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CS 341 Lecture Handout #4
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Q1 Thinking about pointers...

```
1: int ***** ptr;
```

Q2. Using read():

```
ssize_t read(int fd, void *buf, size_t count);
```

...what type of call is read?

...how would we use it?

```
1:
2:
3:
```

Q3. Using scanf():

```
int scanf(const char * format, ...);
```

In scanf, the format string is the same as printf except that every type must be passed by reference to be written into by scanf:

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scanf return value (and why is it useful)?

Example:

```
1: int num; char c;
2: int result = scanf("%d %c", &num, &c);
3: printf("Values: %d %c\n", num, c);
4: printf("Return value: %d\n", result);
```

...what is the return value for the input: 7 hello

...what is the return value for the input: 6 (...followed by an EOF)

Q4 fscanf, scanf, sscanf?

```
10,23
20,25
30,37
```

How can I read and process my data?

```
1: FILE *file = fopen("mydata.csv","r");
2: 3:
```

Q5. Using getline():

```
ssize_t getline(char **lineptr, size_t *n, FILE *stream);
```

The C-string passed by reference as lineptr will store the line; the size of the memory allocated in lineptr must be stored in n (to avoid overflow). Additionally:

```
If *lineptr is set to NULL and *n is set 0 before the call, then getline() will allocate a buffer for storing the line. This buffer should be freed by the user program even if getline() failed.
```

...found in man getline

Example usage:

```
1: char *s = NULL;

2: int n = 0;

3: getline(&s, &n, stdin);

4: getline(&s, &n, stdin);

5:

...
n: free(s);
```

Q6. Processes: What are they? Can I have new one? A process is the base computation container on Linux; multiple processes allow for multiple separate (and parallel) execution.

Is there a system call to make a new process?

Q7. Environmental VariablesA process-specific dictionary that stores information about the execution environment:

- Command line:
- C programming: