NATIONAL INTEGRATED CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM
CHPC

NITheP
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Text Editors

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Summary of commands used in this lecture

Command	Meaning
nano	Command line text editor in Linux
Ctrl+X > Y > Enter	Sequence used when saving changes to a file created/edited in nano
ls	List items in current directory
cat	Concatenate a file/s
rm	Used to remove a file/directory

- As in the previous lectures all commands provided in **BOLD** and center aligned from here onwards are commands that can be typed/executed directly in a terminal.

- In the previous lecture we created a text file by making use of **echo** and passing the output of the **echo** statement into a file.

- There are various text editors available in Linux that will allow you to create and edit files.

- These include command line editors such as:
    - Nano
    - Vim
    - Emacs
    - The Nice Editor
    - Tilde

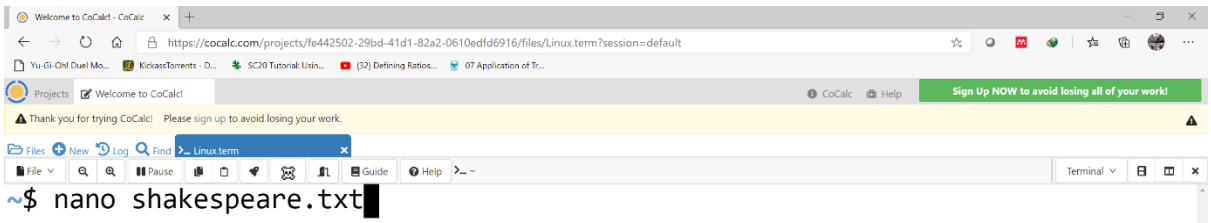
- In addition, there are graphical user interface (GUI) editors such as:
    - Gedit
    - Geany
    - Brackets
    - Kate

- There are many more Linux editors available and the lists provided above are merely some of the more popular editors that are used.

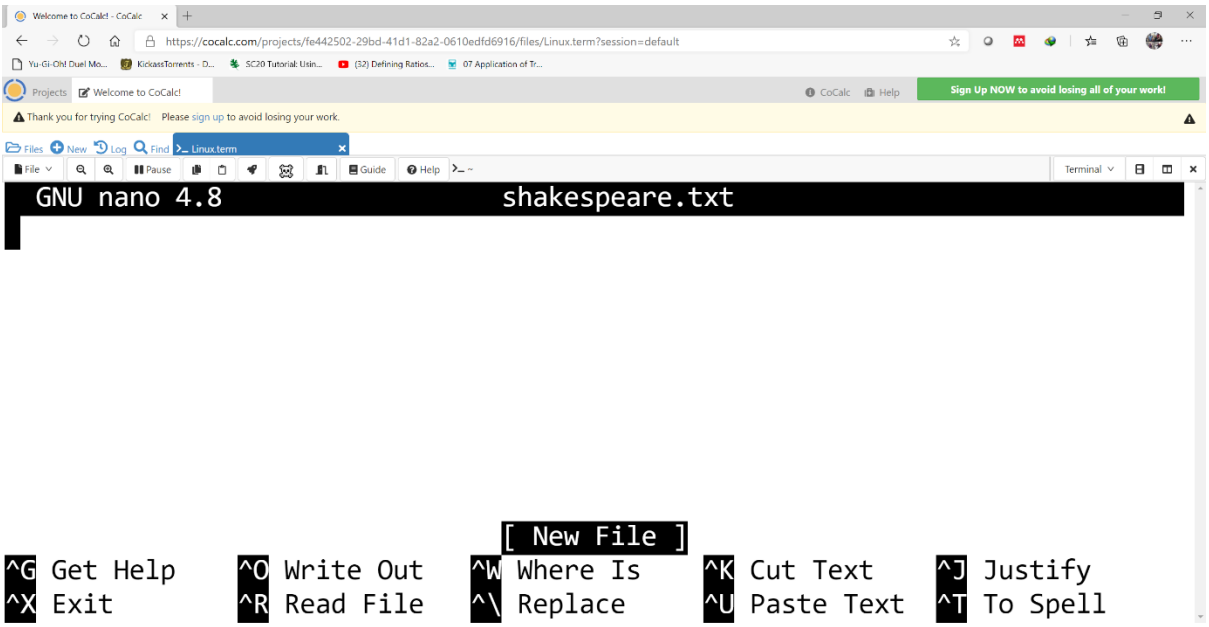
- The editor that you choose to use is completely up to you, but for purposes of this course I will make use of **nano**.

