

ICTCYS407

Gather, analyse and interpret threat data

Assessment 4 of 5

Portfolio

Assessor Guide



Assessment Instructions

Task Overview

This Portfolio assessment is divided into four [4] parts. Read the simulated environment set-up and resource information in Part A and complete the associated tasks in Parts B, C and D. Portfolio tasks include completing hands-on practical tasks in a simulated workplace environment, documenting processes and capturing screenshot evidence of the tasks performed.

Please provide all required screenshot evidence and written responses in the spaces provided.

Important: Before commencing your work, you must update your *Student name* and *Student number* in the footer from page 2 onwards.

Additional Resources and Supporting Documents

To perform the tasks in this skills assessment, you will need to have a simulated environment set up. Refer to this module's learning topic, 'Simulated environment set-up' for the required resources and set-up instructions.

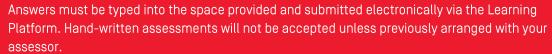
Assessment Information



Submission

You are entitled to three (3) attempts to complete this assessment satisfactorily. Incomplete assessments will not be marked and will count as one of your three attempts.

All questions must be responded to correctly to be assessed as satisfactory for this assessment.

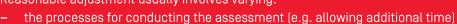


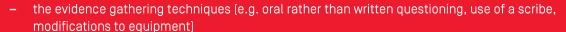


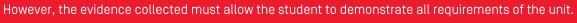
Reasonable adjustment

Students may request a reasonable adjustment for assessment tasks.

Reasonable adjustment usually involves varying:







Refer to the Student Handbook or contact your Trainer for further information.





Please consider the environment before printing this assessment.



Part A: Simulated environment set-up and resources

All tasks in this assessment refer to a simulated environment where conditions are typical of a work environment that is experienced in the cybersecurity threat analysis field of work.

Read the following details carefully before completing the tasks in Part B.

A1. Simulated environment access and set-up instructions

Your role

You are hired as a **Cybersecurity Analyst** by Wayne Corporation to be part of a threat investigation project. You are responsible for gathering threat data from various sources, then analyse and interpret information for threats, inconsistencies and discrepancies.

Work environment

To carry out the assigned job tasks in the cybersecurity threat analysis field of work, you must have access to a simulated environment that consists of two [2] virtual machines [Kali Linux and Metasploitable2] that are connected via a virtual network.

- A reliable internet connection
- A computer installed with an operating system having virtualisation capabilities (i.e. the ability to run virtualisation software such as Oracle Virtual Box, Hyper-V, VMWare Workstation Player etc.)

 Refer to Introduction to virtualisation (linkedin.com) and Setting up a virtual lab (linkedin.com)
- Access to a 'Kali Linux VM' This is a virtual machine (VM) for conducting threat data gathering activities
 - Download 'Kali Linux VM' virtual image from Get Kali | Kali Linux (Long URL: https://www.kali.org/get-kali/#kali-virtual-machines)
 - o For a virtualisation platform of your choice, refer to the relevant documentation to set up and open the 'Kali Linux VM'. <u>Virtualisation | Kali Linux Documentation</u>
 - For example, if you have installed 'Oracle Virtual Box' on your computer, and you want to set up
 'Kali Linux VM' as a guest Virtual Machine, you should refer to Kali inside VirtualBox [Guest VM] |
 Kali Linux Documentation (Long URL: https://www.kali.org/docs/virtualization/install-virtualbox-guest-vm/)
 - Refer to the access credentials of the virtual machine at Kali's Default Credentials | Kali Linux
 Documentation [Long URL: https://www.kali.org/docs/introduction/default-credentials/]
 - o Refer to the LinkedIn Learning video on <u>Installing Kali as an appliance (linkedin.com)</u>
 - For further information on how to use the tools available in Kali Linux refer to Kali Tools | Kali Linux Tools
- Access to 'Metaspoitable2 VM' This is a web server with built-in vulnerabilities for testing.
 - Download 'Metasploitable2' virtual image from <u>Metasploitable Browse / Metasploitable2 at SourceForge.net</u>
 - Refer to the LinkedIn Learning video on: <u>Installing Metasploitable from a virtual disk</u> (<u>linkedin.com</u>) to install and set-up this VM.

