Evaluation.

Statistical deviation
+(+) Real life application in the diagnosis of intellectual disability order. There is therefore a place for statistical deviation in thinking about what are normal and abnormal behaviour characteristics.
-(-) Unusual characteristics can be positive! An abnormally high IQ is not an undesirable quality.
-(-) Not everyone benefits from a label, such as if someone is living a happy and fulfilled life, there is no benefit to them being labelled as abnormal regardless of how unusual they are.

Deviation from social norms
-(-) Not a sole explanation, never a sole explanation for defining abnormality.
-(-) Cultural relativism. Behaviours that are accepted in one society/generation/area, may not be in the next. This creates problems for people from one culture living within another culture group.
-(-) can lead to human right abuses. Too much reliance on deviation from social norms to understand abnormality can also lead to systematic abuse of human rights.

Failure to function adequately
+(+) Patient’s perspective, it does attempt to include the subjective experience of the individual. In this sense the failure to function adequately definition captures the experience of many of the people who need help, this suggests it’s a useful criterion for assessing abnormality
-(-) Maybe just a deviation from social norms?
-(-) Subjective judgements, someone has to decide whether a patient is distressed or distressing.

Deviation from ideal mental health
+(+) It is a comprehensive definition, it covers a broad range of criteria for mental health
-(-) Cultural relativism, culture bound principles.
-(-) It sets an unrealistically high standard for mental health.