

'Icon' (pub. 05.03.18-15:58). 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-existential-graphs-0>.

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**Term:** Icon

**Quote:** An icon represents its object by being like it. It appeals to the so-called association by resemblance. This is not an accurate term, by the way, since resemblance *consists* precisely in different ideas being drawn together in our minds by an occult inward force. A *pure icon*, could such a sign exist, would present to us a pure sense-quality, without any parts nor any respects, and consequently without positive generality. But in fact there is no pure icon; and we apply the name icon to any sign in which the force of resemblance is the dominant element of its representativity.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1898). *On Existential Graphs*. MS [R] 484.

**References:** MS [R] 484:4-5

**Date of** 1898

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-existential-graphs-0>