A2. Industry software packages

You must use the following industry software packages to carry out the job tasks assigned to you.

- Web browsing software (e.g. Microsoft Edge, Firefox, Chrome, Safari)
- Microsoft Office software (e.g. WORD, Excel)
- A PDF reader



- Data recognition software
 - CLI tools (nmap, nikto)
 - o OWASP ZAP

A3. Analytic platforms

Analytic platform for analysing threat data (SIEM) and applicable user instructions.

Note: You may use a tool/software/platform listed below or another industry-accepted SIEM platform/tool that allows you to gather, analyse and interpret threat data. You must then refer to the user instructions provided by the vendor for the specific software/tool/platform you've chosen to use.

- o Splunk
- o Elastic (Elk) Stack
- Manage Engine Log360

A4. Organisational procedures to prepare for gathering threat data

Note: Ensure that both the 'Kali Linux VM' and 'Metasploitable2 VM' are running. Then perform the following preparation tasks following the given organisational procedures.

Step 1: Enable firewall logging

- The 'Metasploitable2 VM' includes an operating system firewall 'iptables'. Configure this OS firewall to log all incoming traffic.
- Procedure: Execute the following command in the 'Metasploitable2 VM':

sudo iptables -A INPUT -j LOG -- log-prefix "#### Firewall ####"

Step 2: Create a folder to store threat data logs

- Create a dataset folder in the 'Kali Linux VM', to store threat data logs. All the log files that you'll be gathering in Tasks B1-4, must be saved in this folder.
- **Procedure:** Create a new folder and rename it in the following format 'Dataset-yyyymmdd'. For example, if today is the 24th of November 2023, the folder name to be created is 'Dataset-20231124'.

Step 3: Install data recognition software

- To check for vulnerabilities in a system, the tool 'OWASP-ZAP' needs to be available in the 'Kali Linux VM'.
- Procedure: Follow instructions from the vendor to install 'OWASP-ZAP' tool on the 'Kali Linux VM' ZAP <u>Download [zaproxy.org]</u>

Part B: Collect threat data

To complete this part of the assessment, you are required to:

- follow the given organisational procedures to prepare for gathering threat data as outlined in Part A, section A4
- use appropriate technological tools and software within the simulated environment to measure and record threat data.

Tasks:

Task B1 – Gather TCP/UDP open port data using 'nmap'



- a. Conduct a TCP port scan on the target/source machine 'Metasploitable 2', using the 'nmap' tool in 'Kali Linux'. The requirement and specification of this scan is to:
 - use the TCP SYN scan technique
 - probe open ports to determine service/version information
 - enable OS detection
 - generate an output in XML format into a file called 'nmap-tcpscan.xml'.
- b. Conduct a UDP port scan using 'nmap' and save the output in XML format into a file called 'nmap-udpscan.xml'.
- c. Provide evidence of completing this task in 'Table 1' by including:
 - a screenshot of the TCP port scan results
 - a screenshot of the UDP port scan results
 - an interpretation of the obtained results and a brief explanation of how this information is useful when detecting threats and vulnerabilities. (Word count: 75-100 words)

Evidence	of p	erfori	mina	task	ŀ
	~ P	9	ш.		

Assessor instructions: Assessors are to indicate the task result as Satisfactory (S) or Not Yet Satisfactory (NYS).

Assessor comments:		
	\square S	□ NYS

Students must:

