

jq + kubectl for SRE

Incident-oriented JSON queries for Kubernetes
resources

v1.1.0

Pocketbook Series

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Index

Pending and Unschedulable Pods	3
Node Health and Scheduling	4
Workload Rollout and Drift	5
Events Triage	6

Pending and Unschedulable Pods

When to use

understand why pods do not start

Pending pods with scheduling reason/message

```
kubectl get pods -A -o json \  
| jq '.items[]  
  | select(.status.phase == "Pending")  
  | {  
    ns: .metadata.namespace,  
    pod: .metadata.name,  
    reason: (.status.conditions[]? |  
select(.type=="PodScheduled") | .reason),  
    message: (.status.conditions[]? |  
select(.type=="PodScheduled") | .message)  
  }'
```

Pods stuck terminating

When to use

detect rollout drains or finalizers blocking shutdown

```
# deletionTimestamp present means terminating path started  
kubectl get pods -A -o json \  
| jq '.items[]  
  | select(.metadata.deletionTimestamp != null)  
  | {  
    ns: .metadata.namespace,  
    pod: .metadata.name,  
    deleting_since: .metadata.deletionTimestamp,  
    grace: (.spec.terminationGracePeriodSeconds //  
"default")  
  }'
```

Node Health and Scheduling

When to use

isolate node-level pressure affecting pod placement

Node readiness + pressure conditions

```
kubectl get nodes -o json \  
| jq '.items[]  
  | {  
    node: .metadata.name,  
    ready: ([.status.conditions[] |  
select(.type=="Ready") | .status][0] // "Unknown"),  
    memPressure: ([.status.conditions[] |  
select(.type=="MemoryPressure") | .status][0] // "Unknown"),  
    diskPressure: ([.status.conditions[] |  
select(.type=="DiskPressure") | .status][0] // "Unknown"),  
    pidPressure: ([.status.conditions[] |  
select(.type=="PIDPressure") | .status][0] // "Unknown")  
  }'
```

Unschedulable nodes

```
kubectl get nodes -o json \  
| jq '.items[] | select(.spec.unschedulable == true) |  
  .metadata.name'
```

Workload Rollout and Drift

When to use

check if rollouts converged to desired replicas

Deployments not fully available

```
kubectl get deploy -A -o json \
| jq '.items[]
| {
  ns: .metadata.namespace,
  deploy: .metadata.name,
  desired: (.spec.replicas // 0),
  available: (.status.availableReplicas // 0),
  updated: (.status.updatedReplicas // 0)
}'
| select(.available < .desired or .updated < .desired)'
```

StatefulSets not ready

```
kubectl get sts -A -o json \
| jq '.items[]
| {
  ns: .metadata.namespace,
  sts: .metadata.name,
  desired: (.spec.replicas // 0),
  ready: (.status.readyReplicas // 0)
}'
| select(.ready < .desired)'
```

Events Triage

When to use

move from symptom to probable root cause with event reasons

Warning events (newest first)

```
kubectl get events -A --field-selector type=Warning -o json \
| jq '.items
  | sort_by(.lastTimestamp // .eventTime //
.metadata.creationTimestamp)
  | reverse
  | .[]
  | {
    ns: .metadata.namespace,
    time: (.lastTimestamp // .eventTime //
.metadata.creationTimestamp),
    reason: .reason,
    object: (.involvedObject.kind + "/" +
.involvementObject.name),
    message: .message
  }'
```

Top warning reasons by count

```
kubectl get events -A --field-selector type=Warning -o json \
| jq '.items
  | group_by(.reason)
  | map({reason: .[0].reason, count: length})
  | sort_by(.count)
  | reverse
  | .[:15]'
```