

'Vague' (pub. 20.08.17-11:50). 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-issues-pragmatism-22>.

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**Term:** Vague

**Quote:** Every utterance naturally leaves the right of further exposition in the utterer; and therefore, in so far as a sign is indeterminate, it is vague, unless it is expressly or by a well-understood convention rendered general. [—]

Perhaps a more scientific pair of definitions would be that anything is *general* in so far as the principle of excluded middle does not apply to it and is *vague* in so far as the principle of contradiction does not apply to it.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1905). Issues of Pragmatism. *The Monist*, 15(4), 481-499.

**References:** EP 2:351; CP 5.447-448

**Date of** 1905

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-issues-pragmatism-22>