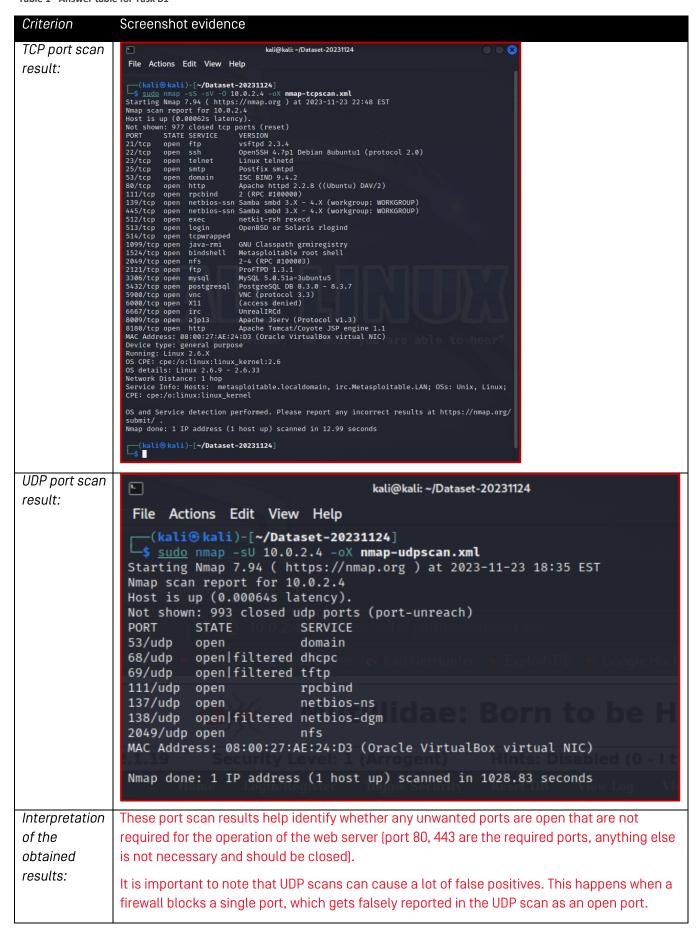
- perform the nmap scans using the correct command line options as shown in the screenshots provided.
 - o sudo nmap -sS -sV -0 <target ip address> -oX nmap-tcpscan
 - o sudo nmap -sU <Target IP Address> -oX nmap-udpscan.xml

Note: The students should use the 'Metasploitable2 VM' IP address as the target IP address, according to the configuration of their simulated virtual environment.

- correctly interpret information from the scan results obtained. The interpretation is likely to include different wording than the sample answer provided. However, the acceptable responses must:
 - o be within the specified word limit
 - o reflect the characteristics described in the exemplar answer.

A sample answer is provided below.





Task B2 – Gather threat data from a web server using the tool 'nikto'



Conduct a scan of the web server (i.e. metasploitable2 virtual machine) using the information gathering tool 'nikto' and save this information to a file called 'nikto-webscan.csv' in CSV format.

Provide evidence of completing this task in 'Table 2', by including:

a. a screenshot of the web scan results

Evidence of performing task B2:

b. an interpretation of the obtained results and a brief explanation of how this information is useful when detecting threats and vulnerabilities. (Word count: 55-90 words)

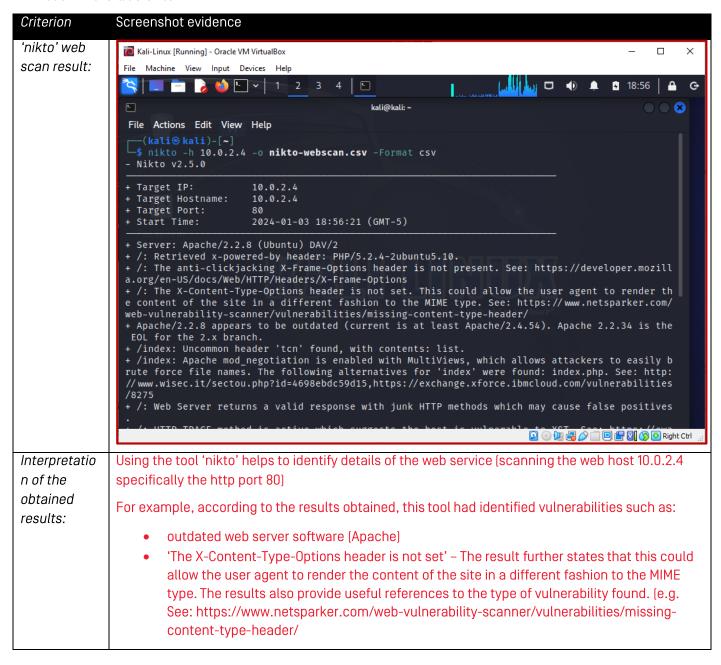
Assessor instructions: Assessors are to indicate the task result as Satisfactory (S) or Not Yet Satisfactory (NYS).			
Assessor comments:			
	□S	□ NYS	

Students must:

- perform the web scan using the correct command line options as shown in the screenshots provided.
 - o nikto -h <target IP address> -o nikto-webscan.csv -Format csv Note: The students should use the 'Metasploitable2 VM' IP address as the target IP address, according to the configuration of their simulated virtual environment.
- correctly interpret information from the scan results obtained. The interpretation is likely to include different wording than the sample answer provided. However, the acceptable responses must:
 - o be within the specified word limit
 - o reflect the characteristics described in the exemplar answer.

