

# Sinsign

1903 | Syllabus: Nomenclature and Division of Triadic Relations, as far as they are determined | EP 2:291

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A *Sinsign* (where the syllable *sin* is taken as meaning “being only once,” as in *single*, *simple*, Latin *semel*, etc.) is an actual existent thing or event which is a sign. It can only be so through its qualities; so that it involves a *qualisign*, or rather, several *qualisigns*. But these *qualisigns* are of a peculiar kind and only form a sign through being actually embodied.

1903 [c.] | P of L | MS [R] 800:4

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...signs are divisible, first, according to their modes of being, as objects; secondly, according to the modes of their references to their objects; thirdly, according to the modes of their references to their interpretants. In the first way of dividing them, signs are either *qualisigns*, or signs that are abstract qualities (in a wide sense), or *suisigns*, signs that are essentially existent as individual objects or events, or *legisigns*, signs that [are] general types, laws, or habits.

1904 | Letters to Lady Welby | SS 32

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As it is in itself, a sign is either of the nature of an appearance, when I call it a *qualisign*; or secondly, it is an individual object or event, when I call it a *sinsign* (the syllable *sin* being the first sillable [*sic*] of *semel*, *simul*, *singular*, etc); or thirdly, it is of the nature of a general type, when I call it a *legisign*.

1904 | Firstness, Secondness, Thirdness, and the Reducibility of Fourthness [R] | MS [R] 914:6

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...in the first place a sign may, in its own firstness, either be a mere idea or quality of feeling, or it may be a ‘*sinsign*’, that is, an individual existent (and P. holds, with Hegel, that existence consists in the blind reaction of the existent with the rest of the universe in which it exists), or it may (like a word) be a general type (‘*legisign*’) to which existents may conform.

1905 | Letters to Mario Calderoni | MS [R] L67:36

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A sign in itself may be an indefinite possibility, when I term as a *Qualisign*, or it may be an existent thing or event, when I term it a *Sinsign* (*sin-* is the *sim-* of *simul*, *simplex*, etc.), or it may be a general type, when I call it a *Legisign*.

Parenthetical comment enclosed in square brackets in the original manuscript

1905 [c.] | The Basis of Pragmaticism | MS [R] 284:59

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A *sinsign* is a definite individual existent which is significant because of the circumstances of its existence, which are either significant or include the very object denoted.