



SPOS Question Bank

- 1. Explain the concept of System Software. What are its main components?**
- 2. Describe the working and features of a Text Editor in system software.**
- 3. What is a Loader? Explain its types and functions in detail.**
- 4. Define an Assembler. How is it different from a compiler?**
- 5. Explain the role of a Macro Processor in system programming with an example.**
- 6. What is a Compiler? Describe its phases briefly.**
- 7. Define a Debugger. What are its important functions in program execution?**
- 8. Explain the concept of Machine Structure. How does it affect system software design?**
- 9. Differentiate between Machine Language and Assembly Language with suitable examples.**
- 10. Explain the general design procedure of an Assembler. Also describe the working of a two-pass assembler in detail.**
- 11. Define Macro Instructions. Explain the basic concepts and advantages of using macros in system programming.**
- 12. Describe the features of a macro facility. How does it improve program efficiency and modularity?**
- 13. Explain the design and working of a two-pass macro processor with a suitable example.**
- 14. Differentiate between single-pass and two-pass macro processors. Also explain the concept of a nested macro processor.**
- 15. What is a Loader? Explain different loader schemes such as Compile-and-Go, General Loader Scheme, and Absolute Loader.**
- 16. Describe subroutine linkage. How is it used during program loading and execution?**
- 17. Explain the concepts of Relocating Loader and Direct Linking Loader. Highlight their advantages.**
- 18. Discuss the design of an Absolute Loader. How does it function step-by-step?**
- 19. Explain the design of a Direct Linking Loader. How does it handle external references?**

20. What is a Linker? Explain relocation and linking concepts, and discuss static vs dynamic linking libraries along with the role of callback functions. Also briefly explain loading phases using Java as a case study.
21. Explain the role of lexical analysis in a compiler. Why is it considered the first phase of compilation?
22. Define Token, Pattern, and Lexeme with suitable examples.
23. What are lexical errors? Explain different types of lexical errors with examples.
24. Explain regular definitions used for language constructs such as identifiers, numbers, and keywords.
25. Describe how strings, sequences, and comments are handled during lexical analysis.
26. What is a transition diagram? Explain how it is used for recognition of tokens like identifiers and reserved words.
27. Explain the difference between reserved words and identifiers with examples.
28. Describe the general model of a compiler with a neat diagram.
29. Compare a Compiler and an Interpreter. Also explain the components of an interpreter and its uses.
30. Give an overview of LEX and YACC. Explain their specifications, features, and how they are used in compiler design.
31. Explain the concept of an Operating System. Discuss different types of operating systems with a focus on Real-Time Operating Systems (RTOS).
32. Describe the system components of an operating system and explain the various OS services provided to users and programs.
33. Explain the layered approach in operating system structure. What are its advantages and disadvantages?
34. Define a process. Explain the process states with a suitable diagram.
35. What is a Process Control Block (PCB)? Explain its structure and importance.
36. Define threads. Differentiate between processes and threads.
37. Explain different types of process schedulers (long-term, short-term, and medium-term schedulers).
38. Differentiate between preemptive and non-preemptive scheduling with examples.
39. Explain the following CPU scheduling algorithms with examples:
 - FCFS (First Come First Serve)
 - SJF (Shortest Job First)
 - Round Robin
 - Priority Scheduling

40. What is a deadlock? Explain methods of handling deadlocks including prevention, avoidance, detection, and recovery. Also briefly explain process management in multi-core operating systems.
41. Explain the programming model of the Intel 80386. Discuss its key features related to memory management.
42. Differentiate between contiguous and non-contiguous memory allocation with suitable examples.
43. What is swapping? Explain its working and advantages in memory management.
44. Explain the concept of paging. How does it eliminate external fragmentation?
45. Describe segmentation. How is it different from paging?
46. Explain segmentation with paging. Why is it used in modern systems?
47. What is virtual memory? Explain its need and advantages.
48. Describe demand paging. How does it improve system performance?
49. Explain the following page replacement algorithms with examples:
 - FIFO (First In First Out)
 - LRU (Least Recently Used)
 - Optimal Page Replacement
50. What is thrashing? Explain its causes and how it can be controlled. Also discuss memory management in multi-core operating systems as a case study.
51. Explain different types of I/O Devices and their role in an operating system.
52. Describe the organization of I/O functions in an operating system. How does the OS manage communication between devices and CPU?
53. What is I/O buffering? Explain its types and advantages.
54. Explain various disk scheduling algorithms such as FIFO, LIFO, SSTF, SCAN, and C-SCAN with examples.
55. Define a file in an operating system. Explain different file access methods.
56. Describe different types of directory structures used in file systems.
57. What is file protection? Explain various protection mechanisms used in file systems.
58. Explain file system implementation and directory implementation in detail.
59. Describe different file allocation methods and free space management techniques.
60. Explain I/O and File Management in multi-core operating systems. Also compare lightweight and heavyweight operating systems with examples like Linux and Tizen.