Written Assignment

Objective

The objective of this assignment is for you to express, in clear, concise, and correct English, in what ways the topics covered in this class may affect the way in which you design and code programs. Specifically, you are to write an essay of at least 500 words in which you state your premise with respect to this subject, and then support it with specific examples. Notice that I use the phrase "may affect" rather than "will affect" because you are to write about what is possible, not what will come to pass.

For example, a premise could be that the material in the class can be used to improve the runtime efficiency of programs that I write. I would then have to state how and why this is true with supporting examples. In other words, what specific knowledge covered in the class could change the way in which you write programs so as to improve their runtime efficiency. Some suggestions are that you think about the memory hierarchy, the interface to I/O devices, and parallelism in modern computers.

Grading

The grade on this assignment will be based on the following rubric:

Thesis Statement (20%)   A well-developed statement clearly states a significant and thoughtful premise, based on sound reasoning.

Body Paragraph (50%)   A well-developed body directly relates to your premise and contains supporting examples, which are concrete, sound, and detailed.

Structure (10%)   The essay has a logical progression of ideas with a clear structure that enhances your premise.

Diction (10%)   Writing is smooth, skillful, and coherent.

Mechanics (10%)   Punctuation, spelling, and capitalization are correct.

Remarks

Notice that the grade is mostly on how you justify your premise, but also on your ability to write good English. If English is not your first language, you are free to seek help with it. Also, you can check how many words you have written by running the UNIX wc command on a plain text file, which will count the lines, words, and characters. ***This assignment must be submitted in printed form only and by the due date.***