

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**:
 - o Close read end (fd[0])
 - o Write data to pipe (fd[1])
 4. In **child**:
 - o Close write end (fd[1])
 - o 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