1.) What is the purpose of the NU32_Startup() function?

NU32_Startup(0 initializes and configures the PIC32 and NU32 libraries. When it is called, it does important tasks like configure the prefetch cache and the interrupt mode. Besides configuration, NU32_Startup() provides helpful #defines like NU32_LED1 and NU32_LED2 and functions like NU32_ReadUART3() for the caller to use.

2). Why doesn't the following command work as intended? LCD WriteString ("Hello world 12345678")

The LCD screen has only 16 spaces for characters per row, so part of the string would be cut off. To display the entire string, you would have to divide up the string in two parts and then write them to different rows.

3.) What does the command line instruction make clean do?

Given that the makefile is present in the directory, "make clean" deletes any of the files generated by running the "make" command. Any filetypes that are .hex, .map, .o, .elf, .dep, or .dis are deleted.