## NAME

read - read from file

#### SYNOPSIS

(read = 3.) (file descriptor in r0) **sys read; buffer; nbytes** 

read(fildes, buffer, nbytes)
char \*buffer;

# DESCRIPTION

A file descriptor is a word returned from a successful *open*, or *pipe* call. *Buffer* is the location of *nbytes* contiguous bytes into which the input will be placed. It is not guaranteed that all *nbytes* bytes will be read; for example if the file refers to a typewriter at most one line will be returned. In any event the number of characters read is returned (in r0).

If the returned value is 0, then end-of-file has been reached.

#### SEE ALSO

open (II), pipe (II)

# DIAGNOSTICS

As mentioned, 0 is returned when the end of the file has been reached. If the read was otherwise unsuccessful the error bit (c-bit) is set. Many conditions can generate an error: physical I/O errors, bad buffer address, preposterous *nbytes*, file descriptor not that of an input file. From C, a -1 return indicates the error.