



You completed this test on *2026/02/11, 18:25*  
Your score is 78.33%

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CORRECT

1. When executing ``pwd -P`` inside a symlinked directory, which behavior does POSIX mandate?

It prints the logical path with symlinks preserved

✓ *It prints the physical path with all symlinks resolved*

It prints both physical and logical paths

It prints only the symlink name and not the underlying path

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CORRECT

2. Given ``cd /var/log; ln -s /var/log /tmp/loglink; cd /tmp/loglink; pwd`` — Why might ``pwd`` differ from ``pwd -P``?

``pwd`` expands shell aliases before printing

``pwd`` resolves symlinks by default and ``pwd -P`` does not

✓ *``pwd`` prints the logical path, whereas ``pwd -P`` prints the physical path*

``pwd -P`` prints inode numbers instead of directory names

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CORRECT

3. Which ``ls`` option ensures entries are sorted by modification time and follow symlinks to evaluate the target timestamp?

``ls -lt``

``ls -F``

✓ *``ls -LHt``*

``ls -d``

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CORRECT

4. Effect of `ls -R --group-directories-first` on systems that do not support the option?

Falls back to grouping by file size

✓ *Errors explicitly*

Silently ignores option

Reverses directory order

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CORRECT

5. With `CDPATH=".:usr/local:/var/www"`, what happens when running `cd logs` if `/var/www/logs` exists and `./logs` does not?

Error

Goes to `/usr/local/logs`

✓ *Goes to `/var/www/logs`*

Goes to `$HOME/logs`

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CORRECT

6. Difference between `cd -P` and `cd -L`?

`-P` prohibits hidden dirs

`-L` resolves symlinks

✓ *`-P` resolves symlinks; `-L` keeps logical path*

`-L` changes `$PWD` only

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CORRECT

7. Behavior of `cat file1 - file2` when STDIN piped?

`-` ignored

✓ *Reads STDIN at `-`*

STDIN appended last

Error

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CORRECT

8. What does `cat -vET` option `-T` do?

Shows tabs as `^T`

Converts tabs to spaces

✓ *Shows tabs as `^I`*

Underlines tabs

---

CORRECT

9. Effect of `touch -c -t 202501010101.30 logfile` if file exists?

Updates mtime only

Updates atime+mtime now

Does nothing

✓ *Sets both times to timestamp*

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INCORRECT

10. Effect of `touch --date="next Thursday" report.txt` on GNU?

Error

✗ *Nearest Thu (preserve time)*

Next Thu 00:00

Unchanged

---

CORRECT

11. What happens if `mkdir -p a/b/c` but `c` conflicts with existing file?

No error

Creates c dir anyway

✓ *Fails "file exists"*

Renames conflict

---

CORRECT

## 12. Meaning of ``mkdir -m 2750 teamdir``?

✓ *SGID, 2750 perms*

Sticky bit

Inherit

Read-only

---

CORRECT

## 13. Which removes `a/b/c` and parents?

`rmdir -r a/b/c`

✓ *`rmdir -p a/b/c`*

`rmdir --force`

`rmdir a b c`

---

INCORRECT

## 14. Why does `rmdir` fail with hidden files only?

Cannot delete deep dirs

Hidden ignored

Dir non-empty

✗ *Need `-f`*

---

CORRECT

## 15. Effect of `cp -a src dest`?

Only regular files

Loses symlinks

✓ ***Preserves all metadata***

Converts symlinks to hard links

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CORRECT

## 16. Which prevents overwriting?

cp -r

cp -f

✓ *cp -n*

cp -p

---

CORRECT

17. mv fileA fileB/ where fileB is regular?

Overwrites

✓ *Error*

Moves into fileB/fileA

Renames fileA to fileB

---

CORRECT

18. mv -T behavior?

Force dir

Prevent rename if exists

✓ *Treat dest as file always*

Interactive

---

CORRECT

19. rm -rf -- \*.[!]\* removes?

No hidden

✓ *All except . and ..*

Only hidden

Rejects --

---

CORRECT

20. Why rm -rf / dangerous?

Deletes PWD

✓ *Deletes system*

Safe

Only HOME

---

CORRECT

21. Which retrieves physical path regardless of shell \$PWD?

pwd

pwd -L

✓ */bin/pwd -P*

echo \$PWD

---

INCORRECT

22. After cd via symlink current->releases/v5, cd .. && pwd -P prints?

✗ */var/www*

*/var/www/releases*

*/var/www/current*

*/current*

---

CORRECT

23. ls -li provides what extra?

