Operation	Meaning
open	Prepare a device for use (e.g., power up)
read	Transfer data from the device to the application
write	Transfer data from the application to the device
close	Terminate use of the device
seek	Move to a new location of data on the device
ioctl	Miscellaneous control functions (e.g., change volume)

Figure 17.7 Six basic I/O functions that comprise the open/read/write/close paradigm. The names are taken from the Unix operating system.