A sample answer is provided below.

Table 2 - Answer table for Task B2



Task B3 – Gather alert data from a web application

Run an automated vulnerability scan of the web application hosted on the 'Metasploitable2 VM' using the 'OWASP-ZAP' tool installed on the 'Kali Linux' virtual machine and save this information to a file called 'ZAP-webscan.csv' in CSV format.

Ensure that the scan tests for 3-5 different vulnerability test such as SQL injection, Cross Site scripting, code injection etc.

Provide evidence of completing this task in 'Table 3', by including:

- a. 3-5 screenshots of the web scan results (i.e. the running scan, types of vulnerabilities tested and result of the alerts captured)
- b. an interpretation of the obtained results and a brief explanation of how this information is useful when detecting threats and vulnerabilities. (Word count: 55-90 words)



Note: The scan will take a while to complete. Once you've captured enough amount of data and have scanned for a variety of vulnerabilities, you may stop the scan, take screenshots and export the captured results.

Evidence of performing task B3:

Assessor instructions: Assessors are to indicate the task result as Satisfactory (S) or Not Yet Satisfactory (NYS).

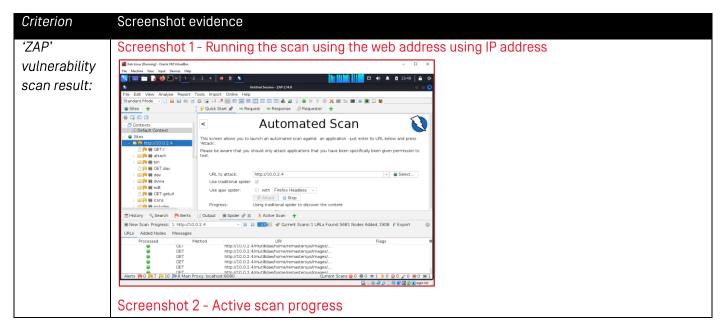
·		
Assessor comments:		
	□S	□ NYS

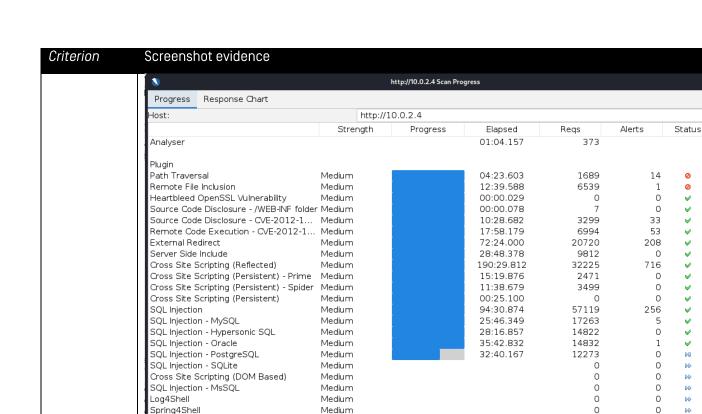
Students must:

- perform the web scan using ZAP tool as shown in the screenshots provided.
 Note: The students should use the 'Metasploitable2 VM' IP address to specify the attack URL, according to the configuration of their simulated virtual environment.
- correctly interpret information from the scan results obtained. The interpretation is likely to include different wording than the sample answer provided. However, the acceptable responses must:
 - o be within the specified word limit
 - o reflect the characteristics described in the exemplar answer.

A sample answer is provided below.

