

Use of theories and limitations

❖ Why do we use theories? And what do you think is the limitation of theories?

- To give a simplified view of complex reality/phenomena
- Theories are used to organize information thus enhance understanding
- Make predictions/extrapolations
- Identify gaps in knowledge
- Discover systematic relationship between facts
- Explain reality/phenomena
- Provide a framework within which a problem is considered
- Lead researchers into new discoveries

❖ Limitations of theories

- Can lead to oversimplifications
- Theories are sometimes confused with reality