

'General' (pub. 20.08.17-11:22). Quote in M. Bergman & S. Paavola (Eds.), *The Commens Dictionary: Peirce's Terms in His Own Words. New Edition*. Retrieved from <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-issues-pragmatism-21>.

---

**Term:** General

**Quote:** A sign (under which designation I place every kind of thought, and not alone external signs) that is in any respect objectively indeterminate (i.e., whose object is undetermined by the sign itself) is objectively *general* in so far as it extends to the interpreter the privilege of carrying its determination further. [—]

Perhaps a more scientific pair of definitions would be that anything is *general* in so far as the principle of excluded middle does not apply to it and is *vague* in so far as the principle of contradiction does not apply to it.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1905). Issues of Pragmatism. *The Monist*, 15(4), 481-499.

**References:** EP 2:350-351; CP 5.447-448

**Date of** 1905

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-issues-pragmatism-21>