Table 3 - Answer table for Task B3





Medium

Screenshot 3 – Scan result and alert details

Server Side Code Injection

XML External Entity Attack

Generic Padding Oracle

Directory Browsina

Ruffer Overflow

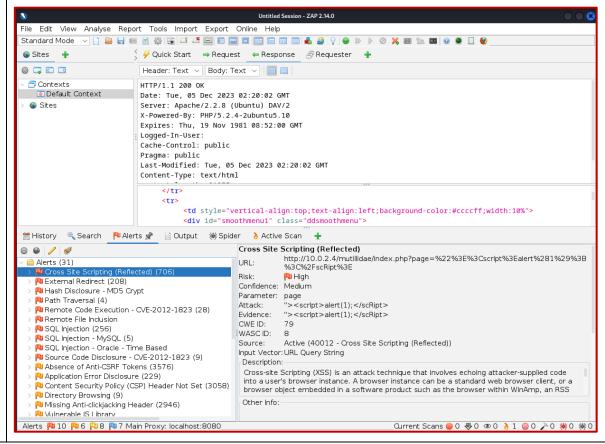
XPath Injection

Remote OS Command Injection

Cloud Metadata Potentially Exposed

Server Side Template Injection (Blind)

Server Side Template Injection



Copy to Clipboard

Close

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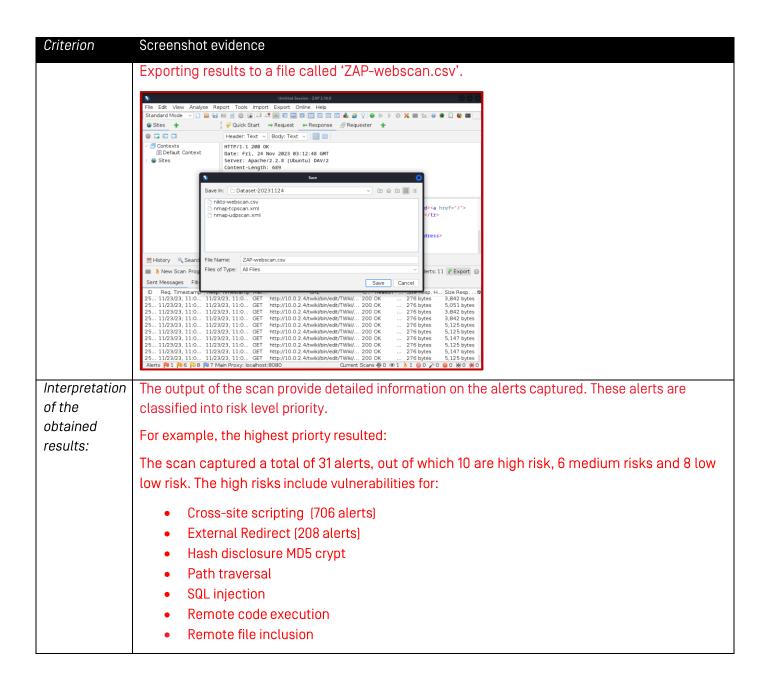
DD

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Task B4 – Gather data from the Linux OS Firewall 'iptables'

The Linux web server's Operating System [OS] firewall (i.e. a form of virtual security service), commonly known as 'iptables' provides security and access control to the web server. The OS firewall (i.e. 'iptables') logs are captured in the '/var/log/kern.log' file within the 'Metasploitable2 VM'.

In this task, you are required to gather threat data logged by the firewall by doing the following.

- a. Transfer the /var/log/kern.log file from the 'Metasploitable2 VM' to the 'Kali Linux VM'. To do this, you may use an appropriate file transfer protocol (e.g. ftp) from the 'Kali Linux VM' or another suitable method (e.g. via folder sharing, removable device).
- b. Create a log file that only contains all incoming traffic from the iptables firewall. To do this, filter the contents of the 'kern.log' file (which was transferred to the 'Kali Linux VM') using the log-prefix "#### Firewall ####" and obtain only the logs relevant to iptables. Save the result into a new file called 'firewall-logs.txt'
- c. Verify that the 'firewall-logs.txt' contains the log events from iptables firewall.
- d. Provide evidence of completing this task in 'Table 4', by including:
 - o 1-3 screenshots of the process used when performing this task



o an interpretation of the obtained results and a brief explanation of how this information is useful when detecting threats and vulnerabilities. [Word count: 55-90 words]

Evidence of performing task B4:

Assessor instructions: Assessors are to indicate the task result as Satisfactory (S) or Not Yet Satisfactory (NYS).

