Psychology, 8/e, by Bernstein et al. continues to strike a balance between classical and contemporary topics with a comprehensive, research-oriented approach. The text takes an active learning approach with the use of hallmark pedagogical features such as Linkages, Focus on Research Methods, and Thinking Critically. Features new to the print program include streamlined content, integration of Positive Psychology throughout the text (by Chris Peterson, University of Michigan), and optional four-color Neuropsychology and Industrial/Organizational Psychology chapters available through Houghton Mifflin Custom Publishing. Leading-edge technology enhancements to the program include static and interactive eBooks; upgraded Flash-enabled Netlabs, Web tutorials, and animations; new interactive Concept Maps; new Active Learning and Critical Thinking Booklets; and a new DVD entitled Revealing Psychology.

My Personal Review:
This is an excellent book which I find very difficult to fault. It is clearly explained and well presented and the online materials accompanying the book are very useful. The way in which the subject is presented is exciting and, despite being introductory material, the book invites the reader to take their skills to a higher level by deliberate application of critical thinking. However, my only minor criticism is that sometimes the authors do not follow their own advice - sometimes they make statements which I find doubtful and arise where they failed to apply sufficient critical thinking! (Of course we are all guilty of this error sometimes). However, these statements are few and far between, as most of the time the authors examine more than one side to every controversial issue. It is interesting how psychology texts reflect the psychology of the authors, and this book contains some curious 'Westernisms' - this is not a criticism, just an amusing observation which reinforces a major theme of the book regarding how social psychology affects our own perception. For example, I am not entirely convinced by the way the book compares western capitalist cultures to eastern socialist cultures. I must re-read this section. Clearly not even psychologists are immune to social influences! This book is
absolutely one of my favourites and it was a pleasure and an enlightenment to read it. I think the authors would actually be delighted by students who question their interpretation, since this is the over-riding theme of the book - look at the evidence and then decide objectively for oneself, and that is great advice to anyone in any walk of life.

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