CLI vs GUI

The command-line interface is a way to interact directly with your computer’s OS through command lines. Often Terminal and PowerShell are used to do this. Every OS has a command-line interface. There is no graphical component to this, it is purely text. Users can only enter commands line by line; they can make batch files as well to execute programs. The command-line also provides you with output and errors if your command was entered wrong or doesn’t have the desired effect.

The graphical user interface was designed to be more pleasing to look at and easier to navigate. There are objects that users can interact with and modify. GUIs are easier to navigate and use, especially for beginners. This is the visual component to and OS and computers in general. There are no longer just text command inputs, now users can have buttons, text still, images, and any other design element they wish. Another key part is the pointer or cursor, and having a mouse. In the command-line there is no pointer you must type on the line and use the arrow keys to move within the line. Icons and visual tools are the key difference here.