Exercise Set 8

Name: ____________________________________________________________

1. Develop three different concrete examples/scenarios for the “learning process” given in class.

2. Identify 4 different resources (information sources) you have used to “learn on your own” for your senior design project.
3. For each of the resources you listed in Question 2, write down how you determined whether it was a “good” (i.e., authoritative) source and how effective it has been for your learning.

4. Find at least two online/MOOC classes relevant to your senior design project. Write down the MOOC company, course name/number, and how it applies to your project.
5. Find at least two online/MOOC classes that are generally interesting to you. Explain why you find the course interesting and how you might use the information you would learn in the course.

6. Brainstorm three “side projects” that you would find interesting and the skills you would gain from doing them. Describe each of the projects and the skills. For each project, describe how might you define/limit the scope to make it a smaller effort while still learning the associated skills. How long do you think it would take you to complete (roughly) if you worked on the project in your “spare time”? 
7. Reflect on what the most effective approaches are for you personally to learn new material and skills related to software development and computer science. When thinking about how effective approaches are, consider (and discuss) the speed of learning (how quickly you learn the material), the depth of what you learn, and retention (how long you can recall and use the information you learn). Consider various approaches that you have tried in the past either through your courses or the learning you’ve done on your own. General approaches you might consider are learning within a structured setting (like a class), learning by reading a technical book (or textbook), learning by doing (e.g., following tutorials and/or learning a technology by using it to develop/build something), learning from others (e.g., from a mentor or a peer), or learning from ad-hoc approaches (e.g., reading posts to online sites, watching online videos, etc.). Also when discussing what the most effective approaches are for you personally, consider whether the type of information/skills you are trying to learn changes the approaches that work best for you.