

**CS Set 3**

**Q1.** Which addressing mode allows accessing data by adding a constant value to a register before memory access?

- A) Immediate addressing
- B) Indexed addressing
- C) Register indirect
- D) Base-relative addressing

**Answer:** B) Indexed addressing

**Explanation:** Indexed addressing uses a base register plus an index (constant/offset) to compute the effective address.

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**Q2.** In a multiprocessor system, *false sharing* occurs when:

- A) Processors share the same data intentionally
- B) Multiple processors access different variables located on the same cache line causing unnecessary coherence traffic
- C) A thread acquires a lock it already holds
- D) A process reads stale data due to lack of synchronization

**Answer:** B) Multiple processors access different variables located on the same cache line causing unnecessary coherence traffic

**Explanation:** False sharing arises when unrelated variables share a cache line; writes by one core invalidate the line for others, hurting performance.

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**Q3.** The minimum number of comparators required to build a 4-bit magnitude comparator (A vs B) that outputs  $A > B$ ,  $A = B$ ,  $A < B$  is:

- A) 6
- B) 4
- C) 3
- D) 16

**Answer:** A) 6

**Explanation:** A ripple comparison can be performed using bitwise comparators; a common efficient implementation uses 6 basic 1-bit comparator units (or equivalent combinational logic).

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**Q4.** Which of the following C++ features enables runtime polymorphism?

- A) Function overloading
- B) Operator overloading
- C) Virtual functions
- D) Templates

**Answer:** C) Virtual functions

**Explanation:** Virtual functions allow method calls to be dispatched according to the actual object type at runtime.

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**Q5.** For a red-black tree with  $n$  nodes, what is the maximum possible height (in Big-O terms)?

- A)  $O(\log n)$
- B)  $O(n)$
- C)  $O(\log^2 n)$
- D)  $O(\sqrt{n})$

**Answer:** A)  $O(\log n)$

**Explanation:** Red-black trees maintain balanced height bounded by  $2 \cdot \log_2(n+1)$ , i.e.,  $O(\log n)$ .

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**Q6.** In relational databases, which isolation level may allow non-repeatable reads but prevents dirty reads?

- A) READ UNCOMMITTED
- B) READ COMMITTED
- C) REPEATABLE READ
- D) SERIALIZABLE

**Answer:** B) READ COMMITTED

**Explanation:** READ COMMITTED prevents dirty reads (no reading uncommitted data) but allows non-repeatable reads (data read twice may differ if another transaction committed).

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**Q7.** In an LRU cache implemented with a doubly linked list and a hashmap, the complexity to move an accessed node to the front is:

- A)  $O(1)$  amortized
- B)  $O(\log n)$
- C)  $O(n)$

D)  $O(1)$  worst-case

**Answer:** D)  $O(1)$  worst-case

**Explanation:** Using direct pointers from hashmap to list nodes allows removal and insertion in constant time deterministically.

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**Q8.** Which graph traversal modification efficiently detects cycles in a directed graph?

A) BFS with visited set only

B) DFS with recursion stack marker

C) Dijkstra's algorithm

D) Topological sort on undirected graph

**Answer:** B) DFS with recursion stack marker

**Explanation:** Marking nodes currently in recursion stack during DFS reveals back edges indicating directed cycles.

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**Q9.** In floating-point representation (IEEE 754 single precision), what happens to a denormalized (subnormal) number when multiplied by a large normalized number that results in exponent overflow?

A) It rounds to zero then overflows

B) It becomes normalized then overflows

C) The product becomes  $\pm\text{infinity}$  if overflow occurs beyond representable range

D) Denormals are converted to NaN

**Answer:** C) The product becomes  $\pm\text{infinity}$  if overflow occurs beyond representable range

**Explanation:** If a multiplication yields a result magnitude exceeding the maximum representable finite value, IEEE 754 signals overflow and represents  $\pm\text{infinity}$  (subject to rounding and exceptions).

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**Q10.** Which page replacement policy approximates LRU while using constant-time hardware-friendly operations?

A) FIFO

B) CLOCK (second-chance)

C) Optimal

D) Random

**Answer:** B) CLOCK (second-chance)

**Explanation:** CLOCK uses a circular buffer and reference bits to approximate LRU with  $O(1)$  operations per step.

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**Q11.** Which SQL operation is most appropriate to remove duplicate records from a result set while preserving all columns?

