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Date: 17/5/2025

1. Describe system software. Discuss each of the four types of system programs

a. Operating Systems (OS)

The most important system software that provides user interfaces, manages hardware resources, and enables hardware-software communication. It features memory management for the file system or memory allocation management for processes.

b. Utility Programs

Utility programs act like digital assistants that help maintain and optimize your computer's performance. They handle important background tasks like cleaning up unnecessary files, defragmenting hard drive to speed things up, running antivirus scans to protect your system, creating backups of your important data, and monitoring your computer's overall health. Common examples include tools like CCleaner for removing junk files, Norton Antivirus for security protection, and Windows' built-in Disk Cleanup utility.

c. Device Drivers

Device drivers serve as essential translators between operating system and hardware components. These specialized programs allow your computer to properly communicate with and control physical devices like printers, graphics cards, and USB peripherals. They work by converting general operating system commands into specific instructions that each hardware device can understand. For instance, your printer driver ensures documents print correctly, while your GPU driver enables smooth graphics performance in games and applications. Many basic drivers come pre-installed, which is why simple devices like mice often work immediately when plugged in.

d. Language Translators

Language translators play a crucial role in software development by converting human-readable programming code into the binary language computers actually understand. These come in different forms depending on how they process code. Compilers translate entire programs at once, similar to converting a whole book into another language - the GCC compiler for C/C++ programs works this way. Interpreters process code line by line in real-time, much like a live interpreter would translate speech, with Python's interpreter being a prime example. Assemblers handle the conversion of low-level assembly language into direct

machine code. Without these translators, the programming code we write wouldn't be able to actually run on our computers.

2. Define OS. Describe the basic features and the three categories of OS

a. Features:

- Booting-such as starting or restarting the computer
- Files and Folders-Files that keep data and programs
- User interface-Provides GUI

b. 3 categories of OS

- RTOS
- Stand-alone OS
- Network OS

3. What are mobile OS? Describe leading mobile OS.

A Mobile Operating System is a special software platform designed to run on smartphones, tablets, and other portable devices. It manages hardware components and provides a user-friendly interface for running apps.

3.1 Leading mobile OS

a. Android

It is an open source platform and support a vast range of devices such as Samsung, Xiaomi and Google Pixel. The platform also easy integrate with Google services such as Gmail and Google Maps.

b. iOS

Apple created this closed-source platform. It has a strict app approval process and is also quite secure. streamlined performance as a result of software and hardware optimization. sustained software assistance.

c. Harmony OS

Hybrid replaces Android due to US restrictions. It is made for smart gadgets, cell phones, and the Internet of Things. Enhanced battery efficiency, faster performance, and smooth cross-device communication.

4.What are desktop operating systems? Compare Windows, Mac OS, Linux and Chrome OS. Discuss virtualization.

Computer's desktop operating system (OS) is the primary piece of software that controls everything from launching applications to attaching peripherals like printers. It is the reason your Mac or PC runs smoothly. Windows, macOS, Linux, and Chrome OS are the most popular desktop operating systems; each has advantages of its own.

Feature	Windows (Microsoft)	macOS (Apple)	Linux (Open-Source)	Chrome OS (Google)
Type	Proprietary	Proprietary	Open-Source	Proprietary (Linux-based)
Primary Use	General computing, gaming, business	Creative work, development	Servers, development, security	Web-based tasks, education
Hardware Compatibility	Wide (works on most PCs)	Only Apple devices (MacBooks, iMac)	Broad (supports old & new hardware)	Limited (Chromebooks only)
User Interface	GUI (Windows 11)	GUI (macOS Sonoma)	GUI (GNOME, KDE) or CLI	Web-centric (similar to Android)
Software Availability	Largest app support (.exe)	Optimized for Apple apps (.dmg)	Open-source (package managers)	Web apps + Android apps
Security	Vulnerable to malware (needs antivirus)	Highly secure (sandboxing)	Very secure (open-source)	Cloud-based (low malware risk)
Cost	Paid license	Free with Apple devices	Free (Ubuntu, Fedora, etc.)	Free
Virtualization	-Built-in Hyper-V (Pro/Enterprise versions). -Supports VirtualBox,	-Parallels Desktop (optimized for macOS). -Supports VirtualBox,	-Parallels Desktop (optimized for macOS). -Supports VirtualBox,	-Limited to Linux containers (Crostini) or Android apps.

	VMware.	VMware Fusion.	VMware Fusion.	
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5. Discuss utilities. What are the most essential utilities? What is a utility suite?

5.1 Utilities

It is like little apps that support system maintenance, troubleshooting, and data protection. In contrast to large programs like Photoshop or Word, utilities optimize, clean, and safeguard your Mac or PC in the background.

5.2 The Most Important Features for Computers:

5.2.1 Tools for Security & Antivirus

- keeps hackers, malware, and viruses at bay.
- Examples include Malwarebytes, Bitdefender, and Windows Defender (built-in).

5.2.2 Optimizing and Cleaning Up the Disk

- clears out unnecessary files, such as caches and temporary files, to make room.
- For instance, CCleaner, CleanMyMac , and Windows Disk Cleanup

5.2.3 Programs for Backup and Recovery

- maintains backup copies of your files in case of ransomware or crashes.
- Examples include Acronis True Image, Macrium Reflect, and Time Machine (Mac).

5.2.4 Tools for File Compression

- Reduces the size of big files (like ZIP or RAR) to make sharing them easier.
- For instance, *WinRAR, 7-Zip, and macOS Archive Utility*

5.3 Utility Suites

- Instead of installing 10 separate tools, a utility suite bundles multiple utilities into one package.
- The famous utility suites are Norton Utilities for fixing errors. Also AVG Tuneup is a combines antivirus cleanup, and performance tools. And also, CleanMyMac X for macOS cleaner, malware remover, and optimizer.