

'Logica Utens' (pub. 01.02.13-17:34). 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-cambridge-lectures-reasoning-and-logic-things-philosophy-and-conduct-life>.

Term: Logica Utens

Quote: I shall have a good deal to say about right reasoning; and in default of better I had reckoned *that* as a Topic of Vital Importance. But I do not know that the theory of reasoning is quite vitally important. That it is absolutely essential in metaphysics, I am as sure as I am of any truth of philosophy. But in the conduct of life, we have to distinguish everyday affairs and great crises. In the great decisions, I do not believe it is safe to trust to individual reason. In everyday business, reasoning is tolerably successful; but I am inclined to think that it is done as well without the aid of theory as with it. A *Logica Utens*, like the analytical mechanics resident in the billiard player's nerves, best fulfills familiar uses.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1898). *Cambridge Lectures on Reasoning and the Logic of Things: Philosophy and the Conduct of Life*. MS [R] 437.

References: RTL 108-109

Date of 1898

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