Operating Systems Spring 2015 – Quiz 2

1. When a program executes a system call, what mode does the system have to swit	ch to?
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Kernel mode

2. What is the purpose of a system call?

A system call is a request to the OS to take some action on behalf of the calling program.

3. Suppose you execute the command:

./myscript.sh

What does the '.' character mean?

It means look for this script in the current directory.

4. Suppose the first line of the file myscript.sh is:

#!/bin/bash

• What is the purpose of this line in the script file?

It is a comment but it also tells the name and location of the shell that is meant to run this script (in this case use bash, and the bash program is in /bin)

• In general, what does the '#' character mean in shell scripts?

It is the comment character – everything after it on a line is ignored (treated as a comment, not interpreted)

5. What will happen if you execute the following command?

The current working directory will be changed to the parent of the parent of the current working directory — the current working directory will move 2 directories up.