**Term:** Assertion

**Quote:** ...throughout this essay the word “assertion” will be used to mean a certain kind of *communication*, and so to denote a performance requiring the coöperation of two parties (though not necessarily two different persons, since one person, for example, may write a memorandum for his own future information); one of these parties, who shall be called the *utterer*, by an exertion of will renders the other party, who shall be called the *interpreter*, sensible of certain signs by which he must recognize the fact that the utterer has willed to assert; and in the great majority of cases he will regard it as a real fact. The signs of which the interpreter becomes sensible may be indirect; that is, signs of signs; by which means ever so complex an assertion may be made in a single sign through a “code.”


**References:** MS [R] 680:22-3

**Date of Quote:** 1913

**URL:** http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-analysis-trustworthiness-different-kinds-reasonings