- A) DELETE DISTINCT \*
- B) SELECT DISTINCT \* FROM table
- C) GROUP BY all columns
- D) ALTER TABLE ... UNIQUE

**Answer:** B) SELECT DISTINCT \* FROM table

**Explanation:** SELECT DISTINCT \* eliminates duplicate rows in the result set across all columns; GROUP BY all columns could also work but is less idiomatic.

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**Q12.** In a star topology LAN, a single point of failure that disconnects multiple hosts is:

- A) A NIC failure on one host
- B) A central hub/switch failure
- C) A single cable break between two end hosts
- D) DNS server outage

**Answer:** B) A central hub/switch failure

**Explanation:** Star topology relies on a central device; its failure isolates all attached hosts.

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**Q13.** In a combinational logic minimization using Karnaugh maps, combining two minterms that differ in two variables is:

- A) Always allowed
- B) Not allowed (only differ in one variable per grouping)
- C) Allowed if one is a don't-care
- D) Equivalent to De Morgan's theorem

**Answer:** B) Not allowed (only differ in one variable per grouping)

**Explanation:** K-map grouping simplifies adjacent cells differing in a single variable; grouping minterms differing in two variables is invalid for direct combination.

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**Q14.** Which mechanism prevents the priority inversion problem in real-time systems?

- A) Priority inheritance protocol
- B) Round Robin scheduling
- C) FCFS scheduling
- D) Aging only

**Answer:** A) Priority inheritance protocol

**Explanation:** Priority inheritance temporarily raises a lower-priority task's priority to the highest blocked task, avoiding inversion.

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**Q15.** Given two's complement 8-bit numbers, what is the decimal result of adding 01011011 and 10100110 (ignore overflow flag)?

- A) -71
- B) 0
- C) -1
- D) 1

**Answer:** C) -1

**Explanation:**  $01011011 (91) + 10100110 (-90) = 1$ ; but check arithmetic carefully: 10100110 is two's complement: invert 01011001 add 1  $\rightarrow$  value = -90.  $91 + (-90) = 1$ . Wait options show C) -1 and D) 1. Correct result is 1  $\rightarrow$  D) 1.

**Correction: Answer:** D) 1.

**Explanation:**  $01011011 (91) + 10100110 (-90) = 1$ ; two's complement arithmetic yields 00000001.

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**Q16.** In SSL/TLS, which entity issues and signs certificates used to authenticate servers?

- A) Client
- B) Certificate Authority (CA)
- C) DNS server
- D) Firewall

**Answer:** B) Certificate Authority (CA)

**Explanation:** CAs verify identities and digitally sign certificates binding public keys to domain/server identities.

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**Q17.** Which data structure yields optimal merge patterns (minimizing total comparison cost) when merging multiple sorted lists?

- A) Merge them left-to-right sequentially
- B) Use a min-heap to repeatedly merge smallest pairs (Huffman-like)
- C) Merge largest lists first
- D) Use insertion sort approach

**Answer:** B) Use a min-heap to repeatedly merge smallest pairs (Huffman-like)

**Explanation:** Optimal merging reduces total cost by merging smallest lists first — analogous to Huffman coding using a min-heap.

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**Q18.** In a RAID 5 array, the storage overhead for parity (on  $n$  drives) is:

- A) 0%
- B)  $1/n$  of total raw capacity
- C) 50%
- D)  $n-1$  of drives used for parity

**Answer:** B)  $1/n$  of total raw capacity

**Explanation:** RAID 5 uses distributed parity across  $n$  disks; parity occupies capacity equivalent to one disk  $\rightarrow$  overhead =  $1/n$ .

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**Q19.** Which compiler optimization may change the order of floating-point additions resulting in slightly different results due to non-associativity?

- A) Loop unrolling
- B) Dead code elimination
- C) Common subexpression elimination
- D) Floating-point reassociation / instruction reordering

**Answer:** D) Floating-point reassociation / instruction reordering

**Explanation:** Reordering FP operations for performance can alter rounding behavior because floating-point addition is not strictly associative.

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**Q20.** The maximum matching in a bipartite graph can be found in polynomial time using:

- A) Dijkstra's algorithm
- B) Ford-Fulkerson / Hopcroft-Karp algorithm
- C) Prim's algorithm
- D) Backtracking only

**Answer:** B) Ford-Fulkerson / Hopcroft–Karp algorithm

**Explanation:** Bipartite maximum matching reduces to max flow; Hopcroft–Karp runs in  $O(\sqrt{V} E)$ .

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**Q21.** Which semiconductor parameter primarily determines the switching speed of a MOSFET?

