

(Midterm Exam Problem 3)

Review: File Descriptor Behavior

COMP 321

Dave Johnson



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Opening a File

```
int open(const char *pathname, int flags);
```

Opens a file for the indicated (i.e., flags) type of accesses

- Set flags to one of
 - O_RDONLY: open the file for reading from only
 - O_WRONLY: open the file for writing to only
 - O_RDWR: open the file for reading from and/or writing to
- Returns the **lowest numbered** file descriptor number that is not currently open in this process to something else
- Returns -1 on any error and sets global variable errno to indicate which error

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Opening a File

```
int open(const char *pathname, int flags);
```

The flags argument may also include other bits, such as

- O_APPEND: On each write() to this open fd, always move to the end of the file first (every write() only appends to the file)
- O_TRUNC: If the file exists (and if possible), truncate the file to empty on the open()
- Specify flags as the “or” of what you need, e.g.,
 - open(name, O_RDWR | O_APPEND)
 - open(name, O_WRONLY | O_TRUNC)

3

Writing a File

```
ssize_t write(int fd, const void *buf, size_t count);
```

Writes into the contents of a file from memory beginning at address buf

- The file must already be open – fd specifies which file to write to
- File data is transferred sequentially from buf, starting at fd current position
- The maximum number of bytes to write is given by count
 - Tries to write requested count, returns the number of bytes actually written
 - Number written may be less than requested (a “**short count**”)
 - This is **not** an error! We’ll talk more about this later
- Returns -1 on any error and sets global variable errno to indicate which error

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Explicitly Moving a File Descriptor's File Offset

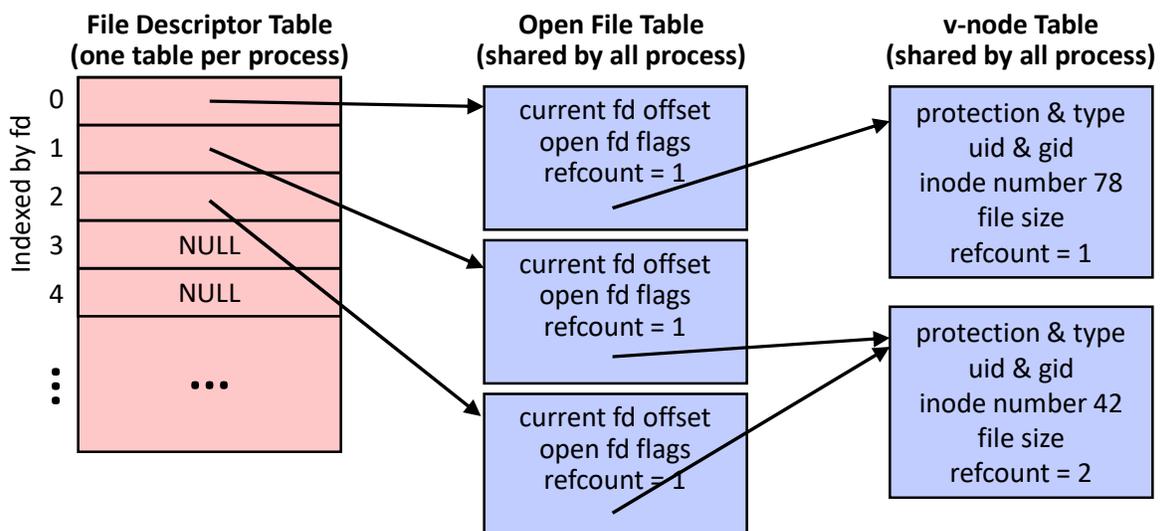
```
off_t lseek(int fd, off_t offset, int whence);
```

Changes current offset for file descriptor *fd* to new position in the file's data

