Shell Reference

Command	Purpose
`pwd`	Print the working directory
`cd folder`, `cd ..`, `cd`	Enter a folder, its parent, or your home directory
`ls`, `ls folder`	List names in the working directory or a chosen folder
`ls -a`, `ls -1`, `ls -l`	Include hidden entries, use one name per line, or show details
`cat file1 file2`	Print file contents in the order given
`touch file`	Create an empty file, or update an existing file's timestamp
`mkdir folder`, `mkdir -p folder`	Create a folder; `-p` also creates missing parents and accepts existing folders
`cp source destination`	Copy a file, keeping the source
`mv source destination`	Move or rename a file
`rm file`	Remove a file
`echo text`	Print text followed by a newline
`printf 'text\n'`	Print formatted text, using `\n` where a newline is wanted
`wc -l`	Count newline characters in the input

Input, output, and patterns

Form	Effect
`command > file`	Save output, replacing the file's contents
`command >> file`	Append output to the file
`command < file`	Read standard input from the file
`first | second`	Send the first command's output to the second command's input
`*.txt`	Select filenames ending in `.txt`
`log?.txt`	Select filenames with exactly one character between `log` and `.txt`
`<<'EOF' ... EOF`	Supply the intervening lines as literal standard input

Searching

Search	Effect
`grep 'text' file`	Print lines containing the text
`grep '^text' file`	Print lines starting with the text
`grep -i 'text' file`	Match without distinguishing uppercase and lowercase
`grep -v 'text' file`	Keep lines that do not match
`grep -n 'text' file`	Include each matching line's number
`grep -r 'text' folder`	Search files in the folder and its subfolders
`grep -l 'text' file1 file2`	Print each matching filename once