- We will create a file called **shakespeare.txt** using **nano**:

nano shakespeare.txt



- The command should open a new window:



- You will notice that we no longer see the ~$ at the beginning of the line.

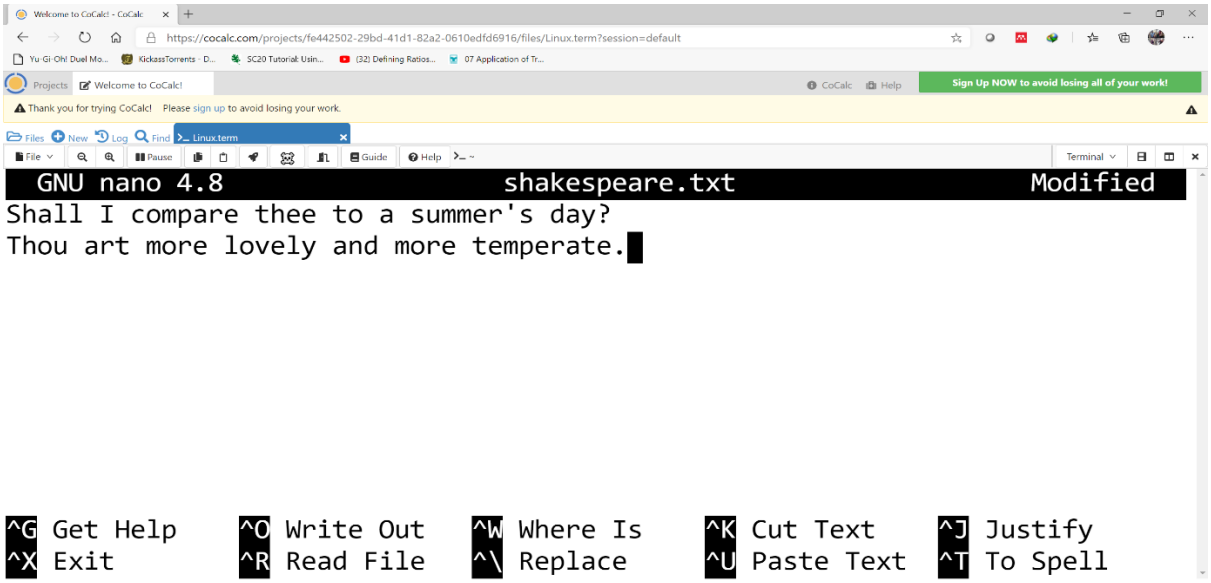
  This tells us that we are no long in the terminal and we are now inside of a text editor.

  Any commands typed in here will be placed directly into the file which we called **shakespeare.txt**.

- Now we will put in some text into our new file:

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

Thou art more lovely and more temperate.

