Psychoanalytic Theory

1) Dynamism: constantly changing, personality driven, imbedded in our everyday language.
2) Freud: Sex and aggression as basic principles of psychic energy. Personality constructed in the unconscious mind.
3) Hysteria: Gendered concept
4) Id: Completely unconscious. The pressure principle.
5) Ego: Reality principle, the defence mechanism against id.
6) Defence mechanisms: Repression of memories into unconsciousness; projection by denying self gratification and projecting them on someone else; sublimation through diverting energy into another outlet; rationalisation by justifying actions through reasoning; conversion as a physical manifestation of psychological condition.

Structure of the mind
1) Id comes into conflict with super-ego. Ego need to mediate between conflict between id and super-ego.
2) Free association: uncover unconscious conflicts.

Psychosexual stages

1) Freud says we must pass through each stage to reach an ideal personality type.
2) Oral: Becoming fixated on this stage means developing either a passive personality type (weened too early), or a sarcastic/nasty personality type (weened too late).
3) Anal: Fixated on letting go (mean), fixated on withholding (controlling).
4) Phallic: children attach themselves to the opposite sex. Girls jealous of not having a penis, this changes later in life when women feel ready to have children.
5) Latency: sex life subsided.

Psychoanalytic critique

1) deemphasis the role of sex.
2) No empirical evidence but did challenge the ways in which to do research and recognised that research does not have to be an objective process.
3) Feminist: psychoanalysis looked into gender as a social construction and the social power of phallic symbol.

Attachment Theory

Bowlby

1) After all stages are complete, child can feel attached in an abstract sense.
2) Maternal deprivation: theory had a massive impact. Prior to his work, healthcare only focused on Maslow’s bottom rung of hierarchal needs.
3) Separation: compensated by substitute family figures.
4) Research carried out after war: bereavement rather than attachment.
5) Political agenda of getting women back in the home because the men were back from war and usual gender roles needed to be resumed.

Ainsworth