- The new fd offset is set to “offset” number of bytes relative to “whence”
 - SEEK_SET: fd offset is set to offset bytes (absolute)
 - SEEK_CUR: fd offset is set to current position plus offset bytes
 - SEEK_END: fd offset is set to the size (bytes) of the file plus offset bytes
- In general, “offset” may be negative (e.g., offset = -100, whence = SEEK_CUR)
- Returns
 - The fd's new file offset, on success
 - -1 on any error and sets global variable `errno` to indicate which error

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Kernel Data Structures Help Define the Behavior



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Creating a New Process

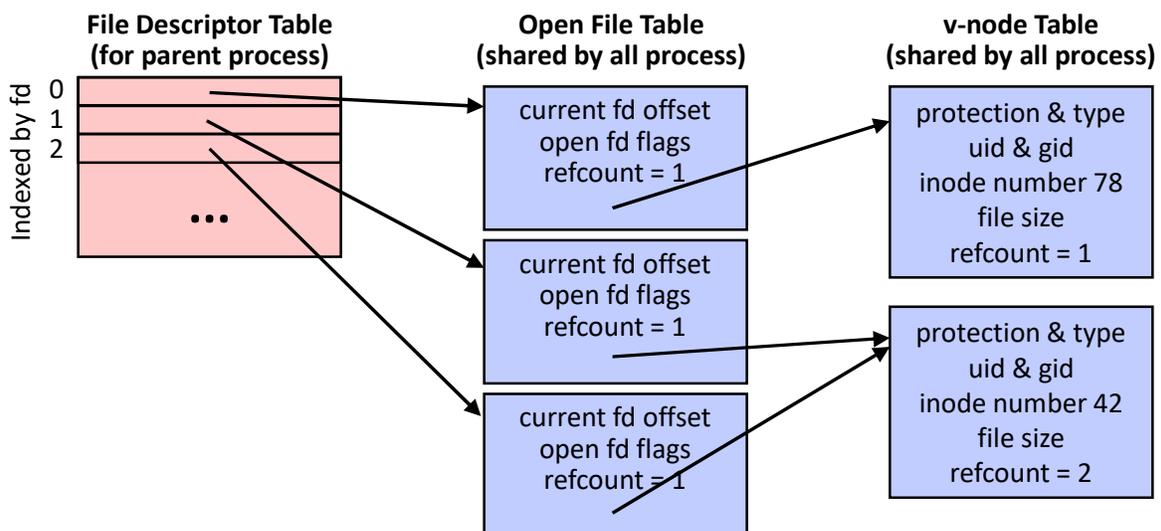
```
pid_t fork(void);
```

Creates a new process as an identical “clone” of the calling process

- Kernel creates a new PCB for the new process, substantially as a copy of the calling process’s existing PCB
- Kernel assigns new process a new pid, remembered in the kernel in child’s PCB
 - pids assigned in ascending order, wrapping around, skipping those in use
- Child address space is created as a **copy** of the calling process’s address space
 - Child thus **appears** to have called fork(), since the parent did call fork()
 - So fork() returns **twice**
 - Once (as normal) in the **parent**: returns the new child’s pid
 - And once (appearing to be normal) in the **child** process: returns 0

