CS 241 #3 A day at the C Side

Puzzle 1: What is the value of p[strlen(p)], if p points to "Sys"?

Hint: strlen("") ==0 strlen("@") ==1, strlen(NULL) ==#@?#WT?!

Q1: How do I find out how to use

__< useful function or system call here>__?

```
$
```

Puzzle 2: How do I find out how to use stat in C?

Q2: What are the manual sections?

- Section 2:
- Section 3:
- Section 7:

Q3: How do I allocate and free heap memory in C?

- Allocate:
- Free:

Q4: Can I make a pointer really free by freeing it twice?

Q5: What do we call a pointer that has been free'd?

Best Practice: Always set free'd pointers to NULL.

```
1: // ... code ...
2: free(ptr);
3: ptr = 0;
```

Puzzle 3: Fix a custom string concatentation function:

```
void mystrcat(char *dest, const char *src) {
 2:
 3:
 4:
       while (*src) {
 5:
 6:
 7:
         dest = src;
 8:
 9:
10:
         src++; dest++;
11:
12:
13:
14:
```

Puzzle 4 – Print Arguments?

```
1: int main(
2:
3:
4:
5:
6:
7:
8:
9:
10:
11:
12:
13:
14:
```

Puzzle 5: Fix my custom string duplication function

```
1: char *mystrdup(const char *src) {
2:
3:
4: char *p = sizeof(src);
5:
6:
7: strcpy(src, p);
8:
9:
10: return p;
11: }
```

Q6: What is the purpose of a file stream, just files?

A "file stream" (or "file descriptor" in system calls) is the base interface to EVERYTHING external to RAM. This includes:

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•

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Standard Streams:

```
o stdin:
```

o stdout:

o stderr:

Q7: Writing to file streams: fprintf

What if the output of the following code snippet?

```
1: fprintf(stderr, "CS 241: ");
2: fprintf(stdout, "System ");
3: fprintf(stderr, "Programming ");
4: fprintf(stdout, "\n");
```

⇒ Result:

Q8: What is asprintf()?

```
int asprintf(char **strp, const char *fmt, ...)
```

```
⇔ char **strp:
```

⇒ const char *fmt:

Puzzle 6: Pointer Arithmetic

```
1: // Count the number of elements in an int-array
2: // before the number -1 appears in the array:
3: int count_before(int *array) {
4: int *ptr = array;
5:
6:
7: while (*ptr != -1) { ptr++; }
8:
9:
10: return (ptr - array) / _____;
11: }
```

Debug Less: Use assert e.g. assert(ptr && counter > 5); C provides the library macro assert that be used to find bugs in debugging and completely disappear in production code! Two modes:

- Debug mode (-g flag):
- Production mode (#NDEBUG):

Best Practice: <u>Always</u> assert pre-conditions and assumptions.

Puzzle 7: Putting it altogether

```
// Sum an array of positive numbers, storing
 2:
     // the result in `result` (by ref)
 3:
     // and use asprintf to return a text version of result
     char* mysum(const int *ptr, int *result) {
 5:
 6:
 7:
 8:
 9:
       while ( *ptr ) {
10:
11:
12:
         sum += *(ptr++);
13:
14:
15:
16:
       char *text = NULL;
17:
18:
       asprintf(
19:
       return text;
20:
21:
```