Apple iPhone
An Introduction to PI

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This document has been designed to introduce you to the AI Chatbot app called PI, on an Apple iPhone.

Assumptions Made in the Creation of this Document

Certain assumptions have been made in the creation of this document. They are as follows:

- The latest version of PI has been downloaded and installed onto your Apple iPhone. At the time of writing (06 January 2025), the latest version is 1.0.55.
- Your iPhone is running iOS 16 or later.
- Your iPhone is connected to the internet.

Note: The instructions given in this document have been created using an iPhone 13 Pro, running iOS version 18.2. If you are using an earlier version of iOS, you may find some minor differences. However, it isn't anticipated that you will!

What is PI?

PI, which stands for Personal Intelligence, is a Chatbot app, designed for Smartphones. It has been designed to be a personalised AI that can assist you with all sorts of things and provide a unique experience

tailored to you, just like a personal assistant, but with a digital twist! PI displays emotion, just like a human does when answering questions and describing things!

PI uses natural sounding language. It can help with a wide range of things, such as:

- Answering Questions - whether you are curious about history, science, current events or need a recipe suggestion, PI can help with all of these things!
- Providing Recommendations - from movies and TV shows to books, restaurants and travel destinations, PI can offer suggestions tailored to your preferences.
- Playing Games - if you are in the mood for some fun, PI can play word games, trivia games and more!
- Offering Support - PI can even act as a close friend. It can offer support if you are down in the dumps and will listen to your problems, providing reassurance where applicable!

Opening PI

To open PI, first locate its icon on the Home Screen and then activate it. Alternatively, invoke Siri and say "open PI".

The PI Main Screen

At the upper left corner of the PI main screen, you will find the "Profile" button. Activating this button results in a popup menu being displayed, consisting of a number of options, including Account, Manage History, Download your PI and Settings. To close this menu and return to the PI main screen, activate the "Close" button, situated at the upper left corner of the screen.

Situated at the upper right corner of the PI main screen, you will find two buttons. The left-most of these, is the "Thread" button. This, when activated, provides an option for creating a new thread (discussed soon). The right-most button, is the "Voice Mode"" button. This, when activated, toggles the voice that PI uses on/off.

Situated at the bottom of the PI main screen, you will find the "Talk with PI" Text Field. To the right of the Text Field, you will find the "Call PI" button. If text is entered into the Text Field, this button changes to become the "Send Message" button.

When you activate the Talk with PI Text Field, a Virtual keyboard is displayed and you are able to type a question. When the Call PI button is activated, a new screen is displayed and a sound is played. This sound indicates that the microphone has been engaged and you can start chatting to PI. To close the Call PI screen, activate the "End Call" button, situated at the upper left corner of the screen. Chatting with PI will be discussed shortly in this document.

Asking PI a Question

PI is great at answering questions! You can ask just about anything you can think of and PI will try to answer it. To ask a question, first activate the Text Field at the bottom of the screen. Upon doing this, the Text Field will be repositioned to be directly above the Virtual keyboard. Then, using the Virtual keyboard, type your question, for example "How tall is the Blackpool Tower?". Alternatively, activate the Dictate button, situated at the bottom right corner of the Virtual keyboard, and dictate it instead. Remember to activate the dictate button again when you have finished dictating!

When you have entered your question, activate the "Send Message" button, situated to the right of the Text Field and just above the letter "P". A few seconds later, PI will display the answer to your question on screen. It will also read aloud the information. In this case, the height of the Blackpool Tower. Sometimes, PI will provide you with additional information at the same time!

If you want to ask PI a follow-up question, activate the Text Field again and type/dictate your question. For example, "when was it built". Next, activate the Send Message button. A few seconds later, PI will inform you of the answer.

You can continue asking questions related to the Blackpool Tower and PI will answer them for you. Alternatively, you can ask questions on a different topic by creating a new Thread.

What is a Thread?

Each question you ask PI on a particular topic, along with its answer, is known as a "Thread". Basically, a Thread is a topic. You can create a New Thread and start asking questions about something else. This will mean the screen will contain multiple Threads.

Starting a New Thread

To start a new thread, first activate the "Thread" button, situated at the upper right corner of the screen. Remember, this is the left-most of the two buttons. Upon doing this, a popup window will be displayed, consisting of just one option. This is the "New Thread" button.

Activate the New Thread button. Upon doing this, the "New Thread" screen will be displayed. This screen contains the Talk with PI Text Field at the bottom of the screen. This will be activated and ready for your input.

Type/dictate your question and when done, activate the Send Message button. Remember, this button is situated to the right of the Text Field, just above the letter "P". A few seconds later, PI will display the answer to your question on screen and read it aloud.

If necessary, ask PI follow-up questions, until you have the information you need.

Chatting with PI

Another way of using PI, is to chat with it. In this way, you won't have to keep typing your question into the Text Field. You can chat verbally, just like you would with your partner, colleague or friend.

To chat with Pi, first activate the "Call PI" button, situated to the right of the Text Field. Upon doing this, a new screen will be displayed and the microphone will be engaged.

After the sound, ask your question and pause when done. This will allow PI to know you have finished. A few seconds later, PI will answer your question. This time, there will be no text on screen. To ask a follow up question, simply ask it, as if you were chatting with a real life person. There is no need to activate any buttons in order to do this, as the microphone is still active! PI will again answer your question a few seconds later.

Continue chatting with PI until you have found out what you need to know. When you have finished with your conversation, activate the "End Call" button, situated at the upper left corner of the screen. Upon doing this, you will return to the PI main screen. Here you will find the text from your conversation with PI, along with the text from your previous questions and answers.

Changing PI's Voice

If you don't like the voice PI uses, you can change it! PI can use a variety of male and female voices. Choosing the right voice, can make your experience of using PI even more enjoyable.

To choose an alternative voice, follow these steps:

1.   Activate the Profile button, situated at the upper left corner of the screen. Upon doing this, a popup menu will be displayed.

2.   From the menu, activate the Settings button. Upon doing this, a list of options will be displayed.

3.   Activate the Voice Settings button. Upon doing this, a list of available voices will be displayed.

4.   In total, there are 8 different voices, four male and 4 female. Activate the button for each voice to find out how it sounds. The last button you activate, will become the voice PI uses.

5.   When you have chosen your preferred voice, activate the "Dismiss Popup Window" button, situated at the top of the screen. Upon doing this, you will return to the Settings screen.

6.   Activate the "Back" button, situated at the upper left corner of the screen. Upon doing this, you will return to the Profile menu screen.

7.   Finally, activate the "Close" button, situated at the upper left corner of the screen. Upon doing this, you will be back in the PI main screen.

Now, ask PI a question and see what the new voice sounds like. Hopefully, it will meet your requirements! If it doesn't, follow the steps outlined above to choose a different voice.

Conclusion

PI is a fun app. It is a little like using Amazon's Alexa, or Google's Gemini service. However, where it is different, is in its ability to use emotion and to hold conversations in a natural way. In my experience, it provides much more information in its answers to your questions compared to Alexa or Gemini.

Be aware that artificial intelligence can often get things wrong, so don't take everything that PI informs you as being 100% correct. Sometimes, you will need to double-check information using an alternative method to ensure that the information PI has provided is correct. Having said this, PI is no different to any other AI Chatbot app as far as accuracy is concerned. In the main, I've found it to be as good as any other AI Chatbot app I've used.

As time goes by, PI will undoubtedly evolve into a really useful AI tool, and one which I will probably use quite a lot. I hope you will too!

To find out more about PI, contact the author, Gary Eady, using the following email address:

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