## Strategies for determining information requirements

There are three general approaches for getting information regarding the user’s requirements. They are:

### ASKING

This strategy obtains information from users by simply asking them about the requirements. There are some key asking methods.

1. Questions – These may be open-ended or closed. An open-ended question allows the respondent to formulate a response. A closed question requests one answer from a specific set of responses.
2. Brainstorming – It is a technique used for generating new ideas, getting non-conventional solutions and obtaining general information requirements.

### GETTING INFORMATION FROM EXISTING INFORMATION SYSTEM

1. Data Analysis – It simply asks the user what information is currently received and what other information is required.
2. Decision Analysis – This method breaks down a problem into parts, which allows the user to focus separately on the critical issues.

### PROTOTYPING

Prototyping is suitable for environments where it is difficult to formulate a concrete model for defining information requirements accurately before the information system is built. The reason could be the lack of an existing model on which to decide requirements or a difficulty in visualizing candidate system. As users gain experience, they request additional requirements or modifications and the process continues.