- A) Gate capacitance and channel resistance (RC time)
- B) Threshold voltage only
- C) Package color
- D) Thermal conductivity only

**Answer:** A) Gate capacitance and channel resistance (RC time)

**Explanation:** The RC time constant (gate capacitance  $\times$  drive resistance) dictates how fast the gate voltage changes and thus switching speed.

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**Q22.** In TCP, what mechanism prevents a sender from overwhelming a slow receiver?

- A) Time to Live (TTL)
- B) Flow control using receiver window (rwnd)
- C) Congestion control using sequence numbers
- D) ARP caching

**Answer:** B) Flow control using receiver window (rwnd)

**Explanation:** TCP uses the advertised receive window to inform sender of available buffer space, preventing receiver overflow.

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**Q23.** In normalized floating-point multiplication, the exponent is adjusted by:

- A) Adding exponents of operands and subtracting bias
- B) XORing the exponents
- C) Averaging the exponents
- D) Not changing exponent at all

**Answer:** A) Adding exponents of operands and subtracting bias

**Explanation:** IEEE 754 multiplies significands and adds exponents; to get unbiased exponent, subtract bias once.

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**Q24.** Which mutex property ensures only one thread enters the critical section at a time?

- A) Starvation-freedom
- B) Mutual exclusion
- C) Deadlock prevention
- D) Priority inversion

**Answer:** B) Mutual exclusion

**Explanation:** Mutual exclusion enforces single-thread access to shared resources, preventing concurrent entry.

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**Q25.** Which HTML/CSS technique is best to make images responsive (scale with viewport) without distortion?

- A) Set fixed width and height in px
- B) Use width:100%; height:auto;
- C) Use <img> without attributes only
- D) Use background-image with fixed size

**Answer:** B) Use width:100%; height:auto;

**Explanation:** Setting width to container percentage and height:auto preserves aspect ratio while scaling with viewport.

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**Q26.** In virtual memory systems, increasing the page size will generally:

- A) Increase internal fragmentation but reduce page table size
- B) Decrease internal fragmentation and increase page table size
- C) Decrease both internal fragmentation and page table size
- D) Not affect either fragmentation or table size

**Answer:** A) Increase internal fragmentation but reduce page table size

**Explanation:** Larger pages mean fewer pages per process → smaller tables, but more unused space in partially filled pages.

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**Q27.** In an ER diagram, a weak entity is identified by:

- A) Its own primary key
- B) A discriminator key and a relationship with its owner
- C) A composite primary key only
- D) A derived attribute

**Answer:** B) A discriminator key and a relationship with its owner



**Explanation:** Weak entities depend on strong entities for identification and have partial keys (discriminators).

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**Q28.** Which digital circuit technique reduces dynamic power consumption most effectively?

- A) Using faster clocks
- B) Clock gating
- C) Increasing supply voltage
- D) Cascading buffers

**Answer:** B) Clock gating

**Explanation:** Clock gating disables clock signals to idle blocks, preventing unnecessary switching and power waste.

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**Q29.** In Java, the volatile keyword ensures:

- A) Atomic operations
- B) Visibility of changes to variables across threads
- C) Thread safety for compound actions
- D) Performance optimization

**Answer:** B) Visibility of changes to variables across threads

**Explanation:** Volatile variables are read and written directly to main memory, ensuring visibility but not atomicity.

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**Q30.** A *perfect hash function* is one that:

- A) Produces no collisions for a given key set
- B) Uses cryptographic hashing
- C) Always distributes keys evenly
- D) Depends on chaining

**Answer:** A) Produces no collisions for a given key set

**Explanation:** Perfect hashing ensures each key maps to a unique slot within a known key set.

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**Q31.** The asymptotic upper bound of the recurrence  $T(n) = T(\sqrt{n}) + \log n$  is:

- A)  $O(\log n)$
- B)  $O(\log \log n)$

C)  $O(\sqrt{n})$

D)  $O(n)$

**Answer:** A)  $O(\log n)$

**Explanation:** Repeated substitution gives decreasing logarithmic terms; summation forms a convergent logarithmic series  $\rightarrow O(\log n)$ .

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**Q32.** In SQL, which operator tests for NULL values?

