5 Memory Potpourri [45 points]

Read the following statements about memory organization & technology. Circle "True" if the statement is true and "False" otherwise. Note: we will subtract 2 points for each incorrect answer and award 0 points for each unanswered question.

1. [3 points] A main memory access typically has larger latency than a register file access.

1. True

- 2. False
- 2. [3 points] SRAM is commonly used as main memory in modern computers.

1. True

- 2. False
- 3. [3 points] A DRAM cell requires larger power to store data compared to an SRAM cell.

1 m

- 2. False
- 4. [3 points] Reads are faster than writes in DRAM.

1. True

- 2. False
- 5. [3 points] Reads are faster than writes in phase change memory.

1. True

- 2. False
- 6. [3 points] A bitline in a DRAM array connects all DRAM cells in a DRAM row to the row decoder circuitry.

1. True

- 2. False
- 7. [3 points] Using virtual memory reduces the memory access latency.

1. True

- 2. False
- 8. [3 points] Phase Change Memory (PCM) is non-volatile.

1. True

- 2. False
- 9. [3 points] If a hypothetical system is *not* constrained by chip area, memory cost (\$), and energy consumption, PCM would be the best memory technology to use in that system.

1. True

- $2.\ {\tt False}$
- 10. [3 points] A program with a streaming memory access pattern leads to very high temporal locality in the last level data cache.

1. True

- 2. False
- 11. [3 points] In DRAM, accesses to different rows in one bank can be serviced faster compared to accesses to different rows in different banks.

1. True

- 2. False
- 12. [3 points] TLB is a specialized instruction cache that caches instructions based on branch prediction results.

1. True

- 2. False
- 13. [3 points] Virtual memory simplifies software design.

1. True

- 2. False
- 14. [3 points] A page fault happens when the TLB does not contain the entry needed by an instruction.

 1. True

 2. False
- 15. [3 points] A fully-associative L1 TLB that only stores 4KB virtual-to-physical mappings and has 1024 entries can cover up to 4MB of memory.

1. True

2. False

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