Boot Process consists the set of processes from poweron on pc to login prompt comes. Linux crosses the 4 levels of boot ing. Those are
e

I ) hardware Root :

- BIOS Initialization

- Performs first POST (Power On Self Test)

- It checks all 11/W connectivity if all things are correct then it gives a healthy beep

- Boot strap finds the device from where to boot ex: Floppy (or) CD-Rom, Hard-Disk.

2 ) Boot Loader :

In Linux we have default boot loader called GRUB (Grand Unified Boot Loader). In older versions we used to have LILO (Linux Loader).
In this stage it reads the file /boot/grub/grub.conf and identifies the kernel and initrd images which are next in the process of booting.

3 ) Kernel :

Kernel initializes the devices

It mounts the root file system in read only mode

It starts first process called as init process

In this stage it reads the file etc/fstab

4 ) Initprocess

init reads etc/inittab
This file contains what programs or services should be run at different run levels.
Run level script files are available under /etc/rc.d