



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2019/2020

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

FIRST YEAR THIRD SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

CERTIFICATE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

1920/106: OPERATING SYSTEM

DATE: 14/12/2020

TIME: 8.30-11.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer any five(5) questions

Don't write on this question paper

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Describe **four** main functions of an operating system. (4 marks)
- (b) Explain the following types of operating systems:
 - i. Real time operating systems;
 - ii. Distributed operating System. (4 marks)
- (c) While preventing deadlock from happening, explain how the hold and wait condition can be eliminated. (2 marks)
- (d) With reference to variable partition, discuss any **two** techniques which can be employed by Operating System to handle external Fragmentation. (4 marks)
- (e) Outline **four** ways in which external devices mainly differ in reference to device management (4 marks)
- (f) Explain the term *swapping* as used in memory management. (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- (a) With the help of a diagram, explain the various process states. (8 marks)
- (b) Operating system employs a number of strategies to determine where to place incoming process. Critically discuss any two memory placement strategies that can be employed to achieve this. (4 marks)
- (c) Priority scheduling algorithm is both pre-emptive and non-pre-emptive. Explain how this is achieved. (4 marks)
- (d) Jane intends to buy a computer with a Liquid Crystal Display (LCD), describe two advantages she will get from her decision. (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Suppose we have 4 processes with the following their burst times.

Process	Burst Time
P1	8
P2	9
P3	5
P4	2

Considering the round robin scheduling algorithm with a Quantum time of 3,

- (i) Draw the Gantt chart for the schedule (3 marks)
 - (ii) Calculate the average waiting time for the processes; (2 marks)
 - (iii) Calculate the average turn around time. (2 marks)
 - (iv) Calculate the throughput of the system. (1 mark)
- (b) Critically discuss the **four** conditions that must exist for a deadlock to take place. (8 marks)
- (c) Differentiate between contiguous and non-contiguous memory allocation. (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- (a) Explain each of the following with reference to inter-process communication:
 - i. Critical sections;
 - ii. Busy waiting;
 - iii. Kernel. (6 marks)

- (b) Explain any **two** limitations associated with Shortest Job First scheduling algorithm. (4 marks)
- (c) In a paged-segmented system we have the virtual address space of 32 KB, with 4 segments and a page size of 512 bytes. Calculate:-
- i. The number of bits for the page number;
 - ii. The maximum number of pages in a segment;
 - iii. The maximum segment size;
 - iv. Draw how the logical address is partitioned. (8 marks)
- (d) Describe the use of *semaphores* in management of concurrent process. (2 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Maendeleo Institute is experiencing data privacy problems within its file system. Explain **three** measures that the institute can put in place to mitigate this problem. (6 marks)
- (b) Differentiate between Compact disk Read only Memory (CDROM) and Compact disk Rewritable (CDRW). (4 marks)
- (c) Explain the following file operations:
- i. Append;
 - ii. Write;
 - iii. Seek. (6 marks)
- (d) Differentiate between *one level* and *two level* directory systems. (4 marks)

QUESTION SIX (20 MARKS)

- (a) Discuss any **two** roles played by operating system while implementing the following functions associated with computer based systems.
- (i) Programs and subroutines loading (2 marks)
 - (ii) Processor Management (2 marks)
 - (iii) Main Memory Management (2 marks)
- (b) Describe any **three** reasons that would cause an executing process to terminate. (6 marks)
- (c) Explain how priority scheduling algorithm deals with the problem of starvation on processes with lower priority. (2 marks)

- (d) Suppose we have 4 processes that arrived in the order P1, P2, P3 and P4 and their burst times is as provided.

Process	Arrival Time	Burst Time
P1	0	5
P2	2	8
P3	3	4
P4	4	1

Considering the First Come First Served (FCFS) scheduling algorithm,

- i. Draw the Gantt chart; (2 marks)
- ii. Calculate the average waiting time for the processes; (2 marks)
- iii. Calculate the average turn around time. (2 marks)

QUESTION SEVEN (20 MARKS)

- a) Differentiate between *virtual* and *physical* memory addressing as used in operating systems. (4 marks)
- b) June was required to list objectives for a proposed file system in her company, outline **four** objectives that she was likely to list. (4 marks)
- c) Outline **two** features of FAT16 file system. (2 marks)
- d) Explain each of the following terms as used in I/O operations:
 - i. Spooling;
 - ii. Device controller;
 - iii. Device driver. (6 marks)
- e) ICT module 1 students in Machakos University were carrying out an assignment on objectives of memory management in operating systems. Explain **four** objectives that they could have mentioned. (4 marks)

QUESTION EIGHT (20 MARKS)

- a) Distinguish between *command Language* and *Job control Languages* (4 marks)
- b) Explain the following terms in relation to deadlocks:
- i. Starvation
 - ii. Safe and unsafe states (4 marks)
- c) Explain the following terms as used in operating systems
- i. Process
 - ii. Through put
 - iii. Turn around time (6 marks)
- d) A disk has 30 cylinders, an initial request comes in to read a block on cylinder 5. New more request come in for cylinder 1, 12, 11, 19, 4 and 7 in that order. Represent the cylinder head movement graphically using each of the following disk scheduling algorithms:
- i. Shoertest seek Time First
 - ii. SCAN
 - iii. C-LOOK (6 marks)