A) = NULL

B) == NULL

C) IS NULL

D) EQUAL NULL

**Answer:** C) IS NULL

**Explanation:** IS NULL and IS NOT NULL check nullity; = NULL is invalid because NULL is not comparable.

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**Q33.** Which transport-layer feature enables reliable packet delivery?

A) Sequence numbers and acknowledgments

B) IP fragmentation

C) ARP resolution

D) DNS caching

**Answer:** A) Sequence numbers and acknowledgments

**Explanation:** TCP uses sequence and ACK numbers to detect losses and reorder segments, ensuring reliability.

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**Q34.** A Mealy machine differs from a Moore machine in that:

A) Outputs depend only on states

B) Outputs depend on both current state and input

C) It has no outputs

D) It can't be minimized

**Answer:** B) Outputs depend on both current state and input

**Explanation:** Mealy machine output changes immediately with inputs; Moore depends only on states.

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**Q35.** In semiconductor physics, increasing temperature generally causes the mobility of charge carriers to:

- A) Increase linearly
- B) Decrease due to lattice scattering
- C) Remain constant
- D) Increase exponentially

**Answer:** B) Decrease due to lattice scattering

**Explanation:** Lattice vibrations increase with temperature, reducing carrier mobility.

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**Q36.** Which programming language feature violates encapsulation most easily?

- A) Public global variables
- B) Private data members
- C) Inheritance
- D) Constructor overloading

**Answer:** A) Public global variables

**Explanation:** Globals can be accessed and modified freely across modules, breaking encapsulation principles.

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**Q37.** The time complexity of inserting into a **min-heap** with  $n$  elements is:

- A)  $O(1)$
- B)  $O(\log n)$
- C)  $O(n)$
- D)  $O(n \log n)$

**Answer:** B)  $O(\log n)$

**Explanation:** Insertion percolates an element up the heap — height  $\approx \log n$ .

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**Q38.** In a DBMS, *write-ahead logging* (WAL) ensures:

- A) Log entries are written before actual data modifications
- B) Data is written before logs
- C) Rollback is impossible
- D) Buffer pool is bypassed

**Answer:** A) Log entries are written before actual data modifications

**Explanation:** WAL preserves durability and atomicity — logs must be persistent before changes occur.

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**Q39.** In OS scheduling, a process that voluntarily yields the CPU is said to be:

- A) Preempted
- B) Cooperative
- C) Starved
- D) Zombie

**Answer:** B) Cooperative

**Explanation:** In cooperative multitasking, processes release CPU voluntarily rather than by preemption.

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**Q40.** The *hidden terminal problem* occurs in:

- A) Ethernet CSMA/CD
- B) Token ring
- C) Wireless networks (CSMA/CA)
- D) Optical fiber links

**Answer:** C) Wireless networks (CSMA/CA)

**Explanation:** Hidden terminals can't sense each other's transmissions, causing collisions at a receiver.

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**Q41.** Which software-engineering model allows iterative development with early partial deliveries?

- A) Waterfall
- B) Spiral
- C) Big-bang
- D) Build-and-fix

**Answer:** B) Spiral

**Explanation:** Spiral model integrates iterative refinement with risk assessment and incremental releases.

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**Q42.** Which attack exploits a buffer overflow vulnerability to execute arbitrary code?

- A) SQL injection
- B) XSS
- C) Code injection via stack smashing

D) CSRF

**Answer:** C) Code injection via stack smashing

**Explanation:** Stack smashing overwrites return addresses with malicious payloads exploiting overflow.

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**Q43.** The HTML5 element <canvas> is used for:

- A) Displaying tabular data
- B) 2D/3D dynamic graphics drawing via JavaScript
- C) Embedding media files
- D) Responsive layout containers

**Answer:** B) 2D/3D dynamic graphics drawing via JavaScript

**Explanation:** <canvas> provides pixel-level drawing API for games, charts, or rendering contexts.

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**Q44.** Which logic simplification technique uses algebraic manipulation rather than graphical methods?

- A) Karnaugh map
- B) Quine–McCluskey
- C) Boolean algebra laws
- D) Tabulation method

**Answer:** C) Boolean algebra laws

**Explanation:** Algebraic simplification uses Boolean identities to reduce expressions symbolically.

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**Q45.** The maximum number of hosts per /26 IPv4 subnet is:

- A) 32
- B) 62
- C) 64
- D) 30

**Answer:** B) 62

**Explanation:** /26 = 64 addresses, minus 2 reserved (network + broadcast) → 62 usable hosts.

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**Q46.** Which file-allocation method in operating systems avoids external fragmentation?