		-
Assessor comments:		
	□S	□ NYS

Students must:

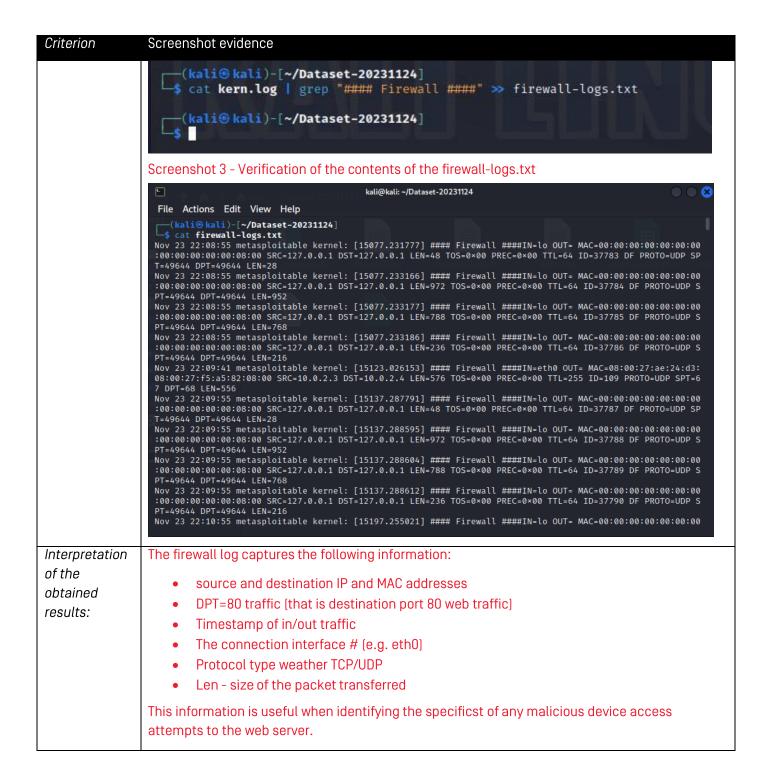
- perform the task using appropriate tools to filter and collect the required log events as shown in the screenshots provided.
 - Note: The students should use the 'Metasploitable2 VM' IP address to specify the target web server, according to the configuration of their simulated virtual environment.
- correctly interpret information from the scan results obtained. The interpretation is likely to include different wording than the sample answer provided. However, the acceptable responses must:
 - o be within the specified word limit
 - o reflect the characteristics described in the exemplar answer.

A sample answer is provided below.

Table 4 - Answer table for Task B4

Criterion Screenshot evidence 'OS Firewall' Screenshot 1 - Accessing the /var/log/kern.log from the 'Metasploitable2 VM' using the ftp. logs: protocol. -(<mark>kali⊛kali</mark>)-[**~/Dataset-20231124**] ftp msfadmin@10.0.2.4 Connected to 10.0.2.4. 220 (vsFTPd 2.3.4) 331 Please specify the password. Password: 230 Login successful. Remote system type is UNIX. Using binary mode to transfer files. ftp> ls 229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||22726|). 150 Here comes the directory listing. drwxr-xr-x 6 1000 1000 4096 Apr 28 2010 vulnerable 226 Directory send OK. ftp> get /var/log/kern.log local: /var/log/kern.log remote: /var/log/kern.log ftp: Can't access `/var/log/kern.log': Permission denied ftp> cd /var/log 250 Directory successfully changed. ftp> get kern.log local: kern.log remote: kern.log 229 Entering Extended Passive Mode (|||13548|). 150 Opening BINARY mode data connection for kern.log (98386551 bytes). 41.91 MiB/s --:-- ETA 226 Transfer complete. 98386551 bytes received in 00:02 (41.90 MiB/s) ftp> exit 221 Goodbye. Screenshot 2 – Using command-line to filter the log records that only contain the log-prefix '#### Firewall ####' and saving to firewall-logs.txt.