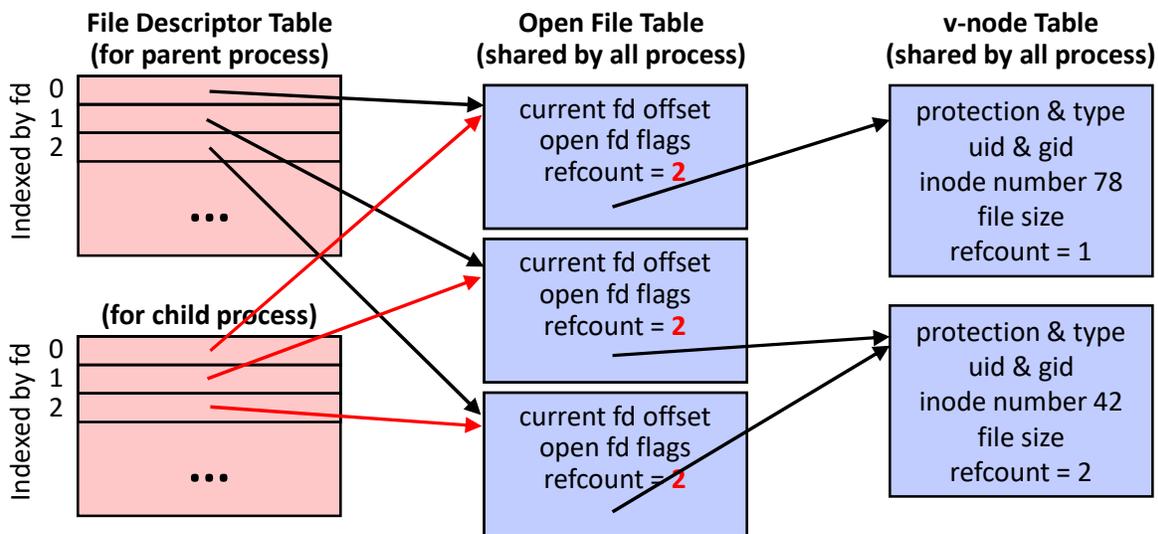
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Kernel File Data Structures Before the Fork



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Kernel File Data Structures After the Fork



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Midterm Exam Problem 3

Consider the following C program (you should assume that all kernel calls and procedure calls in it always succeed).

- If the file “data” is initially an empty file before executing this program, how many characters are in the file after completion of the program’s execution? Enter a single number only.
- What are the complete contents of the file “data” after the completion of this execution of the program as described above? *Clearly* write out the complete file contents below.

We’ll walk through the program’s execution step by step . . .

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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);
write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
    lseek(fd3, -1, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
    lseek(fd1, -10, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}

else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

(empty)

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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);
write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

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    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}

else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

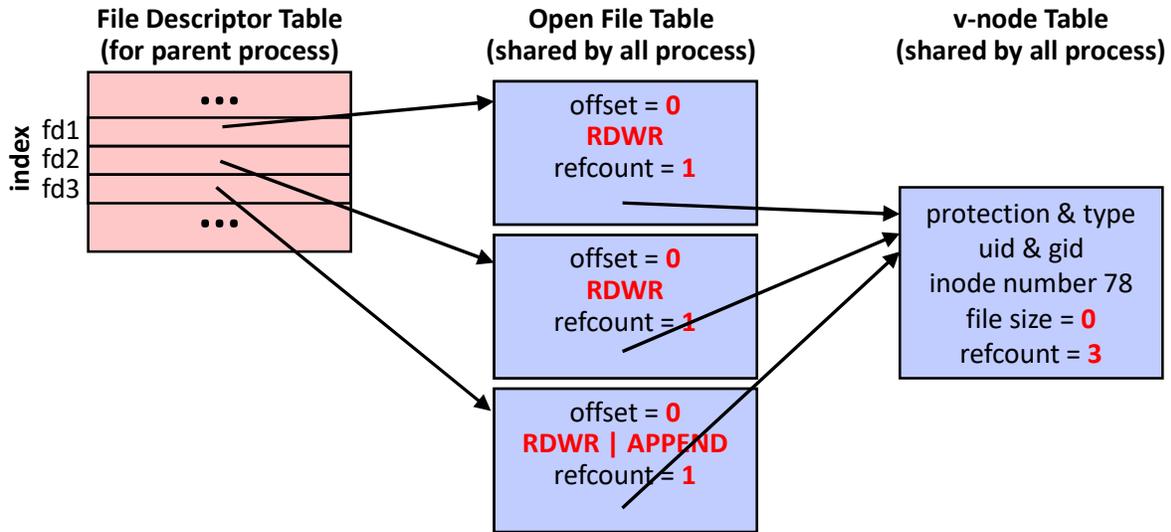
(empty)



fd1 offset = 0
fd2 offset = 0
fd3 offset = 0

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Kernel File Data Structures



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);
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    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
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}
else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);
    
