

FIVE simple steps to

using Dialectics

1. DEFINE THE SYSTEM

- What is the situation or system that you are analyzing?
- How did this situation develop?

2. IDENTIFY THE CONTRADICTIONS

- What are the forces at play inside of this situation? What interests do those forces represent?
- What are the contradictions in the situation? Name as many as you can.
- Is one of the contradictions in rapid motion? Is this the primary contradiction?

3. ANALYZE POSSIBLE RESOLUTIONS

- What would resolve the different contradictions in this situation?
- Which contradiction if it were resolved would change the nature of the situation? Is that the fundamental contradiction?
- How does this contradiction relate to the fundamental contradiction?
- What is the fundamental contradiction in this situation?

4. PLAN AN ACTION

- Are there external forces acting upon and influencing the development of the situation?
- What quantitative changes might lead to qualitative change in the situation?
- **How might your actions change the situation? What actions might push the situation towards those quantitative changes and towards resolution of the fundamental contradiction?**

5. GET TO WORK