

# Ratiocination

1893 | Grand Logic 1893: Division III. Substantial Study of Logic Chapter VI. The Essence of Reasoning | CP 4.38-39

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St. Thomas Aquinas [*Summa totius logicæ Aristotelis (Opusculum 48)*] divides the operations of the Understanding in reference to the logical character of their products into

*Simple Apprehension,*  
*Judgment,* and  
*Ratiocination, or Reasoning.* [—]

*Ratiocination* or *reasoning* produces *inferences* or *reasonings*, which are expressed by *argumentations*, as, "I think, therefore I must exist," "Enoch, being a man, must have died; and since the Bible says he did not die, not everything in the Bible can be true."

1893 | Grand Logic 1893: Division III. Substantial Study of Logic Chapter VI. The Essence of Reasoning | CP 4.45

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Ratiocination is defined by St. Thomas as the operation by which reason proceeds from the known to the unknown.

1895 | Short Logic: Chapter I. Of Reasoning in General | EP 2:11-12

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*Reasoning* is the process by which we attain a belief which we regard as the result of previous knowledge. [—]

Again, a given belief may be regarded as the effect of another given belief, without our seeming to see clearly why or how. Such a process is usually called an *inference*; but it ought not to be called a *rational inference, or reasoning*. A blind force constrains us. [—]

The word *illation* signifies a process of inference. Reasoning, in general, is sometimes called *ratiocination*. *Argumentation* is the expression of a reasoning.

1913 | An Essay toward Improving Our Reasoning in Security and in Uberty | EP 2:464

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*Reasoning-power; or Ratiocination, called by some Dianoetic Reason, is the power of drawing inferences that tend toward the truth, when their premises or the virtual assertions from which they set out are true.*