■ Operating System – MCQs with Explanations

Q1. Which of the following is not done by OS Usually?

(ACF & FRO Exam, 23 Feb 2021)

- (a) Power On Self Test (POST)
- (b) Resource Management
- (c) Error Handling
- (d) Encryption
- ✓ Answer: (a) Power On Self Test (POST)

Explanation:

- POST is performed by BIOS (Basic Input Output System) when the computer starts.
- OS functions include resource management, error handling, providing security (encryption), and user interface.

Definition:

• **BIOS**: Firmware that initializes hardware during booting and performs POST before OS takes over.

Q2. Which one of the following terminologies is not related to OS?

(SET Exam, 26 Mar 2023)

- (a) Swapping
- (b) Semaphore
- (c) Process Control Block
- (d) Dynamic Programming
- ✓ Answer: (d) Dynamic Programming

Explanation:

- Swapping, Semaphore, PCB → all OS concepts.
- Dynamic Programming \rightarrow an algorithmic problem-solving technique used in optimization, not an OS term.

\nearrow Definition:

- **Semaphore**: Synchronization tool used to control access to shared resources.
- **PCB (Process Control Block)**: A data structure that stores process details like ID, state, registers.

Q3. Which statement is not correct about Shell and Kernel?

(SET Exam, 26 Mar 2023)

- (a) Kernel performs memory management while Shell is a command interpreter
- (b) Shell is an interface between Kernel and User
- (c) Kernel is a command interpreter
- (d) Both (b) and (c)
- Answer: (c) Kernel is a command interpreter
- **Explanation**:
 - **Kernel** = core of OS, manages CPU, memory, I/O devices.
 - **Shell** = command interpreter, interface between user and kernel.

\nearrow Definition:

- **Kernel**: The heart of the OS, providing hardware abstraction.
- **Shell**: Software that interprets user commands (CLI or GUI).

Q4. When a process is in a "Blocked" state, after I/O completion it goes to?

(Sr. Computer Instructor Exam, 19 June 2022)

- (a) Terminated state
- (b) Suspended state
- (c) Running state
- (d) Ready state
- ✓ Answer: (d) Ready state
- Explanation:
 - **Blocked state** = process is waiting for I/O.
 - After I/O completes \rightarrow process becomes **Ready**, waiting for CPU allocation.

\nearrow Definition:

• **Ready State**: Process is prepared for execution but CPU not assigned yet.

Q5. How many states can be processed in Operating System?

(Basic Computer Instructor Exam, 18 June 2022)

- (a) 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 4
- (d) 5
- \triangle Answer: (d) 5
- Explanation:

Standard **5 Process States** are:

- 1. New
- 2. Ready
- 3. Running
- 4. Waiting (Blocked)
- 5. Terminated

Q6. Which component does not belong to PCB (Process Control Block)?

(Asst. Director Cyber Forensic Exam, 10 June 2022)

- (a) CPU Register
- (b) CPU Scheduling Information
- (c) Operating System Information
- (d) Accounting Information
- ✓ Answer: (c) Operating System Information
- **Explanation**:
 - PCB contains → Process ID, registers, scheduling info, accounting, memory info.
 - It does not contain OS information.

Definition:

• **PCB**: Data structure containing process details for CPU scheduling and context switching.

Q7. Which OS function is concerned with managing execution of multiple processes?

(Police Constable Exam, 15 May 2022)

- (a) Device Management
- (b) Security Management
- (c) File Management
- (d) Processor Management
- ✓ Answer: (d) Processor Management
- **Explanation:**
 - Processor management (CPU Scheduling) ensures fair execution of multiple processes.

\nearrow Definition:

• **CPU Scheduling**: Method used by OS to decide which process in the ready queue will get CPU next.

Q8. Which allows users to interact with OS usually by typing commands?

- (a) Command Line Interface (CLI)
- (b) Editplus
- (c) WordPad
- (d) Graphical User Interface (GUI)
- ✓ Answer: (a) Command Line Interface (CLI)
- **Explanation**:
 - CLI = allows direct interaction with OS through commands.
 - GUI = allows interaction via graphical elements (icons, menus).

\nearrow Definition:

• **CLI**: Text-based user interface for interacting with OS.

Q9. Which is a correct statement for Safe State?

(ACF & FRO Exam, 23 Feb 2021)

- (a) A state in which there is at least one process that can run till completion.
- (b) The number of resources are less than or equal to allocations.
- (c) A safe state leads to a circular wait.
- (d) A safe state leads all processes to run to completion.
- ✓ Answer: (a) A state in which at least one process can run till completion
- Explanation:
 - Banker's Algorithm ensures system is in **Safe State** if **at least one process can finish** without deadlock.
- \nearrow Definition:
 - Safe State: Condition in resource allocation where deadlock is avoided.

Q10. Which is an essential file of a MS-DOS boot disk?

- (a) TREE.COM
- (b) START.COM
- (c) COMMAND.COM
- (d) VER.COM
- ✓ Answer: (c) COMMAND.COM
- **Explanation**:
 - COMMAND.COM = Command interpreter in DOS (loads user commands).
 - Other files like TREE.COM, VER.COM are utility files.

\nearrow Definition:

• **Boot Disk**: Storage device containing files to start OS.

Q11. Which is not a valid file organization method?

(ACF & FRO Exam, 23 Feb 2021)

- (a) Sequential Access
- (b) Circular Access
- (c) Direct Access
- (d) Indexed Sequential Access
- ✓ Answer: (b) Circular Access
- **Explanation**:
 - Valid methods: Sequential, Direct (Random), Indexed Sequential.
 - Circular access does not exist.
- \nearrow Definition:
 - **Sequential Access**: Records accessed in order.
 - **Direct Access**: Records accessed by key.

Q12. Which is not a valid state of a process in OS?

(ACF & FRO Exam, 23 Feb 2021)

- (a) New
- (b) Start
- (c) Running
- (d) Ready
- ✓ Answer: (b) Start
- **Explanation**:
 - Valid states: New, Ready, Running, Waiting, Terminated.
 - "Start" is not a standard state.

Q13. Which interface allows user to interact with OS by typing commands?

(Same as Q8, repeated)

- (a) Command Line Interface
- (b) Editplus
- (c) WordPad
- (d) GUI
- ✓ Answer: (a) Command Line Interface
- Explanation:
 - CLI directly allows command typing to interact with OS.