1. What is UNIX?  
a) an operating system  
b) a text editor  
c) programming language  
d) software program

Answer: a  
Explanation: UNIX is an operating system developed in the early 1970’s at Bell Labs by Dennis Ritchie, Ken Thompson, and others. It is a multiuser, multitasking and timesharing operating system. The power of UNIX is derived from its commands and their multiple options.

2. In which language UNIX is written?  
a) JAVA  
b) Python  
c) C++  
d) C

Answer: d  
Explanation: UNIX was originally written in Assembly language but Dennis Ritchie and Ken Thompson wanted an operating system which could run on more than one type of hardware. So in 1973, they rewrote the whole operating system in C language due to which one of the strongest features i.e. portability was added to the operating system.

3. Which of the following is not a feature of UNIX?  
a) multitasking  
b) multiuser  
c) portability  
d) easy to use

Answer: d  
Explanation: UNIX is a multitasking operating system i.e. a user can run multiple tasks concurrently. Similarly, it is a multiuser system because it permits working with multiple users on a single operating system. But a major disadvantage of UNIX lies in the fact that the richness provided by its commands requires a special type of commitment to understand the subject. i.e. the user must be well aware of commands he is using and the functions performed by them.

4. Shell is a command interpreter used for interacting with a UNIX system.  
a) True  
b) False

Answer: a  
Explanation: Computers don’t have any capability of translating commands into actions. To do so we require shell-a command interpreter which translates our commands into actions. It is actually the interface between the user and kernel. There could be multiple shells in action on a single system.

5. Which part of the UNIX operating system interacts with the hardware?  
a) Kernel  
b) Shell  
c) vi editor  
d) application program

Answer: a  
Explanation: The kernel is the core of the operating system. It is a collection of routines written in C which directly communicates with the hardware. User programs that need to interact with the hardware access the services of the kernel. There is only one kernel running on a system, unlike shells which can be multiple.

6. What is a superuser?  
a) system manager  
b) normal user  
c) administrator  
d) a user with special rights

Answer: a  
Explanation: A superuser (root) is the UNIX system manager which can perform special tasks like killing any executing program, resetting other users passwords, change users permissions and performing other system management tasks. The administrator can switch to superuser by issuing su command.