Term: **Pragmatism**

**Quote:**
…the principle he called *pragmatism*, that is, that every concept (in contrast to qualities of feeling, images, experiences, etc.) is definable in terms of a possible purpose of conduct under hypothetical general conditions, and that from this can be deduced the best rule for rendering ideas clear, namely, “Consider what effects that *might conceivably* have practical bearings we conceive the object of our conception to have: then, our concept of those effects is the *whole* concept in question.”


**References:** Peirce, 1983, p. 66; MS [R] L107:7

**Date of Quote:** 1904

**Editorial Annotations:** This quote has been taken from Kenneth Laine Ketner's 1983 reconstruction of Peirce's 'Autobiography'.

**URL:** [http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-brief-intellectual-autobiography-charles-sanders-peirce-1](http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-brief-intellectual-autobiography-charles-sanders-peirce-1)