Term: Rhema

Quote: An assertion fulfilling the condition having been obtained, let a number of the proper designations of individual subjects be omitted, so that the assertion becomes a mere blank form for an assertion which can be reconverted into an assertion by filling all the blanks with proper names. I term such a blank form a *rheme*. If the number of blanks it contains is zero, it may nevertheless be regarded as a rheme, and under this aspect, I term it a *medad*. A medad is, therefore, merely an assertion regarded in a certain way, namely as subject to the inquiry, How many blanks has it? If the number of blanks is one, I term the rheme a *monad*. If the number of blanks exceeds one, I term it a *Relative Rheme*. If the number of blanks is two, I term the rheme a *Dyad*, or *Dyadic Relative*. If the number of blanks exceeds two, I term it a *Polyad*, or *Plural Relative*, etc.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1903 [c.]). *On Logical Graphs*. MS [R] 479.

References: CP 4.354

Date of Quote: 1903 [c.]

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-logical-graphs