1. What do you believe is the central difference between the requirements analysis approach(es) you studied in 5704 and the "participatory design"-based approach discussed in the assigned material?

I believe the central difference between the approaches is how much the customers are involved in the development process, how frequent that requirements are going to change, and how clear those requirements are at the early stage of product. So, the 5704's requirements analysis approach usually work for projects where the requirements are well detailed and documented before the project starts and customers will not be able to see the product until the it is completely done, which I think the waterfall model would be a good example for that where it is usually used in small projects like government ones. However, with the participatory design-based approach, the requirements are not fully known and detailed upfront and they are subject to frequent changes through the process, based on the direct feedback and participation of the customer, which I think the agile model is a good example for that where it is usually used in large projects like technology products.

2. If you were to use this HCI-based approach on a new project, would you worry about prematurely considering or making important design decisions during requirements gathering? Why or why not?

I would not worry about prematurely making big design decisions during requirements gathering to avoid wasting time and frequent requirement changes in the future, as I think most of the requirements and decisions in the HCI-based approach are better considered through the development process of the product, not at the early stages of the requirements gathering, as I believe that most of these decisions would be based on the users feedback after interacting with the product after each iteration or feature push. That is, in this approach, developers cannot make important design decisions without having users to interact with the product first and provide their feedback after that.