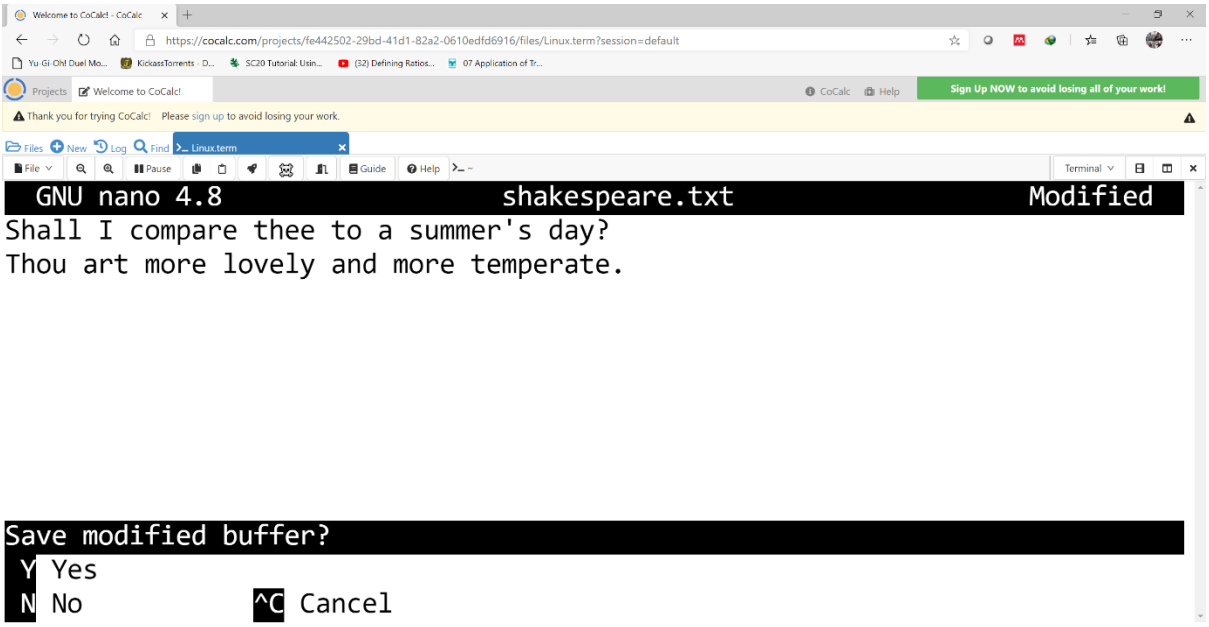


Note that in nano the filename is displayed at the top of the screen where you see GNU nano.

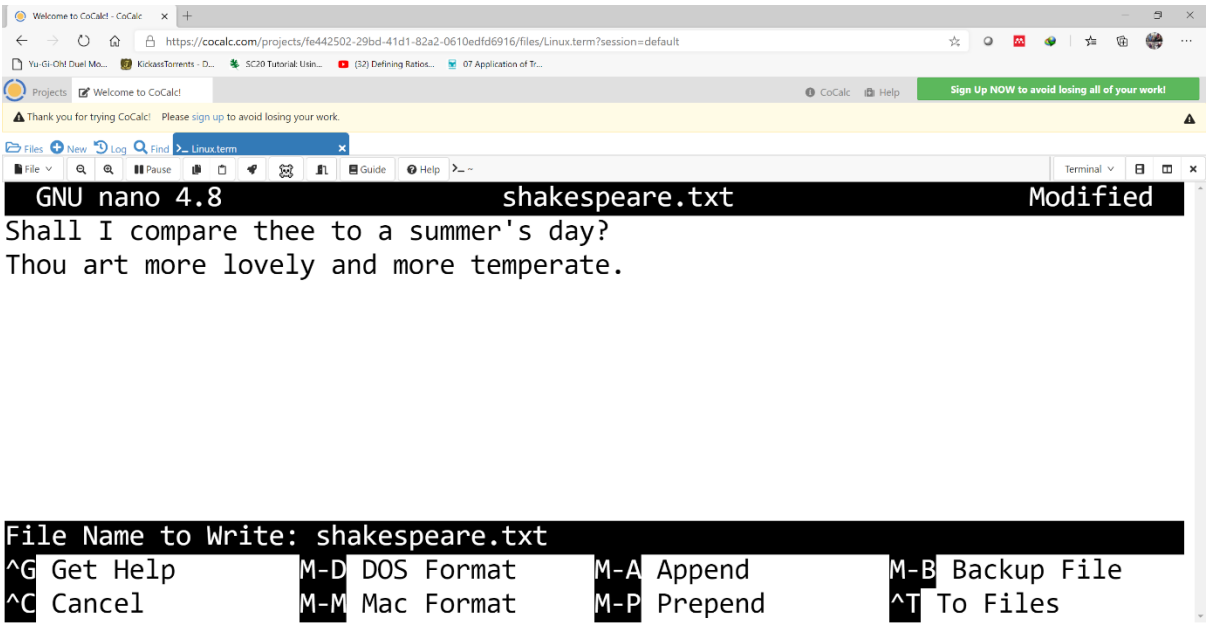
- Now that we have information in **shakespeare.txt**, we need to save out changes.

- At the bottom of the screen are several different options such as Get Help, Exit, etc. The ^ before each letter refers to the **Ctrl** key on your keyboard.

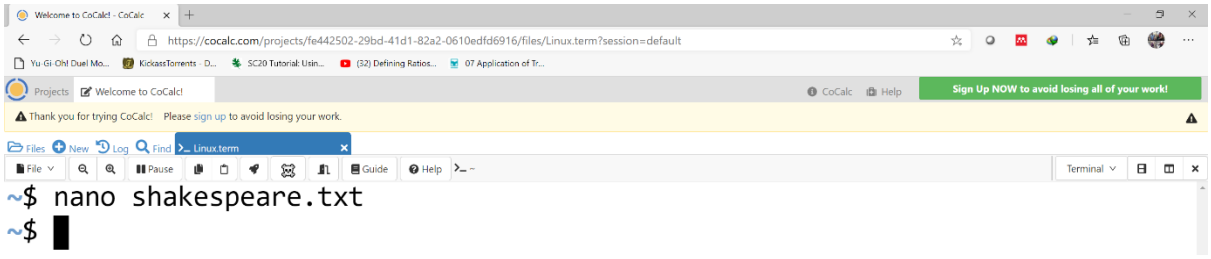
- What we want to do is Exit, so we need to use **Ctrl+X**:



