

Dialectics and Hypothetical Questions

Post by “Cassius” of January 18, 2021 at 7:42 PM

[Don](#) (who likes to dive into the Greek) I was taken aback when I pasted this because I was going to paste from the Bailey version I have here, and I see Bailey used "logic" and "logicians" rather than dialectics / dialecticians. The pastes above are from Wikisource which is [Hicks](#)

Any thoughts?

Dialectic

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For varieties of language, see [Dialect](#). For electrical insulators, see [Dielectric](#).

Dialectic or **dialectics** (Greek: διαλεκτική, *dialektikḗ*; related to [dialogue](#)), also known as the **dialectical method**, is at base a [discourse](#) between two or more people holding different [points of view](#) about a subject but wishing to establish the [truth](#) through [reasoned](#) methods of [argumentation](#). Dialectic resembles [debate](#), but the concept excludes [subjective](#) elements such as [emotional appeal](#) and the modern [pejorative](#) sense of [rhetoric](#).^{[1][2]} Dialectic may thus be contrasted with both the [eristic](#), which refers to [argument](#) that aims to successfully dispute another's argument (rather than searching for truth), and the [didactic method](#), wherein one side of the conversation teaches the other. Dialectic is alternatively known as *minor logic*, as opposed to *major logic* or *critique*.

Within [Hegelianism](#), the word *dialectic* has the specialised meaning of a [contradiction](#) between ideas that serves as the determining factor in their relationship. [Dialectical materialism](#), a theory or set of theories produced mainly by [Karl Marx](#) and [Friedrich Engels](#), adapted the Hegelian dialectic into arguments regarding traditional [materialism](#).

Dialectic tends to imply a *process* of evolution and so does not naturally fit within [formal logic](#) (see [Logic and dialectic](#)). This process is particularly marked in Hegelian dialectic, and even more so in Marxist dialectic, which may rely on the evolution of ideas over longer time periods in the real world; [dialectical logic](#) attempts to address

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