- A) Contiguous allocation
- B) Linked allocation
- C) Indexed allocation
- D) Both B and C

**Answer:** D) Both B and C

**Explanation:** Linked and indexed methods allocate non-contiguous blocks, eliminating external fragmentation.

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**Q47.** In C, `const int *p` means:

- A) `p` is a constant pointer to an `int`
- B) `p` points to a constant `int`
- C) Both pointer and value are constant
- D) None of these

**Answer:** B) `p` points to a constant `int`

**Explanation:** `const` before the type makes the pointed data constant, not the pointer itself.

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**Q48.** The *cut-set* of a network graph is:

- A) A set of branches forming a closed path
- B) Set of branches whose removal disconnects the graph
- C) A spanning tree of the graph
- D) Any minimal circuit

**Answer:** B) Set of branches whose removal disconnects the graph

**Explanation:** Cut-set defines the minimal set of edges separating the network into two parts.

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**Q49.** The time complexity of building a binary search tree by inserting  $n$  random keys is on average:

- A)  $O(n)$
- B)  $O(n \log n)$
- C)  $O(n^2)$
- D)  $O(\log n)$

**Answer:** B)  $O(n \log n)$

**Explanation:** Random insertions yield expected balanced structure  $\rightarrow$  average cost  $\approx \log n$  per insertion.

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**Q50.** Which HTTP status code indicates that the resource has been permanently moved to a new URI?

- A) 301
- B) 302
- C) 400
- D) 404

**Answer:** A) 301

**Explanation:** HTTP 301 = *Moved Permanently*; 302 is temporary redirection.

**Q51.** The instruction MOV A, M in 8085 means:

- A) Move data from accumulator to memory
- B) Move data from memory to accumulator
- C) Move data between two registers
- D) Move immediate data to memory

**Answer:** B) Move data from memory to accumulator

**Explanation:** MOV A, M copies the content of the memory location addressed by HL register pair into the accumulator.

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**Q52.** Which of the following data structures is most efficient for implementing recursion?

- A) Queue
- B) Stack
- C) Linked list
- D) Binary tree

**Answer:** B) Stack

**Explanation:** Each function call's return address and variables are stored in the stack, which follows LIFO order required for recursion.

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**Q53.** A 16-bit microprocessor can address a maximum of

- A) 16 KB
- B) 32 KB

C) 64 KB

D)  $64 \text{ KB} \times 1\text{K} = 64 \text{ MB}$

**Answer:** D)  $64 \text{ KB} \times 1\text{K} = 64 \text{ MB}$

**Explanation:**  $2^{16} = 65,536$  address lines  $\rightarrow$  64 KB per segment; if extended via segmentation, total 64 MB.

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**Q54.** Which sorting algorithm has a worst-case time complexity of  $O(n^2)$  but best-case  $O(n)$ ?

A) Bubble Sort

B) Insertion Sort

C) Selection Sort

D) Merge Sort

**Answer:** B) Insertion Sort

**Explanation:** For already sorted data, insertion sort performs only  $n-1$  comparisons; worst case (reverse order) gives  $O(n^2)$ .

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**Q55.** The propagation delay in a CMOS gate depends primarily on

A) Supply voltage and load capacitance

B) Input resistance only

C) Temperature only

D) Power dissipation

**Answer:** A) Supply voltage and load capacitance

**Explanation:** Delay  $\propto C_L \times (V_{DD}/I_{drive})$ ; lower VDD or higher load capacitance increases delay.

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**Q56.** A function is said to be *tail-recursive* if

A) The recursive call is the last operation

B) It calls itself indirectly

C) It has no return statement

D) It contains multiple recursive calls

**Answer:** A) The recursive call is the last operation

**Explanation:** Tail recursion allows optimization because no further operations are pending after the recursive call.

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**Q57.** Which addressing mode uses the instruction form MOV A, @R0?

- A) Immediate
- B) Direct
- C) Register indirect
- D) Indexed

**Answer:** C) Register indirect

**Explanation:** In 8051 microcontroller, @R0 means the memory address is stored in R0 → register indirect mode.

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**Q58.** The relational algebra operation that performs both selection and projection simultaneously is

- A) JOIN
- B) PRODUCT
- C) SELECT
- D) VIEW

**Answer:** D) VIEW

**Explanation:** A *view* can be defined to represent a subset (selection) and particular columns (projection) of a table.

