

Fundamentals of UNIX
Lab 4.2.1 – Referencing AnswerBook2 Help
(Estimated time: 30 min.)

Objectives:

- Become familiar with the AnswerBook2 Interface
- Identify some of the **user** and **administrator** Book Collections
- Use a browser to search AnswerBook2
- Search for information on an application
- Search for information on UNIX commands, hardware, and concepts

Background:

In this lab, you will work with Sun Solaris AnswerBook2™ and become familiar with the various collections of available online manuals. The AnswerBook2 system enables you to use your web browser to view on-line versions of many of the printed Solaris manuals, including the graphics. By default, AnswerBook2 uses the HotJava™ browser to display information. With AnswerBook2, you can learn about Solaris through personal research and self-study.

Due to the amount of disk space taken up by the AnswerBook2 pages, your system administrator may not have installed AnswerBook2 on your computer's hard disk. However, it is possible to access AnswerBook2 files from a compact disc-read only memory (CD-ROM) or a remote server on your computer network.

Tools / Preparation:

- a) Before starting this lab, review Chapter 4, Section 2 – Referencing AnswerBook2
- b) You will need the following:
 - 1. A login user ID (e.g. user2) and password assigned by your instructor.
 - 2. A computer running the UNIX operating system with CDE.
 - 3. AnswerBook2 installed on a local workstation or a network server.
 - 4. Networked computers in classroom.

Web Site Resources:

- [Sun Microsystems](http://www.sun.com/solaris) – <http://www.sun.com/solaris>

Notes:

Fundamentals of UNIX
Lab 4.2.1 – Referencing AnswerBook2 Help
Worksheet

Perform the following steps to complete this lab.

Step 1. Log in to CDE

Login with the user name and password assigned to you by your instructor in the CDE entry box.

Step 2 Access AnswerBook2

If it is installed on your system or a network server, you should have an icon on the Help subpanel, which will provide access to the **AnswerBook2™** system. Click on the **Help** subpanel and select **AnswerBook2**. Your **web browser** will be activated and will serve as your primary interface to AnswerBook2. You can move **back** and **forward** using the browser buttons.

Step 3 Investigate the AnswerBook2 Collections

There are several collections of online books containing a tremendous amount of information, including books in different languages. List some of the book collections that you might be interested in as a Solaris **user** or **system administrator**. (Answers may vary but should include the following:)

Step 4. Search for Instructions on an Application

To search your **Personal Library** for the information on **Calendar Manager**, enter the words **calendar** and **manager** (search words can be upper or lower case) in the search window and click on the search button. You will see several **Book Collections** listed with references to calendar in them. Some collections may list multiple books under them. The sections of the books that have your topic in them are shown as a hyperlink. The circle to the left of the book section indicates how often the topic appears by how much of the circle is shaded.

- a. Scroll down the list of book collections. Is **Solaris 8 User Collection** listed? _____
- b. If you wanted to know more about how to use **CDE Calendar Manager** which book under the Solaris 8 User Collection would you look in? _____
- c. Which Section of the book would you click on to learn how to schedule and appointment for someone else? _____

Step 5. Search for a information on a UNIX command

In a previous lab, you used the **date** command to determine the current system date and time. You can get help with any UNIX command by searching the manual or “**man**” pages. A graphical version of the **man** command is available online with AnswerBook2. The next lab will provide practice on accessing man pages from the command line.

- a. Enter the word **date** in the search entry area and click on the search button to search for information on the date command. Is the Solaris 8 Reference Manual Collection listed?

- b. What section of the man pages is the **date** command in?

Fundamentals of UNIX
Lab 4.2.1 – Referencing AnswerBook2 Help
Worksheet

Step 6. Search for a Hardware Information

You can also search AnswerBook for help with supported hardware and drivers. To see what support Solaris has for **Fast Ethernet** network interface cards (NICs), search for the words **fast** and **Ethernet** and then click search.

- a. Look at the list of books under the **Solaris 8 Installation Collection**. Which Book would contain a list of network interface cards supported by Solaris for Intel?
-

- b. Which section would you view to see network interface cards that are supported by Solaris for Intel? _____

Step 7. Search for Information on a Concept or Topic

If you were interested in learning more about Sun's **Network File System (NFS)** you could search for information on the topic. To see what online manuals contain information on NFS, enter nfs in the search window and click search. NFS is covered briefly later in the course.

- a. Look at the list Solaris 8 System Administrator Collection of books. Which Book would you check if you wanted to get an Overview of Managing File Systems?
-

- b. Which Book would you check to if you wanted to get a list of **NFS Commands**?
-

Step 8. Close the AnswerBook2 Application

Double click on the dash menu button in the upper left corner of the window.