Review Questions – Chapters 1 and 2

Operating Systems SFWRENG 3SH3 Term 2, Winter 2023
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1 Distinguish between system and application programs.

2 Explain the purpose and significance of an interrupt vector.

3 What is a bootstrap program, and where is it stored?

4 What role do device controllers and device drivers play in a computer system?

5 What are the advantages of using a multi-core system?

6 Why are at least two modes (kernel and user mode) necessary in a computer system?

7 What are the advantages and disadvantages of the microkernel approach to structure an Operating System?

8 What are the advantages and disadvantages of the Modular approach to structure an Operating System? Why should every operating system support modules?

9 What are System Calls and what are they used for? Is it true that all system calls are programmed in high level languages? Justify your answer.

10 Why do you need an API to access system calls? What are the advantages of using the System call Interface?

11 What are system daemons? What are the advantages of using system programs. Why not include their functionality in the operating system itself?