Part C: Create dataset

To complete this part of the assessment, you are required to:

- acces the 'Kali Linux VM' machine to create the threat dataset as a compressed archive file
- refer to the industry standard procedures on how to create compressed archives at <u>Linux Archive Files</u>: <u>How to Create & Manage Archive Files in Linux (linuxfoundation.org)</u>
- follow relevant procedures when performing the tasks.

Task:

Create a compressed archive file to contain the following five (5) log files collected in Part B of this assessment:



- 1. nmap-tcpscan.xml
- 2. nmap-udpscan.xml
- 3. nikto-webscan.csv
- 4. ZAP-webscan.csv
- 5. firewall-logs.txt

Dataset file naming convention: The name of the archive file should be according to the following naming convention: 'Dataset-<Student ID>.tar.gz'.

Note: For example, if the student ID is '12345678' the file name should be 'Dataset-12345678.tar.gz'

As evidence of completing this task, provide the 3-5 screenshots to demonstrate:

- that the 'Dataset-yyyymmdd' folder contains the above-mentioned five [5] log files
- the process used to create the compressed archive file of the dataset
- confirm that the compressed archive file is created according to the naming convention.

Also, submit a copy of the dataset file: 'Dataset-<Student ID>.tar.gz' with this assessment submission.

Evidence of completing the task:

Assessor instructions: Students must:

- create the dataset folder following the given naming convention and ensure the required log files are included in the dataset
- create the compressed archive file of the dataset using command-line tools, following industry standard procedures.

A sample answer is provided below.

Screenshot of the contents in the 'Dataset-12345678' folder.

```
(kali@kali)-[~/Dataset-20231124]

$\frac{1}{5} ls$

firewall-logs.txt kern.log nikto-webscan.csv nmap-tcpscan.xml nmap-udpscan.xml ZAP-webscan.csv
```

Screenshot of the command used to create the dataset compressed archive file

The following screenshot shows the compressed archive file created having the specified naming convention.

```
(kali⊕ kali)-[~/Dataset-20231124]
$ ls

Dataset-XXXXXXXX.tar.gz kern.log nmap-tcpscan.xml ZAP-webscan.csv
firewall-logs.txt nikto-webscan.csv nmap-udpscan.xml
```

Assessor instructions: Assessors are to indicate the task result as Satisfactory (S) or Not Yet Satisfactory (NYS).



Assessor comments:		
	□S	□ NYS

Part D: Ingest data logs to analytic platform

To complete this part of the assessment, you are required to:

- access the threat dataset folder created previously in Part C of this assessment
- use the required technological tools and software in gathering, analysing and interpreting threat data
- use the required analytical platform and applicable user instructions as outlined in Part A, Section A3 of this assessment.
 - Sign-up for a free trial version of an industry-standard cloud-hosted SIEM platform of your choice.

Tasks:

D1. Create a new index in the analytical platform called 'dataset_xxxxxxxxx', where 'xxxxxxxxx' is your unique Student ID.

D2. Ingest the data logs into the analytical platform according to user instructions provided by the platform vendor. Note: Ensure that the data in the threat dataset are searchable using the index name created in the previous task.

D3. Verify the consistency and reliability of the ingested threat dataset in the analytic platform by performing a search using the specified index. Ensure that the following five (5) log files are available as a source for analysis.

- 1. Firewall-logs.txt
- 2. Nikto-webscan.csv
- 3. Nmap-tcpscan.xml
- 4. Nmap-udpscan.xml
- 5. ZAP-webscan.csv

Provide 3-5 screenshots of the process used when performing this task with brief explanations and comments on the process used in 'Table 5'. [Word count: 25-50 words]

