

'Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]' (pub. 30.01.13-20:25). 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-deduction-induction-and-hypothesis-6>.

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**Term:** Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]

**Quote:** Suppose I enter a room and there find a number of bags, containing different kinds of beans. On the table there is a handful of white beans; and, after some searching, I find one of the bags contains white beans only. I at once infer as a probability, or as a fair guess, that this handful was taken out of that bag. This sort of inference is called *making an hypothesis*. It is the inference of a case from a *rule* and a *result*. We have, then—

DEDUCTION.

*Rule.*—All the beans from this bag are white.

*Case.*—These beans are from this bag.

∴ *Result.*—These beans are white.

INDUCTION.

*Case.*—These beans are from this bag.

*Result.*—These beans are white.

∴ *Rule.*—All the beans from this bag are white

HYPOTHESIS.

*Rule.*—All the beans from this bag are white.

*Result.*—These beans are white.

∴ *Case.*—These beans are from this bag.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1878). Deduction, Induction, and Hypothesis. *Popular Science Monthly*, 13, 470-482.

**References:** CP 2.623

**Date of** 1878

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-deduction-induction-and-hypothesis-6>