Operating Systems: Lab 1 Questions

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1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using the same system call interface for manipulating both files and devices?

An advantage to using the same system call interface for manipulating both files and devices is that the system calls are the same for accessing both files and devices, while only the parameters are different. This means the operating system does not need to have as many system calls. However, a disadvantage is that certain devices' functionality could be limited.

2. Would it be possible for the user to develop a new command interpreter using the system call interface provide by the operating system? How?

Yes, this would be possible using a Virtual Machine. By using a Virtual Machine, the user could develop a whole new operating system with a new command interpreter using system calls already built into the operating system of the computer they are working on and not have to worry about changing or breaking the already built operating system.