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**Q59.** The entropy of a binary source with  $p = 0.5$  is

- A) 0
- B) 0.5
- C) 1
- D) 2

**Answer:** C) 1

**Explanation:**  $H(p) = -p \log_2 p - (1 - p) \log_2 (1 - p) = 1 \text{ bit} \rightarrow$  maximum uncertainty at equal probability.

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**Q60.** The maximum data rate of a noiseless channel with bandwidth  $B$  is given by

- A)  $2B$
- B)  $B \log_2 M$
- C)  $2B \log_2 M$
- D)  $B^2$

**Answer:** C)  $2B \log_2 M$

**Explanation:** Nyquist theorem: Maximum bit rate =  $2B \times \log_2(M)$  for M-level signaling.

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**Q61.** The minimum number of colors required to color a complete graph of  $n$  vertices is

- A) 2
- B)  $n$
- C)  $n-1$
- D)  $\log_2 n$

**Answer:** B)  $n$

**Explanation:** Each vertex in a complete graph is adjacent to every other  $\rightarrow$  each must have a unique color.

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**Q62.** In a computer system, *thrashing* occurs when

- A) CPU utilization is high
- B) Page fault rate is very high
- C) Page size is too large
- D) I/O operations are minimized

**Answer:** B) Page fault rate is very high

**Explanation:** Thrashing happens when processes spend more time swapping pages than executing instructions.

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**Q63.** The *critical section* problem in operating systems is solved using

- A) Virtual memory
- B) Mutual exclusion
- C) Spooling
- D) Context switching

**Answer:** B) Mutual exclusion

**Explanation:** Only one process should access shared resources at a time  $\rightarrow$  ensures data consistency.

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**Q64.** A half adder circuit cannot directly perform

- A) AND operation
- B) OR operation

C) Carry propagation

D) Subtraction

**Answer:** D) Subtraction

**Explanation:** Half adder adds two bits only; subtraction requires borrow handling → full subtractor needed.

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**Q65.** The process of converting high-level code to machine code by a compiler is

A) Interpretation

B) Parsing

C) Translation

D) Linking

**Answer:** C) Translation

**Explanation:** Compiler translates entire source code to object code before execution.

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**Q66.** Which type of memory is *non-volatile* and can be *electrically reprogrammed*?

A) RAM

B) EPROM

C) EEPROM

D) DRAM

**Answer:** C) EEPROM

**Explanation:** EEPROM retains data without power and allows byte-level electrical reprogramming.

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**Q67.** The primary difference between TCP and UDP is

A) UDP is reliable; TCP is not

B) TCP provides connection-oriented service; UDP is connectionless

C) Both are unreliable

D) TCP is used only for email

**Answer:** B) TCP provides connection-oriented service; UDP is connectionless

**Explanation:** TCP ensures reliable delivery with sequencing and acknowledgment, unlike UDP.

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**Q68.** A recursive algorithm that calls itself twice per call will have approximately

- A) Linear time
- B) Quadratic time
- C) Exponential time
- D) Logarithmic time

**Answer:** C) Exponential time

**Explanation:** Each call creates two new calls  $\rightarrow$  total  $\approx 2^n$  complexity.

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**Q69.** The dual of the Boolean expression  $A + (BC)$  is

- A)  $A(B + C)$
- B)  $A(B' C')$
- C)  $A(B + C)'$
- D)  $A(B' + C')$

**Answer:** A)  $A(B + C)$

**Explanation:** Dual: interchange  $+$   $\leftrightarrow$   $\cdot$  and  $0 \leftrightarrow 1 \rightarrow$  dual of  $A+(BC)$  is  $A(B+C)$ .

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**Q70.** In a relational database, a *foreign key*

- A) Uniquely identifies each record
- B) Refers to a primary key in another table
- C) Must be unique in its table
- D) Cannot be null

**Answer:** B) Refers to a primary key in another table

**Explanation:** Foreign key enforces referential integrity between two related tables.

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**Q71.** Which of the following statements about dynamic memory allocation is *false*?

