a) Where is GLib from and why does it exist?  Who uses it, and for what?  Would it have been better if they had given it a name less likely to be confused with glibc?

Glib was developed by the GNOME community, as a spin off from another project, GTK+, which was a GNOME platform specific library. Glib was made for users who didn’t want to work with a library that was dependent on a GUI library. It is now used as an interface with various OS’s

Because of its cross platform compatibility. And yes, it would have been nice if it weren’t 2 capitalizations and 1 letter off from glibc.

b) What are the most important pros and cons of using GLib, as opposed to another library, or just using core C features?

GLib provides many functions and data structures that are more developed than the core C features. The Glib library’s power comes from its versatility (multi-platformed) and usefulness (simplifying data structures and functions). However, as use of all libraries go, it gives the programmer less control over the code and the specifics of data structure and function implementations.

c) What do you have to do to compile and run a "Hello GLib" example?

On LINUX, after some initial package configuration, the line is:

“cc hello.c `pkg-config --cflags --libs glib-2.0` -o hello