

User Interface

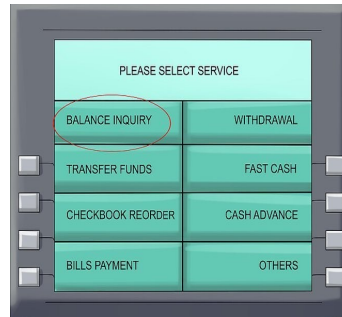
What is a user interface ?

A user interface is the method by which the user and the computer exchange information and instructions. There are three main types command-line, menu driven and graphical user interface (GUI).



Menu driven interfaces

The user is offered a simple menu from which to choose an option. One menu often leads to a further menu. Part of the screen may have an instruction followed by a numbered list of options to choose from.



Graphical user interfaces

Graphical user interface is sometimes shortened to GUI. The user chooses an option usually by pointing a mouse at an icon representing that option.

Features of GUIs include

- They are much easier to use for beginners.
- They enable you to easily exchange information between software using cut and paste or 'drag and drop'.
- They use a lot of memory and processing power. It can be slower to use than a command line interface if you are an expert user.
- They can be irritating to experienced users when simple tasks require a number of operations.

Command Line user Interface

A command-line interface allows the user to interact with the computer by typing in commands. The computer displays a prompt, the user keys in the command and presses enter or return. In the early days of personal computers, all PCs used command line interfaces.

Which user interface allows the user to interact with the computer by typing instructions?



Answer = Command line interface