```

File Contents

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5



fd1 offset = 0 (before)

fd2 offset = 0

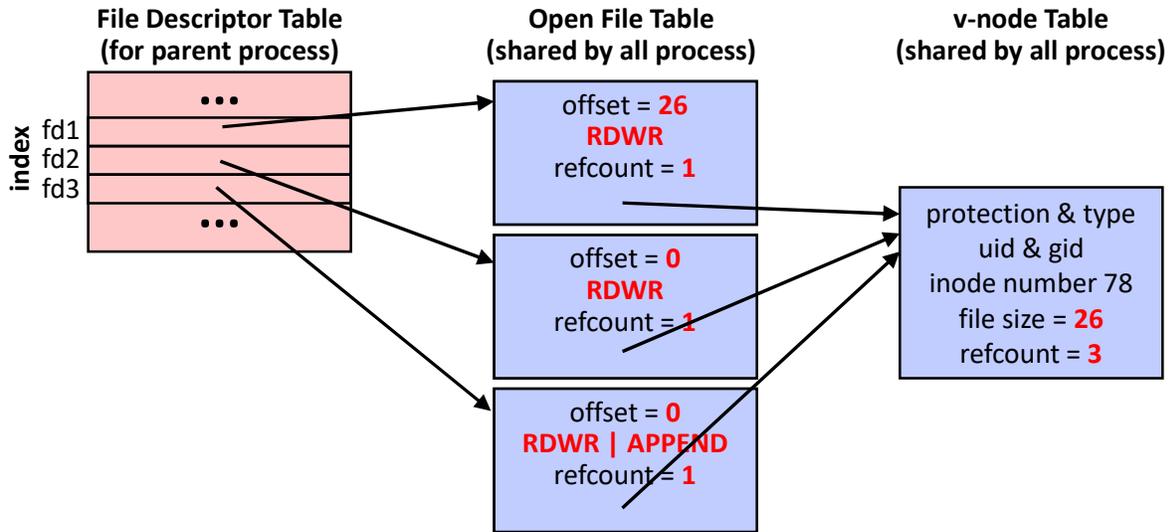
fd3 offset = 0



fd1 offset = 26 (after)

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Kernel File Data Structures



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);
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    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
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    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}
else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);
    
```

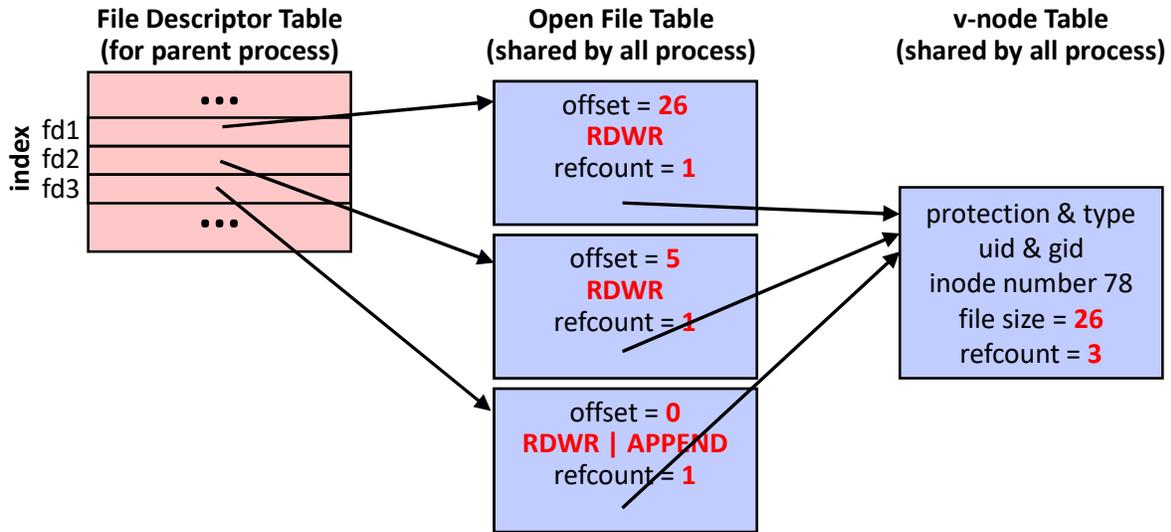
File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5

