

- **[Question 1 (5 pts)] In your own words, what is the difference between internationalization and localization?**

In short, I would differ both saying that internationalization is the process of preparing software to receive localization easily and properly. Internationalized software allows simple adaptations for the required local particularities, like languages, date formats, measure units and currencies. Localization is process of adding these adaptations, once the software has offered this possibility through internationalization.

- **[Question 2 (5 pts)] Why is internationalization and localization important in software? Give an example to illustrate the need for i18n and l10n.**

Internationalization and localization are important because they:

1. Increase the amount of potential users of the software;
2. Improve user experience with a familiar interface;
3. Stimulate the use of good software patterns to work properly (and without dev. pain);
4. Stimulate customizability and allow non-technical people to access/modify the interface content;

One clear example of the need for i18n and l10n can be found in social networks applications like Facebook. Since the application depends on its popularity among a huge set of people, it is almost mandatory that the application localize itself properly in order to capture user's attention and fidelity. Any software that tries to be free from cultural assumptions in order to achieve the points listed above depends on good i18n and l10n.