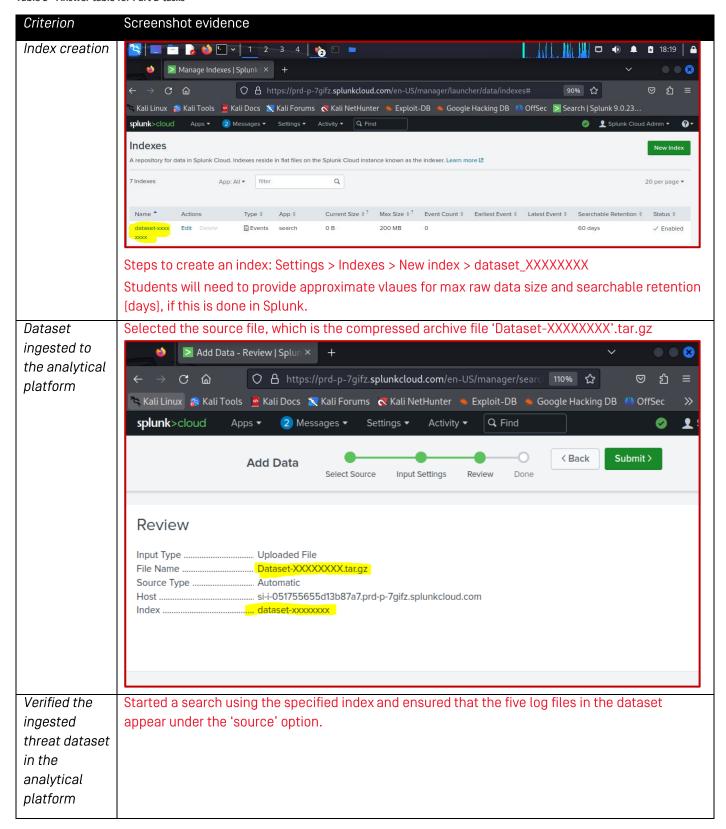
Evidence of performing the task(s): Assessor instructions: Assessors are to indicate the task result as Satisfactory (S) or Not Yet Satisfactory (NYS). Assessor comments:

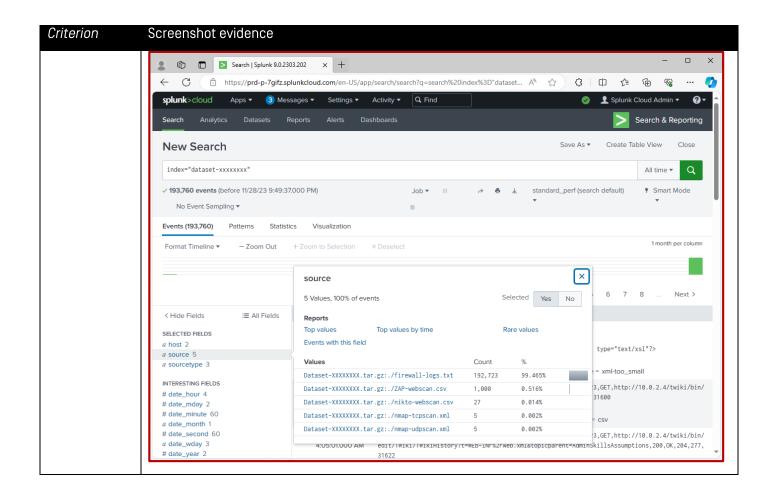
The screenshots provided by the student should clearly indicate that they have successfully ingested the data into the analytical platform of their choice and have verified that the dataset is searchable using the specified index using the compressed archive file.

The following example shows the interface of the Splunk Cloud Platform and how an index is created first, and then the data is ingested and verified.



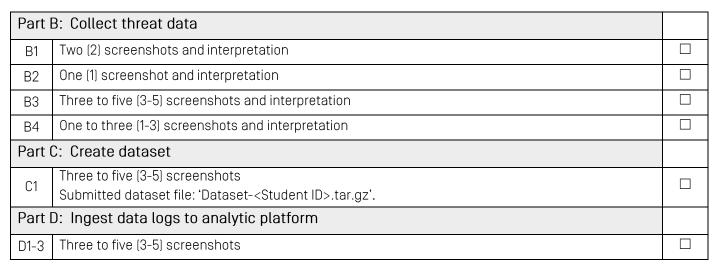
Table 5 - Answer table for Part D tasks





Appendix 1: Assessment submission checklist

Submit a PDF version of this completed assessment document. Make sure you have also included each of the following files as evidence of your performance. Remember to create a compressed folder for each module before uploading them for submission



Assessment feedback

Assessors are to indicate the assessment outcome as Satisfactory [S] or Not Yet Satisfactory [NYS].



Assessor comments:	□S	□ NYS
		,

Congratulations, you have reached the Assessment 4!

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