

Gilbert's UNIX History Trivia Questions

1. The a.out “magic” number, going back at least to V5, was 0407 (octal). Why that value?
2. The a.out magic number 0410 (octal) was added in what version?
3. How did a 0410 (octal) a.out differ in memory allocation?
4. In what version was the 0411 (octal) a.out type added?
5. How did a 0411 (octal) a.out differ from a 0410?
6. Who first came up with the “#!” notation for script files?
7. In what version did the “#!” notation first reach the public?
8. What is the “#!” prefix called? Why?
9. Why is there a semi-colon at the start of “;login:”?
10. What does “dsw” mean?