

✅ CODE EXPLANATION (Line-by-line)

// IPC using PIPE (unidirectional: parent sends, child receives)

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

- `stdio.h` – for input/output functions like `printf`
- `unistd.h` – contains `pipe()`, `fork()`, `read()`, `write()`

```
int main() {
```

```
    int fd[2];    // fd[0] = read end, fd[1] = write end
```

```
    pipe(fd);    // Create pipe
```

- `fd[0]` → read end of pipe
- `fd[1]` → write end of pipe
- `pipe(fd)` creates a communication channel.
 - If successful, returns 0
 - Data written to `fd[1]` can be read from `fd[0]`

```
    int pid = fork(); // Create child process
```

- `fork()` creates a **child process**
- Returns:
 - `> 0` → running in **parent**
 - `0` → running in **child**
 - `< 0` → error

👤 Parent Process Code

```
if (pid > 0) {    // Parent Process
```

```
    close(fd[0]); // Close read end
```

```
    char msg[] = "Hello from Parent!";
```

```
    write(fd[1], msg, sizeof(msg));
```

```
    close(fd[1]);
```

```
}
```

- Parent **does not read**, so `close(fd[0])`

- Writes the message "Hello from Parent!" to the pipe using write()
 - sizeof(msg) ensures full string is sent including \0 (null terminator)
 - Closes writing end after sending
-

Child Process Code

```
else {           // Child Process

    close(fd[1]); // Close write end

    char buffer[50];

    read(fd[0], buffer, sizeof(buffer));

    printf("Child received: %s\n", buffer);

    close(fd[0]);

}
```

- Child **does not write**, so close(fd[1])
 - Reads data sent by parent into buffer
 - Prints the received message
 - Closes the reading end
-

```
return 0;

}
```

OUTPUT

Child received: Hello from Parent!

THEORY FOR PRACTICAL EXAM

What is IPC?

IPC (Inter-Process Communication) allows processes to communicate and share data with each other.

What is a Pipe?

A **pipe** is a **unidirectional** communication channel used between related processes (like parent-child).

◆ Types of Pipes

Type	Direction	Use
Unidirectional Pipe	One-way (Parent → Child OR Child → Parent)	Default in UNIX
Bidirectional Pipe	Two-way	Requires socket or two pipes

◆ Properties of Pipe

- ✓ Works in **one direction**
- ✓ **Half-duplex** communication
- ✓ Exists **only in memory** (not file)
- ✓ Automatically deleted after program ends
- ✓ Requires **related processes** (via fork())

◆ Pipe Ends

fd index Meaning

fd[0] Read end

fd[1] Write end

🔄 ALGORITHM

1. Create a pipe using pipe(fd)
2. Call fork() to create child process
3. In **parent**:
 - Close read end (fd[0])
 - Write data to pipe (fd[1])
4. In **child**:
 - Close write end (fd[1])
 - Read data (fd[0])
5. Display received data
6. Close unused pipe ends

✓ ADVANTAGES

Advantage

Simple and fast way of IPC

No special permissions needed

Works well between parent-child processes

Efficient in memory (buffer-based)

✖ DISADVANTAGES

Disadvantage

Unidirectional (one-way)

Only works for related processes (via fork)

Limited buffer size

Cannot send complex data structures directly