A related viewpoint is that a use case defines a contract of how a system will behave [Cockburn01]

Use Case Template:

Template:

ID:	**[Unique ID of this use case]**
Use case name:	**[Enter the goal of the use case - preferably as a short, active verb phrase]**
Author:	**[Who wrote the use case]**
Last revision:	**Last updated date**
Primary Actor:	**[A person or a software/hardware system that interacts with your system to achieve the goal of this use case.]**
supporting Actor:	**[provides a service to the system under discussion.]**
Preconditions:	**[Describe the state the system is in before the first event in this use case.]**
Postconditions:	**[Describe the state the system is in after all the events in this use case have taken place.]**
Main Success Scenario:	**[Describe the flow of events from preconditions to postconditions, when nothing goes wrong. This is the meat of the use case.]**
Extensions:	**[Describe all the other scenarios for this use case - including exceptions and error cases.]** Note:If it is desirable to describe an extension condition as possible during any (or at least most) steps, the labels *a, *b, …, can be used

Example:
This example uses this template to write a use case for helping a student register for courses.
The system under design is a University Registration System.

ID:	UC-1
Use case name:	Register for courses
Author	Nida Munawar
Last revision	1/1/2022
Description:	Student accesses the system and views the courses currently available for him to register. Then he selects the courses and registers for them.
Primary Actor:	Student
Supporting Actor	Database system, admin
Preconditions:	Student is logged into system
Postconditions:	Student is registered for courses
Main Success Scenario:	1. Student selects "Register New Courses" from the menu. 2. System displays list of courses available for registering. 3. Student selects one or more courses he wants to register for. 4. Student clicks "Submit" button. 5. System registers student for the selected courses and displays a confirmation message.
Extensions:	*a. At any time, System crashes: In order to support recovery, ensure all sensitive state and events can be recovered at any step in the scenario. 1. Student restarts the System, logs in, and requests recovery of prior state. System reconstructs prior state. 2a. No courses are available for this student. --- 2a1. System displays error message saying no courses are available, and provides the reason & how to rectify if possible. --- 2a2. Student either backs out of this use case, or tries again after rectifying the cause. 5a. Some courses could not be registered.

	--- 5a1. System displays message showing which courses were registered, and which courses were not registered along with a reason for each failure. 5b. None of the courses could be registered. --- 5b1. System displays message saying none of the courses could be registered, along with a reason for each failure.