

TOOLS OF ANALYSIS

1. **Nation-Class Perspective:** We must analyze everything from the in-terests of the African nation (i.e., the land Africa and the people, Africans) and also in the interests of African people. We must always try to analyze the nation/class interests involved in everything -- historical, present-day, and future. Thus it is clear that anywhere you find racism (national oppression) and class exploitation, they must be fought against.
2. **There is positive and negative in everything:** We must always try to identify opposing forces in everything. We must look for the positive forces and the negative forces in all social processes; at all levels, and in all as-pects. When we say positive, we mean those forces, which are for the people. When we say negative, we mean anything that is opposed to the people.
3. **Change is constant. Everything changes:** It is the struggle between the positive and negative forces in everything that produces change. We must look for the movement and direction of movement in all things, because everything is in motion, although at different rates, or speed. Change that occurs slow and gradual without a violent or sudden jump is called revolutionary, while change that occurs rapidly, violently, or with a sudden leap is called revolutionary change (if the change is total and some new quality or state of being occurs). From this we can see then that revolution is a way for humanity to consciously speed up positive development. Conflict that causes change is either antagonistic (violent, principled, intense, and hostile) or non-antagonistic (non-violent, tactical, less intense, and less hostile).
4. **Always look for the new in the old.**
5. **Always look for the old in the new.**
6. **Always remember that the people are the makers of history:** This will help us to properly understand the role of heroes and individuals as only catalysts in the historical development of humanity. We know that history is only changed and moved forward through the collective activity of the people.
7. **Matter is primary:** We know that both matter and mind (spirit) exists, but that matter is primary, and all that is "spiritual" (i.e., not matter) arises from matter. Ideas, attitudes, etc. always arise from specific concrete condi-tions, which must be looked at and understood to properly understand the impact of those ideas, attitudes, ideologies, etc. on the material world.
8. **Remember that history is a process, not a series of unconnected events:** Look for the inter connection between all social/historical forces. History is also subjective. In other words, while we understand that what has happened, and what is happening are objective (factual, independent of a person), the inter-pretation or emphasis given to history always reflects the outlook or interests of a particular nation and a particular class, at a particular time in history.
9. **The basis or cause for change is internal** i.e., the internal qualities of things determine the kind of change it can or does go through.
10. **The conditions for change are external** - i.e., the changes that a thing goes through are affected by the environment or conditions around or outside of it.