```
FEW, Divisie W&I

Vrije Universiteit

6 June 2002

(Voor Nederlands, z.o.z.)

All 10 questions count equally. Final grade = max(midterm, part 1) + part 2

PART 1
```

- 1. What is the essential difference between a block special file and a character special file?
- 2. Here is the code for a producer-consumer problem. Is it correct? If not, describe what is wrong with it in a few sentences. Assume count is initialized to 0 elsewhere.

```
Producent
                                                 Consument
while(1) {
                                                 while(1) {
  produce_item();
                                                   if (count == 0) sleep();
  if (count == N) sleep();
                                                   remove_item();
  enter_item();
                                                   count = count - 1;
  count = count + 1;
                                                   if (count == N-1)
  if (count == 1)
                                                      wakeup(producer);
    wakeup(consumer);
                                                   consume_item();
```

- 3. Briefly explain the difference between policy and mechanism in CPU scheduling. Give an example.
- 4. Disk requests come into the disk driver nearly simultaneously for the following cylinders: 10, 22, 20, 2, 40, 6, and 38 in that order. All seeks take 6 msec. How much seek time is needed to process all the requests for:
  - (a) First-come first-served
  - (b) Closest cylinder first
  - (c) Elevator algorithm (initially moving upward)

In all cases the disk arm is initially at cylinder 20.

5. Name 3 things the MINIX clock driver does

## PART 2

- 6. Is memory compaction ever done on systems with virtual memory based on pure paging like the SPARC? If so, under what conditions? If not, why not?
- 7. MINIX carries out the fork system call in a series of small steps. List the main steps the memory manager does (at least five important steps).
- 8. Some operating systems have a system call to rename a file. Is there any difference between renaming a file and copying it followed by deleting the original? If so, name one difference.
- 9. In CP/M, the list of blocks in a file is kept in the directory entry that points to the file, rather than in an i-node, as in UNIX. Is a file allowed to have more blocks than fit in a directory entry? If so, is this handled?
- 10. Passwords are often used for authenticating users at login time. Name another authentication method that could also be used using the keyboard (thus no biometrics--finger length, blood, etc.).