

Name:

Answer the questions below. Be clear and concise in your answers, writing in complete sentences and providing examples for support as appropriate. Use as many sentences as you want.

We discussed direct manipulation, menu-based, command-based, and natural language interaction styles for user interfaces.

1. (4 pts) Choose **two** interaction styles and give an example of software that you use regularly that uses each of these two styles.
See slide 14 on page 4 of slide set 8 for a full description of the interaction styles, their advantages, their disadvantages, and examples of programs which use each style.
2 pts. for each example

2. (6 pts) Describe the consequences in terms of usability if the two pieces of software were to swap UI designs.
Here I was asking you to consider how interchangeable the interaction styles truly are.
For example, if Microsoft Word, which uses a combination of direct manipulation (WYSIWYG) and menu-based interaction were to exchange styles with a BIOS, which uses only menu-based interaction, this would result in a rather confusing interface. If all text had to be entered from a menu-driven set of dialogs instead of free-form, this would negatively affect the usability of Word because direct manipulation is much easier to visualize than fragments spread over a menu. If a BIOS were to also use direct manipulation interaction, it would lose the necessary precision in specifying exactly how the OS should be loaded, etc.
3 pts. for considering consequences of each program