

### Introduction

1. Issue a clear statement of the problem to be solved.
2. Two or more competing proposals are generated.
3. Members identify the explicit or implicit assumptions that underlie each proposal.
4. The team then breaks into advocacy sub, who examine and argue the relative merits of their positions.
5. The group reassembles and makes a decision:
  - a. Embrace one of the alternatives
  - b. Forge a compromise
  - c. Generate a new proposal

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<http://www.nwlink.com/~donclark/perform/dialectics.html>

### Principles of Dialectics

The purpose of the dialectic method of reasoning is resolution of disagreement through rational discussion, and, ultimately, the search for truth. One way to proceed—the Socratic method—is to show that a given hypothesis (with other admissions) leads to a contradiction; thus, forcing the withdrawal of the hypothesis as a candidate for truth (see *reductio ad absurdum*).

Another dialectical resolution of disagreement is by denying a presupposition of the contending thesis and antithesis; thereby, proceeding to sublation (transcendence) to synthesis, a third thesis. It is also possible that the rejection of the participants' presuppositions is resisted, which then might generate a second-order controversy

### Fichtean Dialectics (Hegelian Dialectics)

Fichtean Dialectics (Hegelian Dialectics) is based upon four concepts:

- Everything is transient and finite, existing in the medium of time.
- Everything is composed of contradictions (opposing forces).
- Gradual changes lead to crises, turning points when one force overcomes its opponent force (quantitative change leads to qualitative change).
- Change is helical (spiral), not circular (negation of the negation).

### Hegelian dialectic

Hegelian dialectic, usually presented in a threefold manner, was stated by Heinrich Moritz Chalybäus as comprising three dialectical stages of development: a thesis, giving rise to its reaction, an antithesis, which contradicts or negates the thesis, and the tension between the two being resolved by means of a synthesis.

### Socratic Method

