

COMPUTER SOFTWARE

Software:

This refers to the programs that control the operation of a computer.

Program:

Is a set of instructions which tells the computer what to do.

These instructions are usually written in special computer languages such as C++, COBOL, Visual Basic, Turbo, Pascal etc.

TYPES OF COMPUTER SOFTWARE

There are two types of computer software

- i. **Application software**
- ii. **System software**

APPLICATION SOFTWARE

This is a type of software to perform specific function

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1) They cannot work without system software
- 2) They are specific in function
- 3) They are very cheap compared to system software

Example:

Excel, Microsoft word, Power point, Data base, Games, Adobe Photo shop, Adobe page maker

SYSTEM SOFTWARE;

these are programs designed to make the computer function properly

Examples of system software include

1. Operating system
2. Utility programs e.g. Ant- viruses and drives

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1) They are loaded in the system before any software
- 2) They are divided according to their functions

UTILITY SOFTWARE

This is the software that enables user to manage files.

E.g. : Anti – virus , Disk cleanup , disk De fragmentation, system restore , task schedule , task manager.

FUNCTION

- 1) Display error message.
- 2) Detect malicious files
- 3) Delete all infected files
- 4) Protect computer from being harmed
- 5) Recovery damaged files of the system

OPERATING SYSTEM (OS)

What is an Operating System?

It has many definitions.

1. A program that acts as an intermediary between a user of a computer and computer hardware.
2. Is the part of the computing system that manages all the hardware and all of the software such as:-
3. Allows for the usage of various applications
4. Is a program that manages all the other programs in a computer.

Operating system performs basic tasks like input from the mouse or keyboard sending output to the video screen or printer. Keeping track of files on the drivers and controlling peripherals such as printers and modems.

NB: Your computer device, application software and utility programs cannot work, if it does not have an operating system (OS) because

- Operating system controls files you can save in a computer
- Operating system control different task that a computer can do at a time
- Operating system arrange the order of executing tasks in your computer

FUNCTIONS OF OPERATING SYSTEM

1. Processor management
2. Memory management
3. Virtual storage
4. Device management
5. Information management

Examples of operating system (OS) include:

- Disc operating system (DOS)
- Windows 98
- Windows 2000
- Windows millennium
- Linux
- Mac (OS) X
- DEC VMS
- IBM OS/400
- SOL ARLS
- UNIX
- Windows XP, Vista <, 7 and 8

TYPES OF OPERATING SYSTEMS

i) SINGLE USER SINGLE TASK OPERATING SYSTEM

Is the system software which is used by a single user and it can perform a single task at a time

ii) SINGLE USER MULTI TASK OPERATING SYSTEM

This is used by a single but it can perform many functions at a time

iii) MULTI USER MULTI TASK OPERATING SYSTEM

Can be used by many users also can perform functions at a time.

iv) MULTI PROCESSING OPERATING SYSTEM

This is operating system that supports more than one processor.

E.g.: Linux, Microsoft window 1998, window XP professional, RT- Linux, RED. Linux

v) REAL TIME OPERATING SYSTEM

Often used as a control device in a dedicated application such as controlling scientific experiments, medical, imaging system, industrial control system and some display system.

E.g.: Chorls , RT- Linux, RED – Linux