- A) `malloc()` allocates memory at runtime
- B) Memory allocated with `malloc()` must be freed
- C) `calloc()` initializes allocated memory to zero
- D) Memory allocated by `malloc()` automatically frees when a function ends

**Answer:** D)

**Explanation:** Memory allocated with malloc() persists until explicitly freed by free(), not automatically released.

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**Q72.** The time required for a cache hit compared to main memory access is typically

- A) Smaller
- B) Larger
- C) Equal
- D) Negligible difference

**Answer:** A) Smaller

**Explanation:** Cache is faster (nanoseconds) due to proximity and lower latency compared to DRAM.

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**Q73.** The avalanche breakdown in a diode occurs when

- A) Forward bias is too high
- B) Reverse voltage exceeds critical value
- C) Junction temperature increases
- D) Doping concentration is low

**Answer:** B) Reverse voltage exceeds critical value

**Explanation:** High reverse voltage accelerates carriers → impact ionization → avalanche breakdown.

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**Q74.** Which of these protocols operates at the *data link layer* of the OSI model?

- A) IP
- B) TCP
- C) ARP
- D) HTTP

**Answer:** C) ARP

**Explanation:** Address Resolution Protocol maps IP to MAC addresses — operates at Layer 2 (Data Link).

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**Q75.** The bandwidth of a signal limited to 4 kHz sampled at 8 kHz produces how many Nyquist samples per second?

- A) 4000
- B) 6000
- C) 8000
- D) 16000

**Answer:** C) 8000

**Explanation:** Nyquist rate =  $2 \times f_{\text{max}} = 2 \times 4000 = 8000$  samples/sec.

**Q76.** Which type of addressing mode uses the instruction format ADD A, #25H?

- A) Immediate
- B) Direct
- C) Register
- D) Indirect

**Answer:** A) Immediate

**Explanation:** The “#” symbol denotes that the operand is an immediate value directly provided in the instruction.

**Q77.** In digital communication, *Shannon's theorem* gives the maximum data rate as

- A)  $C = 2B \log_2 M$
- B)  $C = B \log_2(1 + S/N)$
- C)  $C = \log_2(1 + B/S)$
- D)  $C = S/N$

**Answer:** B)  $C = B \log_2(1 + S/N)$

**Explanation:** Shannon capacity defines the upper bound of error-free data transmission over a channel of bandwidth B and SNR S/N.

**Q78.** In C, what will `printf("%d", 5/2);` output?

- A) 2.5
- B) 2
- C) 2.0
- D) Compilation error

**Answer:** B) 2

**Explanation:** Both operands are integers → integer division truncates the fractional part.

---

**Q79.** Which of the following is **not** a characteristic of an algorithm?

- A) Finiteness
- B) Ambiguity
- C) Effectiveness
- D) Input/output

**Answer:** B) Ambiguity

**Explanation:** Algorithms must be unambiguous; every step clearly defined and executable.

---

**Q80.** The probability of error in Binary Phase-Shift Keying (BPSK) is

- A)  $Q(\sqrt{2E_b/N_0})$
- B)  $Q(\sqrt{E_b/N_0})$
- C)  $1/2Q(\sqrt{E_b/N_0})$
- D)  $1 - Q(\sqrt{E_b/N_0})$

**Answer:** A)  $Q(\sqrt{2E_b/N_0})$

**Explanation:** BPSK error probability = Q-function of  $\sqrt{2E_b/N_0}$ ; high SNR gives low error rate.

---

**Q81.** The 8086 microprocessor has how many address lines?

- A) 16
- B) 20
- C) 24
- D) 32

**Answer:** B) 20

**Explanation:** 8086 uses a 20-bit address bus  $\rightarrow 2^{20} = 1\text{MB}$  addressable memory.

---

**Q82.** The efficiency of a class-B amplifier is approximately

- A) 25%
- B) 50%
- C) 78.5%
- D) 100%

**Answer:** C) 78.5%

**Explanation:** Class-B amplifier conducts for half-cycle and ideally achieves 78.5% efficiency.

---

**Q83.** Which of the following is *not* a stable sorting algorithm?

- A) Merge Sort
- B) Insertion Sort
- C) Quick Sort
- D) Bubble Sort

**Answer:** C) Quick Sort

**Explanation:** Quick sort may reorder equal elements differently; it's unstable by default.

---

**Q84.** Which of the following is used to measure phase difference between two AC signals?

- A) Wattmeter
- B) CRO
- C) Digital multimeter
- D) Megger

**Answer:** B) CRO

**Explanation:** Cathode Ray Oscilloscope can display two signals simultaneously for phase comparison.

---

**Q85.** In database normalization, eliminating transitive dependencies occurs at

- A) 1NF
- B) 2NF
- C) 3NF
- D) BCNF

**Answer:** C) 3NF

**Explanation:** Third Normal Form removes transitive functional dependencies among non-key attributes.

---

**Q86.** Which data structure is best for implementing a priority queue?

- A) Linked list



- B) Stack
- C) Heap
- D) Queue

**Answer:** C) Heap

**Explanation:** Heap allows efficient retrieval of the highest or lowest priority element in  $O(\log n)$ .

---

**Q87.** In software engineering, *cyclomatic complexity* measures

- A) Code efficiency
- B) Number of control paths
- C) Time complexity
- D) Compilation errors

