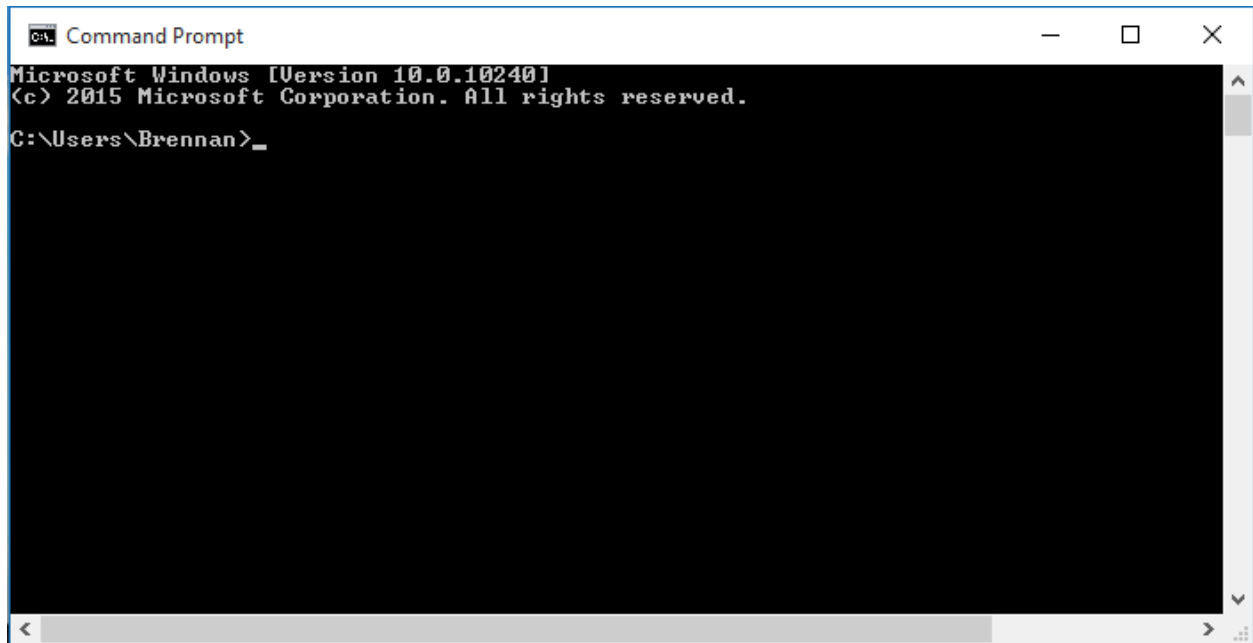


Navigating the command-line interface



Once you unlock the computer in our game, you might find yourself gaining access to a command-line interface which looks something like the above picture. What is this? How do you use this to complete the game?

In general, a command-line interface (CLI) is a text-based way to interact with a computer and its files. The commands you use to do so depend on the computer and its operating system, and you might also find yourself using a CLI for a specific program also equipped with its own commands.

The CLI we've provided you with in this game is not necessarily accurate to the CLIs you will find in real operating systems, but we've tried to get close. Documented below are the commands you will need for navigating our CLI. For all commands to execute, you'll need to type them out, then hit Enter.

Navigating files

To view files in your current location: type "ls" (without the quotes; and yes, that is an L, not an uppercase i). This will display both folders and executables. You can enter the folders listed, which will not have any file type listed, and files with their different extensions that represent their types.

For example, if you type "ls" and see the following:
mysecrets myfile.txt

The folder here is “mysecrets”, while the file is “myfile.txt”, which is a text file. “myfile.png” would be a PNG image, and “myfile.py” would be a program written in the Python language which you could run with the command “python myfile.py”.

To move into a new folder: type “cd thefoldername” (without the quotes). For example, to move into the previous “mysecrets” folder, you would type “cd myfolder” into the CLI.

To move to the previous directory: type “cd ..” (without the quotes). For example, if you are currently in the “mysecrets” folder, typing “cd..” would take you back to the main directory.

Accessing Files

The “cat” command can be used to read text from files to the terminal.

Given a file like “myfile.txt”, we can type “cat myfile.txt” into the terminal. We’ll get a response of the type:

“This is the contents of my file. It has words and also my password: Unsafe234.”

However, you do need permission to read files using “cat”. In our game, all the files you’ll see will be accessible to you, but if you’re using the “cat” command in real life you might see this response:

Permission Denied

That means your user won’t be able to read the file. You might need to switch to a different user with higher permissions, or change the permissions on the file.