CS 241 #3 A day at the C Side

Q1 Puzzle 1: What is the value of p[strlen(p)], if p points to "Sys"?

Hint: strlen("") ==0 strlen("@") ==1, strlen(NULL) ==#@?#WT?!

Q2: How do I find out how to use

__< useful function or system call here>__?

```
$
```

Puzzle 2: How do I find out how to use stat in C?

What are the manual sections?

- Section 2:
- Section 3:
- Section 7:

Q3: How do I allocate and free heap memory in C?

- Allocate:
- Free:

Can I make a pointer really free by freeing it twice?

What do we call a pointer that has been free'd?

Best Practice: Always set free'd pointers to NULL.

```
1: // ... code ...
2: free(ptr);
3: ptr = 0;
```

Q4 Puzzle 3: Fix a custom string concat (append) function:

```
void mystrcat(char *dest, const char *src) {
 2:
 3:
 4:
       while (*src) {
 5:
 6:
 7:
         dest = src;
 8:
9:
10:
         src++; dest++;
11:
12:
13:
14:
```

Puzzle 4 - Walk Through

Type	Variable	Memory Addr.
const char *	src	0x1000
char *	dest	0x2000

- ⇒ Line 3: What does (*src) do?
- ⇒ Line 4: What does (dest = src) do?
- ⇒ **Line 3..9:** When does the loop exit?

Address	Memory	
	Contents	
1000	i,	
1001	'2'	
1002	'B'	
1003	'\0'	
2000	'2'	
2001	'B'	
2002	' '	
2003	'\0'	
2004		
2005		
2006		

Q5. Puzzle 5: Fix my custom string duplication function

```
1: char *mystrdup(const char *src) {
2:
3:
4: char *p = sizeof(src);
5:
6:
7: strcpy(src, p);
8:
9:
10: return p;
11: }
```

Q6: What is the purpose of a file stream, just files?

A "file stream" (or "file descriptor" in system calls) is the base interface to EVERYTHING external to RAM. This includes:

•

•

•

Standard Streams:

```
o stdin:
```

o stdout:

o stderr:

Q7: Writing to file streams: fprintf

What if the output of the following code snippet?

```
1: fprintf(stderr, "CS 241: ");
2: fprintf(stdout, "System ");
3: fprintf(stderr, "Programming ");
4: fprintf(stdout, "\n");
```

⇒ Result:

Q8: What is asprintf()?

```
int asprintf(char **strp, const char *fmt, ...)
```

```
    char **strp:
```

⇒ const char *fmt:

Q9. Puzzle 6: Pointer Arithmetic

```
1:  // Count the number of elements in an int-array
2:  // until a number > 100 appears in the array:
3:  int count (int *start) {
   int *ptr = start;
5:
   6:
   7:
   8:
   9:
   10:   return ____ / ____;
11: }
```

Q10 Debug Less: Use assert e.g. assert(ptr && counter > 5); C provides the library macro assert that be used to find bugs in debugging and completely disappear in production code! Two modes:

- Debug mode (-g flag to add useful debugging info for the debugger):
- Production mode (#NDEBUG):

Best Practice: Always assert pre-conditions and assumptions.

Puzzle 7: Putting it altogether

```
// Sum an array of positive numbers, storing
 2:
     // the result in `result` (by ref)
 3:
     // and use asprintf to return a text version of result
 4:
     char* mysum(const int *ptr, int *result) {
 5:
 6:
 7:
 8:
 9:
       while ( *ptr ) {
10:
11:
12:
         sum += *(ptr++);
13:
14:
15:
16:
       char *text = NULL;
17:
18:
       asprintf(
19:
       return text;
20:
21:
```