Quiz 1
Active Reading: Chapter 6

Due Date: Wednesday October 5th, 2016 @ 5:00 pm

Objective

The purpose of this assignment is to introduce everyone to **active reading techniques** that can help in this course, or any other course. Additionally active reading can help you read and better understand technical documentation which you may encounter at a job in the future. Active reading is related to Critical Reading (see wiki page), but is less time consuming. The primary goal is to approach reading from the role of a reviewer, as opposed to a passive reader. Imagine you are an editor, or if you just hired someone to write a technical manual. You are now reviewing their work for clarity and understandability. While reading, consider how the author has presented the information. When something is unclear, mark this. If something is hard to understand rephrase it in laymen's terms in the margins. (e.g. *state what these sections mean to you*)   Circle key terms, and underline key ideas. **Do not highlight.** Mark typos or grammatical errors you see. While actively reading, look up vague terms using the internet and write short definitions in the margins were appropriate.

Actively read Chapter 6 on Limited Direct Execution as descried below and do the brief summary writing exercises as described on page 2.

Download and printout the 2-up page format of page 6 at:
http://faculty.washington.edu/wlloyd/courses/tcss422/Chapter6_2up.pdf

Read chapter 6 with a pen in hand, and mark up the chapter.

Some suggestions on what to mark up:
- Underline key statements
- Box / circle key words
- Correct any typos, grammar errors you may see
- Rephrase key ideas and/or difficult sections in the margins or around the text so they stand out, and so you understand them better
- Star and circle the most important points of the text, the *key takeaways*. Imagine you will look at this again and will want to know very quickly what the key ideas were without rereading the entire chapter again. Write key words in the margins, etc.
- Look up the definition of any words and terms you don't understand. Write a short definition in the margin if needed to better help understand something

Your mark up of chapter 6 is then used to perform the summary writing described on the next page. Please consider what the summary writing is asking for you to do, so your active reading sets you up to complete the summary writing very quickly.

Instructions for summary write up

(15 points) To complete the quiz, type up the following and submit as a file on canvas. The entire write up should fit on one to two pages. One page is preferred. A PDF file is preferred. Keep your chapter 6 printout for future reference.

1. (3 pts) Write a short 1 to 3 sentence summary highlighting what the chapter is about. This summary should describe what sort of information is described by the chapter. Someone who is looking for information on the topics you list should be encouraged to read it. Your statement should help someone know if they should read the chapter based on what you say it is about.

2. (3 pts) List at least 3 key concept of the chapter. Write a short phrase describing each key concept. Feel free to list more than 3 concepts, if there are obviously more than 3. Only 3 are required for full credit.

3. (3 pts) List at least 3 words/terms from the chapter and their definitions which you have looked up online. Feel free to list more if you looked up more in the process of *"active reading"*.

4. (3 pts) Look up a topic or technology mentioned in the chapter by the author and write a few sentences (2-3) describing what it is in more detail than what the author has provided. Try to pick a topic which is of interest to you.   An example of a topic is on page 11 in the <u>ASIDE: How Long Context Switches Take</u>. Looking up and providing a description from the internet of "lmbench", what it is, what it does, is a good example of a topic. However, you may not use "lmbench" as your topic for #4 as it's the example.

5. (3 pts) Write two questions (or more if you'd like) you have from reading the chapter which you aren't sure of the answer. You may have an idea what the answer could be, but you are not entirely sure. These could be core fundamentals that were not clear, or they could be issues on related topics which the author has brought up. (for example, details related to lmbench)

6. (Optional) This is not required, but if you would like, go ahead and answer at least 1 of your questions from #5. Do research online until you are sure of the answer. Write a little on what the answer is, and why you think so. (mention sources perhaps…e.g. webpage, ebook, etc.)