Oberon Ilano

CIS 251

Assignment 1

1. Both main memory and secondary storage are types of memory. Describe the difference between the two.

The main memory is volatile, which means its contents are erased when the power of

the computer is off. Secondary storage does not lose its contents

when the power of the computer is off.

1. What is the difference between system software and application software?

System softwares are the programs that control and manage the basic operations of a computer. System software typically includes the following types of programs: operating systems, utility programs, software development tools. Application softwares are the programs that make a computer useful for everyday tasks. These are the programs that people normally spend most of their time running on their computers.

1. What type of software controls the internal operations of the computer’s hardware?

Operating system

1. Why must programs written in a high-level language be translated into machine language before they can be run?

So that human can understand it in natural language because computers only understand the low-level languages that resemble the numeric machine language.

1. Why is is easier to write a program in a high-level language than in machine language?

High-level is most likely a natural language.

1. Explain the difference between an object file and an executable file.

Object file is generated by the compiler translated from the source file and machine language instructions. Executable file Includes the machine language from an object file, and the necessary code from library routines. The codes are ready to run on the computer.

1. What is the difference between a syntax error and logical error?

Syntax error is by using of keywords, operators, punctuation, and other language elements that are not allowed. Logical error is an error that cause the program to produce wrong results.

1. Computers can do many different jobs because they can be programmed.
2. The job of the CPU is to fetch instructions, carry out the operations commanded by the instructions, and produce some outcome or resultant information.
3. Internally, the CPU consists of the control unit and the arithmetic.
4. A(n) disk drive is an example of a secondary storage device.
5. The two general categories of software are system software and application software.
6. A program is a set of instructions a computer follows in order to perform a task.
7. Since computer can’t be programmed in natural human language, algorithms must be written in a(n) programming language.
8. Machine language is the language computers really process.
9. High-level languages are close to the level of humans in terms of readability.
10. Low-level languages are close to the level of the computer.
11. A program’s ability to run on several different types of computer systems is called portability.
12. Words that have special meaning a programming language are called Key Words.
13. Words or names defined by the programmer are called Programmer-Defined Identifiers.