environment variables and the Registry resource manages the registry keys of a node. The last new addition to operators for PowerShell 7 is the null assignment and coalescing operators. To address each item in an array, PowerShell offers index numbers. Developers typically use a binary module to create cmdlets with powerful features not easily done with a PowerShell script. If the new configuration is available, the pull server sends the configuration to the node. Three types of help content exist in PowerShell: comment-based help, external help and updatable help. Now, with PowerShell 7, there is a Parallel switch for the ForEach-Object command, which does the runspaces work behind the scenes. "PowerShell providers" are programs that make data contained in specialized data stores accessible at the command line. if (\$i -eq 1) { ## Do something } else { ## Do something else } Switch. The switch statement is used when there is a long list of conditional statements to test. In push mode, the IT department creates a pull server with the configuration details of each node using an MOF file. The PowerShell pipeline lets objects, rather than text strings, flow from one cmdlet to another. Each node contacts the pull server to check for a new configuration. The F5 key launches a command directly from the editor. To execute a particular line, select it and press F8. Admins can use PowerShell to handle a wide range of activities. Manifest module: A manifest module is a module (PSM1) file with an associated PSD1 file (manifest). Also, the catch block just takes up space with unused code. The new Get-Error cmdlet gives you extensive information in a PowerShell error record Running the Get-Error command expands the details of the last error. Variable names in PowerShell start with a dollar sign and contain a mix of numbers, letters, symbols and spaces. DSC resources are the components of a configuration script. A PowerShell array stores multiple single items, but with a hash table, each item or value is stored using a key or value pair. The difference is that if it equals null, then it outputs the second expression; if it is not null, then it outputs the first expression. Parameters can be used to narrow the scope of the search. Import-Module TestModule && Test-Module The && operator only continues the pipe if the previous command completes successfully. Some of the language constructs include conditionals, switches, loops and variables. Similar to the null conditional operator, the null coalescing operator (??) compares the first expression to null. "Path is null" In the case that \$Path is \$null, the command will output Path is null; otherwise, the command will output the value of \$Path. With PowerShell 4.0, Microsoft introduced a configuration management platform called Desired State Configuration (DSC), which admins can use to set a specific configuration for a server. Because this happens in the background, the execution is seamless. "Monday" "Not Monday" While the ternary operator does give another way to show simple if statements, it is not a replacement for an if statement. The simplest way to create a PowerShell module is to save the script as a PSM1 file. It's a one-way communication, where the admin sends notifications from a workstation. A PowerShell module contains four essential elements: a PSM file, which is the module; help files or scripts needed by the module; a manifest file that describes the module; and a directory that stores the content. Pipelining. A PowerShell function is similar to a PowerShell cmdlet, with several slight differences. The language construct if is used to evaluate a conditional expression. An array can't store multiple values under each element, while a hash table can. This approach lets the output from a given command become the input for the next command in the pipeline sequence. A PowerShell module can be one of four types: Script module: A PSM1 file that contains various functions to enable admins to perform import, export and management functions. Cmdlets and advanced functions support powerful parameter bindings. In PowerShell Core 6.1, some of these commands returned to close the feature gap with Windows PowerShell. At time of publication, the PowerShell development team has a PowerShell 7 Release Candidate out that Microsoft supports in production with the official generally available version due out sometime toward the end of February. For developers and independent software vendors, it's easier to package and deploy a PowerShell cmdlet compared to packaging libraries of functions. After the admin defines the server settings, PowerShell ensures the target nodes retain that desired state. Users can discover PowerShell's features using cmdlets such as Get-Command, which creates a list of all the commands, including cmdlets and functions, available on a given computer. PowerShell treats variables as .NET objects, which means they can store data and manipulate data in multiple ways. Admins can manage all devices regardless of their network