

5 System Software – Part 1 —Answers

Answers

5.1 Antivirus (or backup, disk defragmenter, file compression).

5.2 It translates assembly language into machine code.

5.3 Any two: managing processes (running programs); managing memory; handling input/output through device drivers; managing files; providing security/user accounts.

5.4 Virtual memory uses part of the secondary storage (disk) as if it were extra RAM, so larger programs can run when the real RAM is full.

5.5 A compiler translates the whole program in one go (then it runs without the compiler); an interpreter translates and runs one statement at a time. (Any clear difference.)

5.6 Any one: errors are reported line by line as you go; you can run and test part of the program without translating all of it; there is no wait for a full compile after each change.

5.7 Compiled. The customers receive only machine code (so the source code stays hidden), and a compiled program runs fast on its own without a translator.