

Meeting 3

Software and Operating System

Definition

Software refers to parts of the computer which do not have a material form, such as programs, data, protocols, etc. When software is stored in hardware that cannot easily be modified (such as [BIOS ROM](#) in an [IBM PC compatible](#)), it is sometimes called "firmware" to indicate that it falls into an uncertain area somewhere between hardware and software.

Operating Sytems Software

The operating system is a special type of program that loads automatically when you start your computer.

The operating system allows you to use the advanced features of a modern computer without having to learn all the details of how the hardware works. The link between the hardware and you, the user. Makes the computer easy to use without having to understand bits and bytes!

Application software

An application program is the type of program that you use once the operating system has been loaded.

Examples include word-processing programs, spreadsheets and databases

Example Operating System :

Windows : Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows Me, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7

Linux : Red Hat, Ubuntu, GNOME, KDE

Mac OS : Mac OS Classic, Mac OS X

Example Application

- Microsoft Office
- Payroll
- Presentation tools
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Desktop publishing
- Adobe Photoshop
- Multimedia applications
- Microsoft's Encarta CD-ROM based
- Encyclopaedias

Example Application

Information worker software

- Enterprise resource planning
- Accounting software

Data management

- Contact management
- Spreadsheet
- Personal database

Documentation

- Document automation/assembly
- Word processing
- Desktop publishing software

Banking software

Exercises Meeting-3

1. The Software is
2. Give 5 examples of Operating System as you know
3. What is the meaning Open Source Operating System and give examples
4. What is Application Software
5. Give 5 examples of Application Software