connection. This is especially true in the case of complicated if statements with multiple elseif statements included. Unfortunately, these processes can be hard to get your code to work with if you did not start with parallelization in mind. Below is an example of the previous syntax: if (\$null -eq \$Path) { Write-Host "Path is null" } else { \$Path } Comment-based help refers to comments included with a script or command for Get-Help to read. You can write code that easily runs multiple instances of the loop at one time, as long as it is not interacting with anything that has to be serialized. In push mode, a server sends notifications to the nodes. A command add-on shows a list of cmdlets to select. Microsoft incorporates updates and new features with each PowerShell version, but here is a list of the primary features and characteristics. PowerShell originated as a property offering that was only available on Windows. The -online parameter provides access to help articles on the web, if available for a particular topic. The WS-Management protocol, for example, lets users run PowerShell commands and scripts on remote computers. These new operators replace the simple if and else statements that are used to compare a variable to see if it is \$null. When a device connects to the network, it automatically contacts the pull server to check for a new configuration. A PowerShell module can be defined as a set of PowerShell functions that are grouped to manage all the aspects of a particular area. PowerShell also serves as the replacement for Microsoft's Command Prompt, which dates back to DOS. Hash tables are data structures similar to arrays. Know More Showing 1-39 Start your review of Automate the Boring Stuff with Powershell: A Guide for Sysadmins Mike Lamberth rated it really liked it Sep 07, 2020 Josh rated it liked it Sep 26, 2020 Olivia Gao rated it did not like it May 17, 2020 Thomas Bray rated it really liked it Dec 18, 2020 Shane rated it it was amazing Sep 17, 2021 George Chan rated it it was amazing Mar 22, 2021 Sam Turner rated it really liked it Apr 27, 2021 Lordq rated it it was amazing May 05, 2021 Wes Gonzales rated it did not like it Dec 25, 2020 Finbar rated it really liked it Jan 07, 2022 Matthias rated it it was ok Jun 20, 2021 Matt marked it as to-read Feb 16, 2019 Jouko marked it as to-read Mar 08, 2019 Tom marked it as to-read May 08, 2019 Nathalie marked it as to-read Jun 11, 2019 QP marked it as to-read Nov 09, 2019 Javier marked it as to-read Feb 08, 2020 Jeffrey marked it as to-read Apr 21, 2020 John is currently reading it May 15, 2020 Philip is currently reading it Jun 06, 2020 Craig marked it as to-read Jun 27, 2020 erioll marked it as to-read Apr 28, 2020 Seth marked it as to-read Sep 08, 2020 C marked it as to-read Sep 24, 2020 Rob Nezz marked it as to-read Oct 04, 2020 Daniel marked it as to-read Oct 24, 2020 Something went wrong. Dynamic module: A dynamic module is created dynamically on demand by a script. As a scripting language, PowerShell offers several language constructs that control the flow of scripts, while making decisions as to what should be done. The first element in the array is indexed as 0 by default. PowerShell ISE enables quick switching from the CLI to scripting mode. Switch is commonly used in place of many if/then/else constructs. for (\$i = 0; \$i -lt 5; \$i++) { \$i } Variables store data, but PowerShell variables are more powerful because they can be mapped to underlying classes in the .NET framework. You could use runspaces, but this takes some knowledge of .NET classes and can be hard to troubleshoot. For instance, a user can highlight and copy a portion of a PowerShell command with a mouse or with the Shift + Arrow hotkey combination. When the conditional expression is true, a script block is executed. Another useful PowerShell 7 addition is the new pipeline operators. By describing a parameter to the shell, admins can use any type of PowerShell parameters, such as named parameters, mandatory parameters and positional PowerShell parameters. When you run a Windows-only command in PowerShell 7, it will run a new runspace and open the version of Windows PowerShell on the machine to execute the command. Below is an example comparing an array with a hash table: \$array = @('Joe','Susie','Donnie') \$hashtable = @{FirstName = 'Joe'; FirstName = 'Susie'; FirstName = 'Donnie'} PowerShell enables the addition of help topics for modules, scripts and individual commands. Reading PowerShell errors has never been fun, and it can be hard to figure out what the error really means and, more importantly, what is causing the error. For instance, \$var="HELLO" stores the string HELLO in the \$var variable. Updatable help uses external help but enables users to download the latest help content with the Update-Help command. The new pipeline operators allow simple error checking mid-pipeline. Remote commands. It can extract information on OSes, such as the specific version and service pack levels.

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