Term: Universe of Discourse

Quote: ...the Phemic Sheet iconizes the Universe of Discourse, since it more immediately represents a field of Thought, or Mental Experience, which is itself directed to the Universe of Discourse, and considered as a sign, denotes that Universe. Moreover, it [is because it must be understood] as being directed to that Universe, that it is iconized by the Phemic Sheet. So, on the principle that logicians call “the Nota notae” that the sign of anything, X, is itself a sign of the very same X, the Phemic Sheet, in representing the field of attention, represents the general object of that attention, the Universe of Discourse.


References: CP 4.561 n. 1

Date of Quote: 1908

Editorial Annotations: The insertion in square brackets was added by the editors of the *Collected Papers*

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-bed-rock-beneath-pragmaticism