- Next, we are asked if we wish to save modified buffer (which means do we want to save our changes), so we hit **Y**:



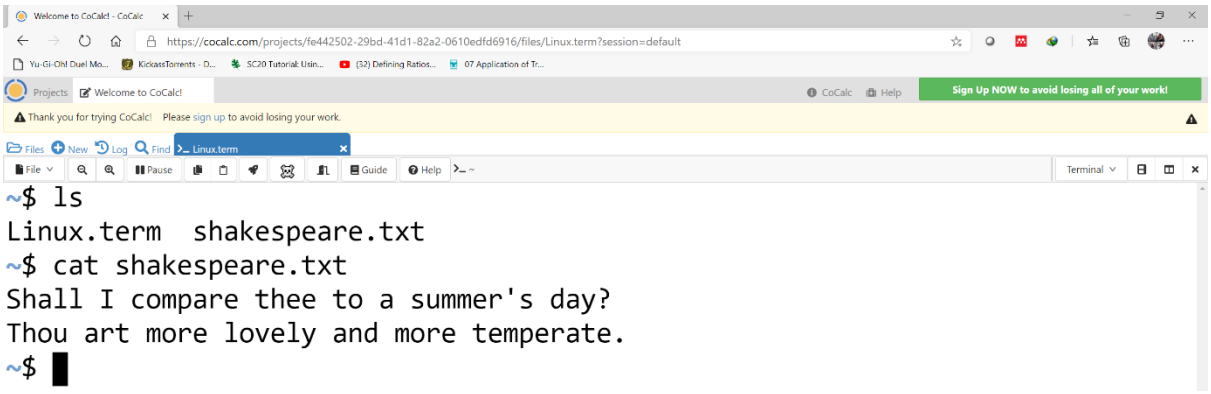
- Finally, we are asked about the file name to write. In this case we wish to keep the name the same so all we do here is hit **Enter**:



- We are now back to the terminal as we can see our previous command as well as the **~$**.

- Let's have a look if our file has been created and if it has the information that we entered:

ls
cat shakespeare.txt



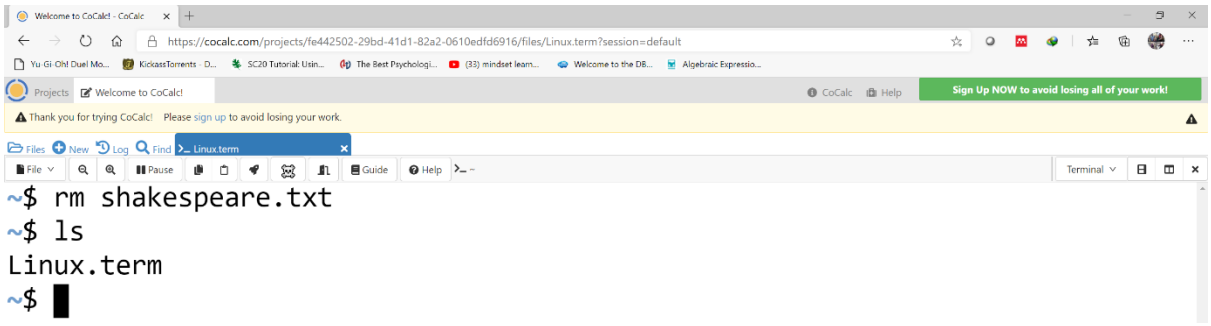
- Listing the items in the current directory (**ls**) shows that we have a file named **shakespeare.txt** present.
  Checking the contents of the file (**cat shakespeare.txt**) reveals that the file does possess the information which we entered in **nano**.

- Making use of text editors such as **nano** are considerable important when writing **bash scripts** as you can often end up with many lines of code which would be cumbersome to put into a file with something like **echo**.

- Remove the file shakespeare.txt and confirm that it no longer exists:

rm shakespeare.txt

ls



- This bring us to the end of **Text Editors**.

- There will be **NO** exercise for this section as we will be making extensive use of text editors when we get to the **bash scripting** part of this course.