## THE GREAT IDEAS: DIALECTIC

From the Syntopicon

## OUTLINE OF TOPICS

1. Definitions of dialectic	353
2. Diverse theories of dialectic	
2a. Dialectic as the pursuit of truth and the contemplation of being	
(1) The ascent from appearance to reality, or from opinion to knowledge: the upward and downward paths of dialectic	
(2) Definition, division, hypothesis, and myth in the service of dialectic	354
2b. Dialectic as the method of inquiry, argument, and criticism in the sphere of opinion	
(1) Divisions of dialectic: the theory of the predicables	
(2) The technique of question and answer	
2c. Dialectic as the logic of semblance and as the critique of the illusory employment of reason beyond experience	
(1) The division of logic into analytic and dialectic: the distinction between general and transcendental dialectic	
(2) The natural dialectic of human reason	
2d. Dialectic as the evolution of spirit or matter	
(1) The distinction between subjective and objective dialectic: the realization of the moral will	355
(2) The dialectic of nature and of history: the actualization of freedom	
3. Types of dialectical opposition	
3a. The opposition between being and becoming, the one and the many, the same and the other	
3b. The opposed premises of dialectical argument: dialectical problems and theses; the conflict of probabilities	
3c. The opposed conclusions of dialectical reasoning: the antinomies and paralogisms of a transcendental dialectic	
3d. Thesis and antithesis as moments in the advance toward a dialectical synthesis	
4. Dialectic in relation to philosophy and science	
5. The spheres of dialectic and rhetoric: proof and persuasion	356
6. The evaluation of dialectic: the line between dialectic and sophistry	