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## Chapter 1 : Operating System Concepts, 9th Edition | haitham abukasawi - theinnatdunvilla.com

*Operating System Concepts, now in its ninth edition, continues to provide a solid theoretical foundation for understanding operating systems. The ninth edition has been thoroughly updated to include contemporary examples of how operating systems function.*

D Special block in memory Ans: There are two different ways that commands can be processed by a command interpreter. One way is to allow the command interpreter to contain the code needed to execute the command. The other way is to implement the commands through system programs. Compare and contrast the two approaches. In the first approach, upon the user issuing a command, the interpreter jumps to the appropriate section of code, executes the command, and returns control back to the user. In the second approach, the interpreter loads the appropriate program into memory along with the appropriate arguments. The advantage of the first method is speed and overall simplicity. The disadvantage to this technique is that new commands require rewriting the interpreter program which, after a number of modifications, may get complicated, messy, or too large. The advantage to the second method is that new commands can be added without altering the command interpreter. The disadvantage is reduced speed and the clumsiness of passing parameters from the interpreter to the system program. Describe the relationship between an API, the system-call interface, and the operating system. The system-call interface of a programming language serves as a link to system calls made available by the operating system. This interface intercepts function calls in the API and invokes the necessary system call within the operating system. Thus, most of the details of the operating-system interface are hidden from the programmer by the API and are managed by the run-time support library. Describe three general methods used to pass parameters to the operating system during system calls. The simplest approach is to pass the parameters in registers. In some cases, there may be more parameters than registers. In these cases, the parameters are generally stored in a block, or table, of memory, and the address of the block is passed as a parameter in a register. Parameters can also be placed, or pushed, onto the stack by the program and popped off the stack by the operating system. What are the advantages of using a higher-level language to implement an operating system? The code can be written faster, is more compact, and is easier to understand and debug. In addition, improvements in compiler technology will improve the generated code for the entire operating system by simple recompilation. Finally, an operating system is far easier to port "to move to some other hardware" if it is written in a higher-level language. Describe some requirements, or goals, when designing an operating system. Requirements can be divided into user and system goals. Users desire a system that is convenient to use, easy to learn, and to use, reliable, safe, and fast. System goals are defined by those people who must design, create, maintain, and operate the system: The system should be easy to design, implement, and maintain; it should be flexible, reliable, error-free, and efficient. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using a microkernel approach? One benefit of the microkernel approach is ease of extending the operating system. All new services are added to user space and consequently do not require modification of the kernel. The microkernel also provides more security and reliability, since most services are running as user "rather than kernel" processes. Unfortunately, microkernels can suffer from performance decreases due to increased system function overhead. Explain why a modular kernel may be the best of the current operating system design techniques. The modular approach combines the benefits of both the layered and microkernel design techniques. In a modular design, the kernel needs only to have the capability to perform the required functions and know how to communicate between modules. However, if more functionality is required in the kernel, then the user can dynamically load modules into the kernel. The kernel can have sections with well-defined, protected interfaces, a desirable property found in layered systems. More flexibility can be achieved by allowing the modules to communicate with one another. Describe how Mac OS X is considered a hybrid system. Describe how Android uses a unique virtual machine for running Java programs. The Dalvik virtual machine is designed specifically for Android and has

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been optimized for mobile devices with limited memory and CPU processing capabilities.

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