

2007 Paper 1 Question 2

Operating Systems

- (a) In relation to scheduling of processes, describe the concept of a working set and briefly outline how it can be used within an operating system. [3 marks]
- (b) Briefly explain why context switching between processes is inherently more costly than switching between threads of a process. [3 marks]
- (c) Give *two* reasons why operating system designers often choose to make code in the kernel non-preemptive. [2 marks]
- (d) Why would it be bad for a Unix file owned by `root` with the `setuid` bit set also to have read, write and execute access permissions granted to all users? [2 marks]