KIP-685: Loosen permission for listing reassignments

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Status

Current state: "Under Discussion"

Discussion thread: here [Change the link from the KIP proposal email archive to your own email thread]

JIRA: here

Please keep the discussion on the mailing list rather than commenting on the wiki (wiki discussions get unwieldy fast).

Motivation

Currently, listing partition reassignments requires Cluster Describe permission. The Topic Command uses the ListPartitionReassignments API to distinguish the Under Replicated Partitions caused by a reassignment. This change was introduced by KIP-352: Distinguish URPs caused by reassignment. Practically, Cluster Describe permission is never given to end users of a cluster so it takes them back to the days before KIP-352 where they can't distinguish URPs that are a result of reassignments.

There is no good reason to prevent users to tell which is which. This KIP proposes to change the permission of the ListPartitionReassignments API to Topic Describe instead of Cluster Describe.

Proposed Changes

As stated in the motivation, this KIP changes the permission of the ListPartitionReassignments API to Topic Describe instead of Cluster Describe. In order to remain backward compatible, listing the reassignments of a given topic will be allowed if the principal has either Cluster Describe permission or Topic Describe permission for the topic.

Compatibility, Deprecation, and Migration Plan

As stated in the proposed changes, principals with Cluster Describe permission will remain able to list reassignments.

Rejected Alternatives

N/A