## Dept. Computer Science Vrije Universiteit

## Operating Systems 27.05.2013

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1	What are the two main functions of an operating system?	4pt
2	What is the difference between kernel mode and user mode? Why is the difference important to an operating system? Name two operations that should be allowed only in kernel mode!	5pt
3	Threads can be implemented at kernel level and at user level. Give one advantage and one disadvantage of user threads versus kernel threads.	5pt
4	Give an example of priority inversion and give one solution to this problem.	6pt
5a	What is a critical section?	3pt
5b	Name a synchronization method that is a good fit for read intensive critical sections.	2pt
	Sketch how your chosen synchronization method works, what problems it has and discuss this method in terms of performance and fairness!	8pt
6a	What are the states (with respect to scheduling) a process can have and what are the possible transitions from one state to another? Draw a diagram.	6pt
6b	What is a zombie process?	3pt
7a	Give a definition of a deadlock.	3pt
7b	What are the conditions for a deadlock to occur?	5pt
8	Suppose a network packet arrives at the network card. What happens until the packet is handed over to the network stack? Specifically, we want to know:	
	1. How does the packet get from the network card to main memory (RAM)?	
	2. How does the system learn about the packet and how does it handle the event?	5pt
9a	What is a Translation look-aside buffer (TLB)? What is the performance benefit of a TLB?	3pt
	How is a TLB-miss resolved in a hardware-filled TLB and a software-filled TLB! (Assume a mapping exists.)	4pt
10a	In what situations does the operating system have to make use of page frame replacement?	2pt
	How can the Least Recently Used (LRU) page replacement algorithm be implemented? Assume the system	<b>-</b> <sub>P</sub> .
	provides a referenced (accessed) bit in the page table entries.	6pt
11	Describe how the path lookup for /mnt/movies/sci-fi/avatar.avi on Book-MINIX takes place, where /mnt/movies is the mount point of another file system. Specifically, we want to know:	
	1. How does the path lookup code realize the /mnt/movies directory is a mountpoint?	
	2. How does the system figure out which file system is mounted on the mountpoint?	
	3. How does the system find the avatar.avi file in the mounted file system?	8pt
12a	Imagine you accidentally deleted your master thesis (plain text) the night before you must hand it in. How	6
121	would you recover your lost work on the Minix file system.	8pt
120	Is this always possible? Explain!	4pt
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**Grading:** The final grade is calculated by adding the scores per question (maximum: 90 points), and adding 10 bonus points. The maximum total is therefore 100 points.