1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Definitions of Operating System

An Operating System (OS) is a collection of software that deal with computer hardware resources and provide common services for computer applications. The operating system is a very important element of the system software in a computer system. Application programs usually require an operating system to function as an interface between hardware and users i.e. environment architecture, permits convenient usage i.e. hides the unvarying stuff, allows efficient consumption i.e. avoids wasted cycles, parallel activity, provides information protection, gives each user a slice of the resources and acts as a control program.

![Abstract view of the parts of a computer system](image)

Figure 1-1 Abstract view of the parts of a computer system