File type

Octal perms

Hardlink count

✓ *Inode*

---

CORRECT

24. Which lists symlink \*targets\*?

-l

-H

✓ -L

-F

---

INCORRECT

25. If CDPATH multiple matches, cd build chooses?

✗ *Lexical*

First in CDPATH

Error

./build only

---

CORRECT

26. What does cd "" do?

Home

Root

Parse error

✓ *Attempts empty path*

---

INCORRECT

27. cat <(cat f1) f2 does what?

Symlink

Temp file

FIFO

✗ *Replace f1*

---

CORRECT

28. What blocks indefinitely?

/dev/null

-v

/dev/zero

✓ */dev/stdin waiting*

---

INCORRECT

29. touch -c -a file (exists)?

atime only

mtime

nothing

✗ *atime+create*

---

INCORRECT

30. touch -r ref.txt file1 file2 works?

✗ Yes

Using --ref only

Both work

Neither

---

CORRECT

31. mkdir dir{1..3}/sub?

none

only dir1

✓ *all three*

only dirs

---

CORRECT

32. Which makes mkdir fail if exist?

-f

-p

--no-clobber

✓ *none*



---

CORRECT

33. Why rmdir a/b/c fails?

hidden

slash illegal

✓ *parent non-empty*

need -p

---

INCORRECT

34. rmdir -p a/b/c stops when?

✗ *upper non-empty*

symlink

b non-empty

A and C

---

CORRECT

35. Meaning of cp -d?

preserve structure

✓ *no symlink follow*

only dirs

device nodes

---

CORRECT

36. Preserve sparse?

cp file

✓ *cp --sparse=auto*

hole-detect

never

---

CORRECT

37. `mv dir1 dir2` true when `dir2` exists?

becomes `dir2`

✓ *moved inside `dir2`*

overwritten

error

---

CORRECT

38. `mv -n source target` if `target` exists?

overwrite

ask

dry run

✓ *skip*

---

CORRECT

39. `rm -- -filename` removes?

`stdin`

file named `--`

✓ *file named `-filename`*

all starting `-`

---

CORRECT

40. `rm -r ./*` removes?

only files

all including hidden

✓ *all except hidden*

whole FS

---

INCORRECT

41. Why `/bin/pwd -P` differ from `/proc/self/cwd`?

namespace

✗ *cwd logical*

`cwd` honors mount boundaries

`pwd -P` ignores devices

---

CORRECT

42. `pwd -L` diverges from `$PWD` when?

subshell

✓ *manual override*

failed `cd`

restricted

---

CORRECT

43. `ls -lai` / on FS w/ hardlinked dirs shows?

collapse

✓ *same inodes repeated*

error

undefined

---

INCORRECT

44. Which sort combination causes unexpected ordering?

`-t --sort=v`

`-lt --reverse`

`-v -S`

✗ *-v --group-dirs-first*

---

CORRECT

45. Why `cd` logs after `cd /` uses `CDPATH`?

root pref

CDPATH clears

ignores relative

✓ *./logs missing*

---

CORRECT

46. cd /net/hostname slow because?

CDPATH

DNS

✓ *autofs lazy mount*

symlink canonical

---

CORRECT

47. cat <(echo t) <(sleep5) does?

✓ *waits*

no wait

skip

fail

---

INCORRECT

48. cat bigfile > bigfile?

✗ *safe*

truncate->empty

deadlock

append

---

CORRECT

49. touch -a file with noatime?

update

delayed

✓ *suppressed*

remount

---

CORRECT

50. touch -t unexpected timestamp due to?

✓ *TZ*

umask

symlink

sparse

---

INCORRECT

51. mkdir -p dir/sub fail why?

✗ *no write*

long name

immutable

A and C

---

INCORRECT

52. mkdir --mode=0644 test does?

creates 0644

✗ *drops perms*

creates 0744

invalid

---

CORRECT

53. Why rmdir -p fewer dirs on mountpoint?

cannot cross

✓ *parent seen non-empty*

cgroup

abs paths only

---

CORRECT

54. rmdir symlink c?

removes symlink

follows

✓ *errors (never removes symlink)*

removes both

---

CORRECT

55. cp -a symlink pointing to dir?

copy contents

✓ *copy symlink*

resolve

error

---

CORRECT

56. cp --reflink=always fails when?

0 bytes

✓ *no CoW FS*

exists

same FS

---

CORRECT

57. mv file /proc fails why?

✓ */proc virtual no writes*

need root

cross FS

exists

---

CORRECT

58. mv dir1 dir2 when dir2 symlink to dir?

✓ *inside target*

replace symlink

error

delete symlink

---

CORRECT

59. rm -rf directory fails as root when?

✓ *immutable*

forbid

suid

need force

---

CORRECT

60. rm -rf folder/\* while processes adding files?

delete folder

✓ *folder remains*

waits

race fail