↑ fd2 offset = 0 (before)
 ↑ fd2 offset = 5 (after)
 fd3 offset = 0
 ↑ fd1 offset = 26

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Kernel File Data Structures



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);
write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
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lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

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    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
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    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);
    
```

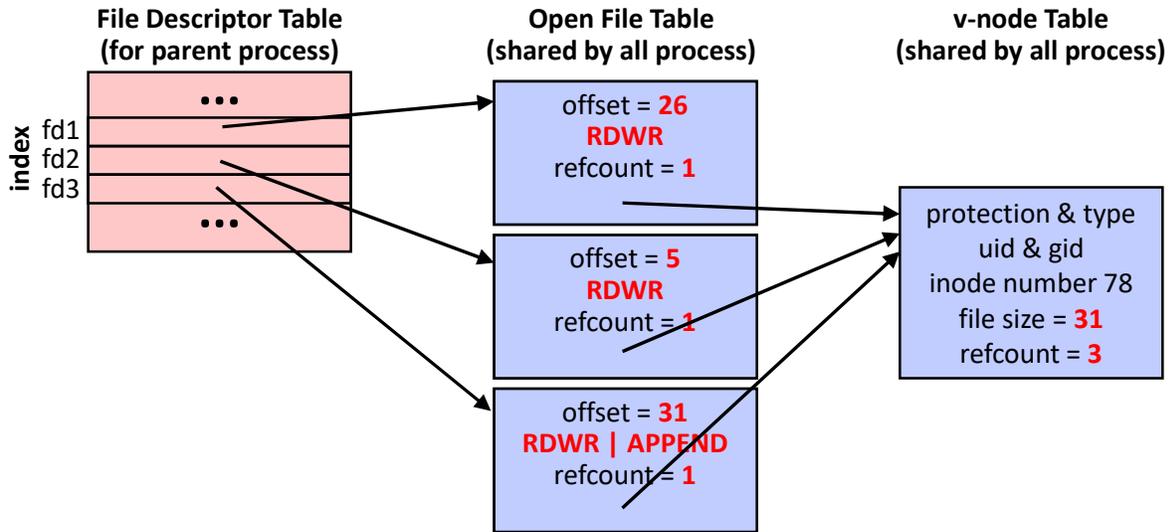
File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	



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Kernel File Data Structures



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    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
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```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	



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exit(0);

```

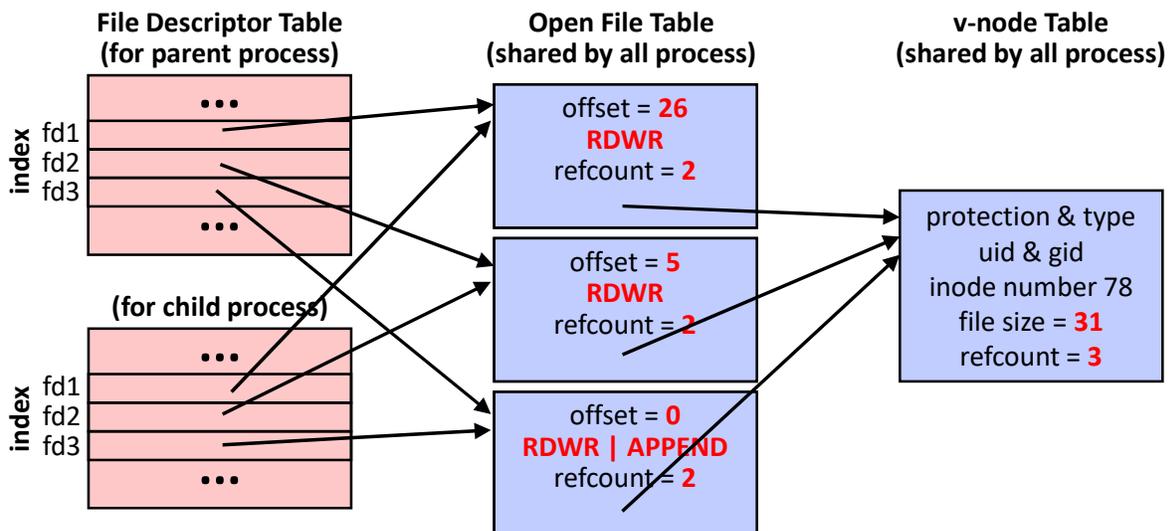
File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0



