Define the language L as:

$$L = \{0^i 1^i 2^i \mid i \ge 1\}$$

**Theorem.** L is not a context free language.

**Proof.** (By contradiction) Suppose that L is a context free language.

Let G be a CNF context-free grammar with k nonterminals such that L = L(G), and let  $n = 2^k$ .

Consider the string  $z = 0^n 1^n 2^n$ . Clearly,  $z \in L$ , and |z| = 3n.

Since  $|z| \ge n$ , it follows from the pumping lemma that z can be broken up into five parts i.e., z = uvwxy, such that  $|vx| \ge 1$ ,  $|vwx| \le n$ , and  $uv^iwx^iy \in L(G)$ , for all  $i \ge 0$ .

Consider which parts of  $z = 0^n 1^n 2^n$  form the substrings v and x.

Case 1) vx contains only 0's.

Then consider the string  $z' = uv^2wx^2y$ . By the pumping lemma  $z' \in L(G)$ . But since  $|vx| \geq 1$ , and v and x contain only 0's, it follows that z' is of the form  $0^m1^n2^n$ , where m > n. Hence,  $z' \notin L$ , a contradiction. Similarly if vx contains only 1's, or if it contains only 2's.

Case 2) vx contains both 0's and 1's, but no 2's.

Then consider the string  $z' = uv^2wx^2y$ . By the pumping lemma  $z' \in L(G)$ . But since  $|vx| \geq 1$ , and v and x contain 0's and 1's, it follows that z' contains more 0's and 1's than 2's. Hence,  $z' \notin L$ , a contradiction. Similarly if vx contains both 1's and 2's, but not 0's.

Case 3) vx contains both 0's and 2's.

Can't happen since  $z' = 0^n 1^n 2^n$  and  $|vwx| \leq n$ . In other words, v and x can contain at most two different symbols. Furthermore, if they do contain two different symbols, than those symbols must be consecutive.  $\square$