

'Precept' (pub. 12.01.15-11:38). 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-categorical-and-hypothetical-propositions-are-one-essence-some-connected-2>.

Term: Precept

Quote: Every subject, when it is directly indicated, as *humanity* and *mortality* are, is singular. Otherwise, a precept, which may be called its *quantifier*, prescribes how it is to be chosen out of a collection, called its *universe*. In probable logic, the quantifiers – such as “nine out of ten,” and the like – refer to an experiential course or “long run.” But in necessary logic there is no reference to such a course of experience, and only two quantifiers are required; the *universal* quantifier, which allows any object, no matter what, to be chosen from the universe, and the *particular* quantifier, which prescribes that a suitable object must be chosen. When there are several quantified subjects, and when quantifications are different, the order in which they are chosen is material. It is the character of the quantifier of the *last chosen* subject which extends itself to the whole proposition.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1895-6 [c.]). *That Categorical and Hypothetical Propositions are one in essence, with some connected matters*. MS [R] 787.

References: CP 2.339

Date of 1895-6 [c.]

Quote:

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