# Simple Questions from Chapter 2 - x86 Processor Architecture

1. What are the three basic steps in the instruction execution cycle?

2. What is the purpose of the control unit (CU) in the CPU?

3. Name the four types of buses typically found in a computer system.

4. What is the difference between cache memory and conventional RAM?

5. What are the x86 processor’s three basic modes of operation?

6. Name all eight 32-bit general-purpose registers in x86 architecture.

7. What special purpose does the ECX register serve?

8. What does the EFLAGS register do?

9. What is the purpose of the BIOS in a computer system?

10. Why are device drivers necessary if the BIOS already communicates with hardware devices?