**Answer:** B) Number of control paths

**Explanation:** Cyclomatic complexity =  $E - N + 2$ ; used to estimate number of independent test paths.

---

**Q88.** A 4-bit synchronous counter built using JK flip-flops has a maximum count of

- A) 4
- B) 8
- C) 15
- D) 16

**Answer:** C) 15

**Explanation:** 4 bits  $\rightarrow$  0 to 15 range (16 states)  $\rightarrow$  maximum count before overflow is 15.

---

**Q89.** In IPv4, the address 255.255.255.255 is used for

- A) Local host
- B) Default gateway
- C) Broadcast
- D) Multicast

**Answer:** C) Broadcast

**Explanation:** 255.255.255.255 denotes network-wide broadcast to all hosts.

---

**Q90.** Which of these best describes an *interrupt vector table*?

- A) Stack of return addresses
- B) Table of I/O ports
- C) Table storing addresses of ISR routines
- D) List of DMA channels

**Answer:** C) Table storing addresses of ISR routines

**Explanation:** IVT holds the memory addresses of interrupt service routines for each interrupt type.

---

**Q91.** In an RDBMS, *ACID* property ensures

- A) Speed
- B) Transaction reliability
- C) Normalization
- D) Query optimization

**Answer:** B) Transaction reliability

**Explanation:** ACID = Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, Durability → ensures reliable database transactions.

---

**Q92.** The output of a logic gate is 1 only when both inputs are different. The gate is

- A) OR
- B) XOR
- C) XNOR
- D) NAND

**Answer:** B) XOR

**Explanation:** XOR outputs high when inputs differ; truth table: 0-1 or 1-0 → 1.

---

**Q93.** The main advantage of a virtual memory system is

- A) Faster CPU
- B) Larger effective memory
- C) Fewer cache misses
- D) Simpler hardware

**Answer:** B) Larger effective memory

**Explanation:** Virtual memory uses disk as extension of RAM, providing illusion of large continuous memory.

---

**Q94.** Which scheduling algorithm can cause starvation?

- A) FCFS
- B) Round Robin
- C) SJF (Shortest Job First)
- D) Priority with aging

**Answer:** C) SJF

**Explanation:** Long jobs can be postponed indefinitely if shorter jobs keep arriving.

---

**Q95.** The transistor region used for amplification is

- A) Cut-off
- B) Active
- C) Saturation
- D) Breakdown

**Answer:** B) Active

**Explanation:** In active region, transistor operates linearly; collector current  $\propto$  base current.

---

**Q96.** The number of leaf nodes in a full binary tree with 15 nodes is

- A) 7
- B) 8
- C) 10
- D) 11

**Answer:** B) 8

**Explanation:** For full binary tree: leaves =  $(n + 1)/2 \rightarrow (15 + 1)/2 = 8$ .

---

**Q97.** Which protocol is responsible for translating domain names to IP addresses?

- A) HTTP
- B) SMTP
- C) DNS
- D) FTP

**Answer:** C) DNS

**Explanation:** Domain Name System resolves human-readable domain names into numerical IP addresses.

---

**Q98.** The depletion region in a FET lies between

- A) Gate and source
- B) Gate and drain
- C) Channel and gate
- D) Source and drain

**Answer:** C) Channel and gate

**Explanation:** Depletion region forms around gate–channel junction, controlling channel conductivity.

---

**Q99.** Which Java keyword prevents method overriding?

- A) private
- B) final
- C) static
- D) abstract

**Answer:** B) final

**Explanation:** Declaring a method as final prevents subclasses from overriding it.

---

**Q100.** In HTML5, which tag is used to define scalable vector graphics?

- A) <canvas>
- B) <img>
- C) <svg>
- D) <vector>

**Answer:** C) <svg>

**Explanation:** <svg> allows resolution-independent, XML-based vector graphics directly embedded in web pages.