

## 63 Linux Troubleshooting Interview Questions to Assess Applicants

### Questions

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1. What steps would you take to diagnose a system that is running slowly?
2. How would you troubleshoot a network connectivity issue on a Linux server?
3. What would you do if a scheduled cron job did not execute as expected?
4. How would you handle a situation where a user is unable to log in to a Linux server?
5. What steps would you take to recover a corrupted filesystem in Linux?
6. How would you go about finding and killing a misbehaving process on a Linux server?
7. What methods would you use to monitor disk space usage on a Linux server?
8. How would you approach troubleshooting a service that fails to start on a Linux server?
9. Describe how you would troubleshoot a DNS resolution issue on a Linux server.
10. What steps would you take to investigate and resolve a kernel panic?
11. How would you diagnose and fix a permissions issue that prevents a user from accessing a file or directory?
12. Explain the process of troubleshooting a failed SSH connection to a remote Linux server.
13. How would you identify and resolve a memory leak on a Linux system?
14. Describe how you would handle a situation where a server is not responding to pings.
15. What steps would you take to troubleshoot a high CPU usage issue on a Linux server?
16. How would you approach resolving a problem where a Linux server is not booting up?
17. Explain how you would troubleshoot an application that is not working as expected in a Linux environment.
18. What methods would you use to diagnose and resolve a disk I/O performance issue?
19. Describe the steps to troubleshoot a problem with mounting an NFS share.
20. How would you handle a situation where you suspect a server has been compromised?
21. Explain how you would troubleshoot a service that is running but not responding as expected.
22. What steps would you take to resolve issues with package dependencies during software installation?
23. How would you approach diagnosing a problem with system logs not being generated?
24. Describe how you would troubleshoot a time synchronization issue on a Linux server.
25. What methods would you use to investigate and resolve a swap space usage issue?
26. Explain your approach to troubleshooting a problem with a delayed or failed system update.
27. How would you diagnose and fix issues with network file system (NFS) performance?
28. Describe the steps you would take to troubleshoot a problem with a local printer connected to a Linux server.
29. How would you troubleshoot a system that is experiencing high load averages?
30. What steps would you take to investigate a system with slow I/O performance?
31. How would you approach troubleshooting a system with frequent application crashes?
32. What methods would you use to diagnose a system with high memory usage?
33. How would you handle a system that is experiencing frequent spikes in CPU usage?
34. What steps would you take to resolve a system with slow network performance?
35. How would you investigate and resolve a system with intermittent performance issues?
36. How would you troubleshoot a system with performance degradation after a recent update?
37. What methods would you use to monitor and improve overall system performance?
38. Explain how you would use the 'ping' command to test network connectivity.
39. Describe the process of troubleshooting a network interface that fails to come up after a reboot.
40. How would you use 'traceroute' to diagnose a network latency issue?
41. What steps would you take to identify and fix a network configuration issue on a Linux server?
42. How do you troubleshoot an issue where a Linux server cannot connect to a specific port on a remote server?
43. Describe how you would use network monitoring tools like 'tcpdump' or 'Wireshark' to analyze traffic.
44. Explain the process of diagnosing a problem where a Linux server cannot reach external websites.
45. What methods would you use to troubleshoot intermittent network connectivity issues?
46. How would you handle a situation where DNS settings appear correct, but name resolution is still failing?
47. Describe the steps you would take to resolve IP conflict issues on a network.
48. What techniques would you use to isolate and troubleshoot packet loss?
49. How do you approach diagnosing an issue where a Linux server is dropping connections sporadically?
50. What steps would you take if a Linux server is not responding to SSH but is still pingable?
51. How would you troubleshoot a Linux server that is experiencing intermittent freezing?
52. Describe how you would diagnose and resolve an issue where a Linux server is unable to mount a remote filesystem.
53. Explain the approach you would take to identify the root cause of a slow database query on a Linux system.
54. What would you do if a Linux server suddenly stops logging data into a specific log file?
55. How would you handle a situation where a Linux system is experiencing excessive log rotation?
56. Describe your process for troubleshooting a Linux server that is failing to connect to a specific IP address.
57. What steps would you take if a Linux server's firewall rules are not behaving as expected?
58. How would you approach a scenario where scheduled backups on a Linux server are failing?
59. Explain how you would diagnose a situation where a particular service on a Linux server is consuming an unusual amount of network bandwidth.
60. What methods would you use to troubleshoot a Linux server that is showing inconsistent system time?