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Kernel File Data Structures



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
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}
else {
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}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

↑ fd2 offset = 5 (before) ↑ fd2 offset = 15 (after) ↑ fd1 offset = 26
 ↑ fd3 offset = 0

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```

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}
else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
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}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

↑ fd3 offset = 0 ↑ fd2 offset = 15 ↑ fd1 offset = 26

24

```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
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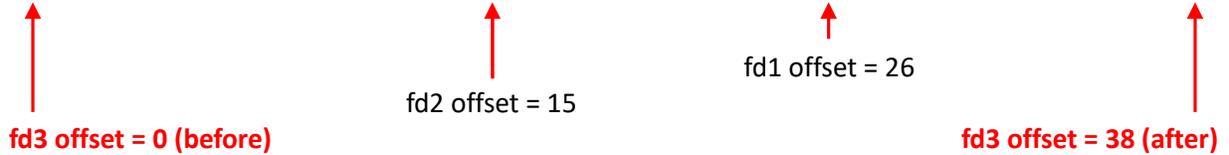
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else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
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    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
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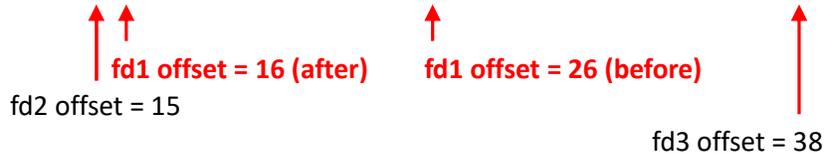
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    write(fd1, "-", 1);
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    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9



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else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
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    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	p	C	O	M	P	3	2	1	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	



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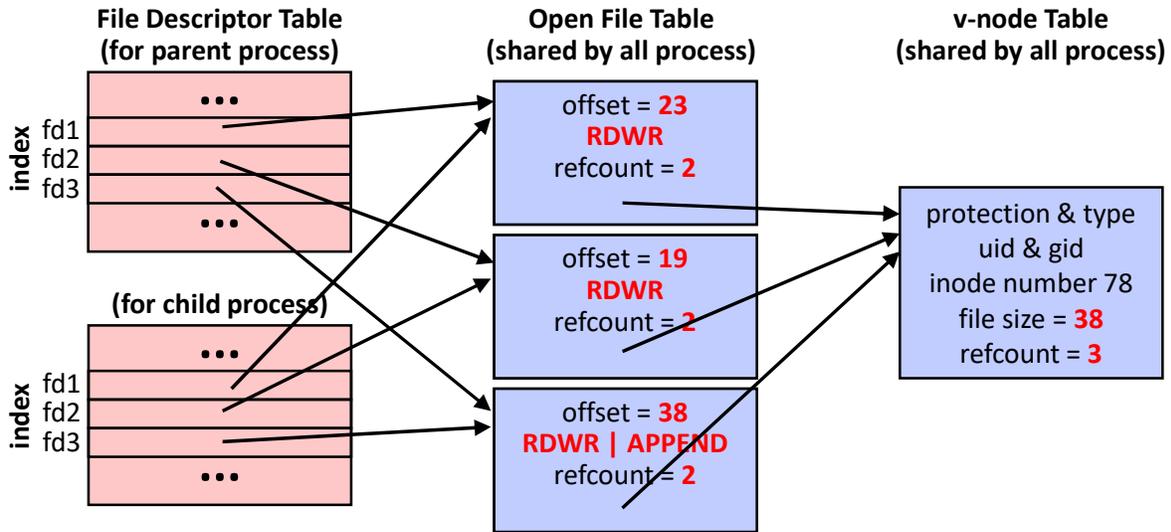
File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	P	3	2	1	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	



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Kernel File Data Structures



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);

write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
    lseek(fd3, -1, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
    lseek(fd1, -10, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}
else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);
    
```

