

'Tone' (pub. 22.04.13-19:25). 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-letters-lady-welby-21>.

Term: Tone

Quote: A Sign may *itself* have a “possible” Mode of Being. E.g. A hexagon inscribed in or circumscribed about a conic. It is a Sign, in that the collinearity of the intersections of opposite sides shows the curve to be a conic, if the hexagon is inscribed; but if it be circumscribed the copunctuality of its three diameters (joining opposite vertices.) Its mode of Being may be Actuality: as with any barometer. Or Necessitant: as the word “the” or any other in the dictionary. For a “possible” Sign I have no better designation than a *Tone*, though I am considering replacing this by “Mark.” [—] An Actual sign I call a *Token*; a Necessitant Sign a *Type*.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (nd). *Letters to Lady Welby*. MS [R] L463.

References: SS 83

Date of 1908

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