

'Mathematics' (pub. 14.03.18-13:41). Quote in M. Bergman & S. Paavola (Eds.), *The Commens Dictionary: Peirce's Terms in His Own Words. New Edition*. Retrieved from <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-brief-intellectual-autobiography-charles-sanders-peirce-5>.

---

**Term:** Mathematics

**Quote:** Mathematics merely traces out the consequences of hypotheses without caring whether they correspond to anything real or not. It is purely deductive, and all necessary inference is mathematics, pure or applied. Its hypotheses are suggested by any of the other sciences, but its assumption of them is not a scientific act.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1983). A Brief Intellectual Autobiography by Charles Sanders Peirce. *The American Journal of Semiotics*, 2(1-2), 61-83.

**References:** Peirce, 1983, p. 70; MS [R] L107:18

**Date of** 1904

**Quote:**

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

:

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-brief-intellectual-autobiography-charles-sanders-peirce-5>