Q.1 What are the two main functions of an operating system ?

Answer:

There are three main functions of an operating system. Two of them are as following;

Management of computers resources such as CPU, memory, printer and etc.

Execution of services provided by application software.

Q.2 What is multiprogramming?

Answer:

Multiprogramming is a rudimentary form of parallel processing in which several programs run at the same time on a uniprocessor system

Q.3 List some differences between personal computer operating systems and mainframe operating systems.

Answer:

Both are essentially operating systems. The hardware and how they use it are the primary differences. Not to mention server software such as Linux/Unix and Windows Server.

Difference between operating system for mainframe computers and PCs

Mainframe computers :

* Mainframes are typically big boxes containing a large number of processors and a large amount of storage, as well as high-bandwidth buses.
* A mainframe operating system is meant to handle a huge number of calculations in a sequential manner, whereas a PC operating system is designed to process interactive transactions.

Personal computers (PCs) :

* The hardware of a personal computer is typically designed to deliver speedy responses to the user.
* These are usually graphical or console interfaces on top of an operating system's kernel and are designed for a lot of user interaction.

Q.4 What is the key difference between a trap and an interrupt?

Answer:

The difference between a trap and an interrupt is that a trap is triggered by a user program to invoke OS functionality. Still, an interrupt is triggered by a hardware device to allow the processor to execute the corresponding interrupt handler routine.

Q.5 On early computers, every byte of data read or written was directly handled by the CPU (i.e.there was no DMA. What implications does this organization have for multiprogramming ?)

Answer:

It makes multiprogramming less favorable since it is no longer the case that when one process does I/O the CPU is completely free to work on other processes.

Q6. Which of the following instructions should be allowed only in kernel mode?

(a) Disable all interrupts.

(b) Read the time-of-day clock.

(c) Set the time-of-day dock.

(d) Change the memory map.

Answer:

Hence the answer is (a), (c) and (d).

Q7. Can the

count = write(fd, buffer, nbytes);

call return any value in *count* other than *nbytes*? If so, why?

Answer:

If the call fails, for example because fd is incorrect, it can return −1. It can also fail because the disk is full, and it is not possible to write the number of bytes requested. On a correct termination, it always returns nbytes.

Q8. A file whose file descriptor is *fd* contains the following sequence of bytes: 3, 1, 4, 1, 5, 9, 2, 6, 5, 3, 5. The following system calls are made:

lseek(fd, 3, SEEK\_SET);

read(fd, &buffer, 4);

where the lseek call makes a seek to byte 3 of the file. What does *buffer* contain after the read has completed?

**Answer: 7, 9, 4, 5**

Q9.

A computer uses the relocation scheme of Fig. 1-9(a). A program is 10,000 bytes long and is loaded at address 40,000. What values do the *base* and *limit* register get according to the scheme described in the text?

Base register value = 40,000

Limit register value = 10,000