Psychology 12

1-2c Analyzing Psychological Approaches

Our textbook, *Understanding Psychology*, lists 10 historical and contemporary approaches to psychology (blue headings) in section 1-2. In a word document, with your partner, organize the approaches from the most comprehensive and flawless to the least comprehensive and flawed. Beneath the heading for each approach, include the following:

- 1 sentence summary of the approach
- State the founder or important contributors (if there are any)
- Defend your placement of each approach by saying why it is better or worse than the approaches before and after it (unless it's first or last). **Consider scientific merit when placing the approaches.**

Example

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1-2 Historical and Contemporary Approaches to Psychology

1. **Psychoanalytic Theory**
Psychoanalytic theory was coined by Sigmund Freud who looked to the unconscious mind using dream analysis and other methods to understand normal and abnormal behavior.

This is the most important theory in psychology because it clearly levels and defines the three forms of consciousness and allowed people to report on their own internal thoughts. This theory is more comprehensive than Trait Theory because it considers the mind while Inheritable Trait Theory focuses too much on biology and neglects the fact that people have choices.

2. **Inheritable Trait Theory**
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