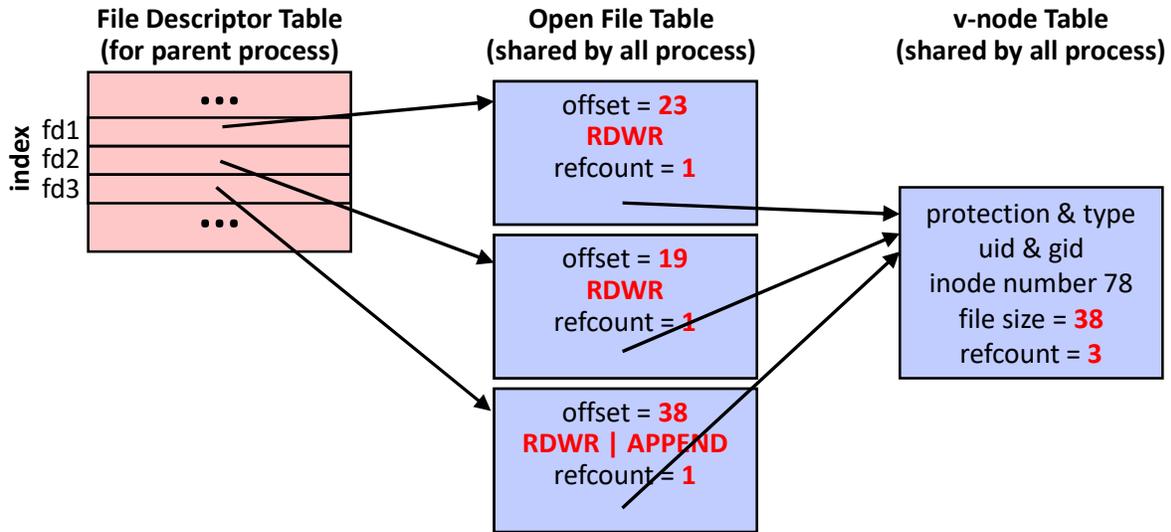
File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	P	3	2	1	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	



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Kernel File Data Structures



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```
fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);
write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);
```

```
if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
    lseek(fd3, -1, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
    lseek(fd1, -10, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}
```

```
else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);
```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	P	3	2	1	x	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

↑ fd1 offset = 23
↑ fd2 offset = 19

↑ fd3 offset = 38

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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);

write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
    lseek(fd3, -1, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
    lseek(fd1, -10, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}

else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}

exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	P	3	2	1	-	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);

write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
    lseek(fd3, -1, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
    lseek(fd1, -10, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}

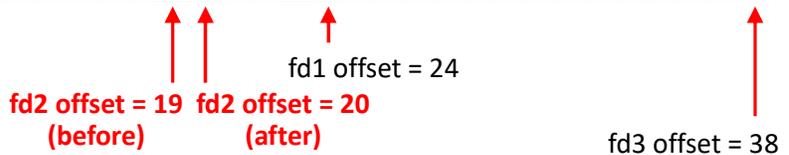
else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}

exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	.	3	2	1	-	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	



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```

fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);

write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

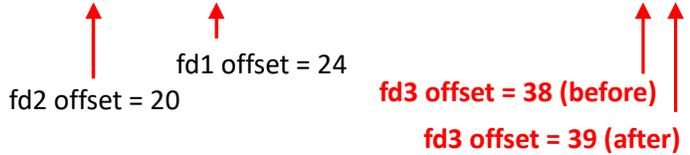
if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
    lseek(fd3, -1, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
    lseek(fd1, -10, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}

else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);

