
**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.

**References:** EP 2:351; CP 5.447-448  
**Date of Quote:** 1905  
**URL:** http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-issues-pragmaticism-22