Homework #2

Your Name: ________________________________________________________________

Due Date: Thursday, October 23, Beginning of class

Please write your answers directly on this sheet and hand in the hardcopy.

Textbook Reading Assignment

Chapter 3: Memory Management (through page 208) by Thursday, October 23
Chapter 3: Memory Management (remainder) by Thursday, October 30
Chapter 4: File Systems, by Thursday, November 6

Exam Reminder

Thursday, October 23, 2009

Last Part of Chapter 2 (Processes and Threads)

1. Briefly describe what a “user-level thread package” is.

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Page 1
2. Assume a thread wishes to make a blocking system call. How can a user-level threads package prevent that call from blocking all the threads in the process?


3. What is reentrant code?


4. If several threads can access shared memory, why does each thread need its own private stack?


5. What is a “race condition”? 


6. What is a “spin lock”? When is it reasonable to use?

7. What is “starvation”?

8. What is a “CPU-bound” process? What is an “I/O-bound” process?

9. Describe “preemptive” and “non-preemptive” scheduling.
10. What scheduling algorithm is used in the BLITZ scheduler?