```

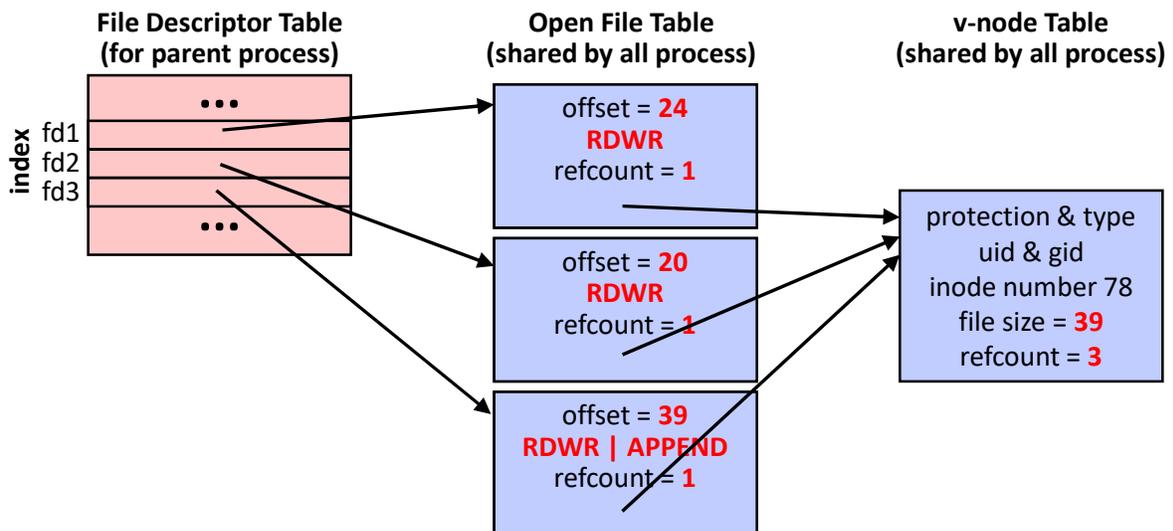
File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	.	3	2	1	-	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	/		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0



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Kernel File Data Structures



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```

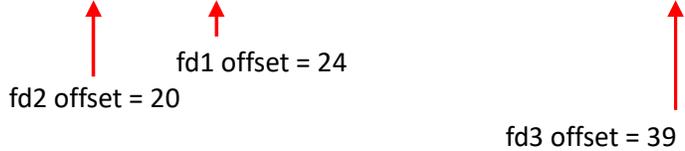
fd1 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_TRUNC);
fd2 = open("data", O_RDWR);
fd3 = open("data", O_RDWR | O_APPEND);
write(fd1, "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy", 26);
write(fd2, "HELLO", 5);
write(fd3, "WORLD", 5);
lseek(fd3, 0, SEEK_SET);

if ((pid = fork()) == 0) {
    write(fd2, "9876543210", 10);
    lseek(fd3, -1, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd3, "Houston", 7);
    lseek(fd1, -10, SEEK_CUR);
    write(fd1, "COMP321", 7);
    write(fd2, "Rice", 4);
}
else {
    waitpid(pid, NULL, 0);
    write(fd1, "-", 1);
    write(fd2, ".", 1);
    write(fd3, "/", 1);
}
exit(0);

```

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	.	3	2	1	-	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	/										
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8



Midterm Exam Problem 3 – The Answers

File Size = 39

File Contents

H	E	L	L	O	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	R	i	c	e	.	3	2	1	-	y	z	W	O	R	L	D	H	o	u	s	t	o	n	/
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---