
Term: Analogy

Quote: The formula of analogy is as follows:-

\( S', S'', S''' \) are taken at random from such a class that their characters at random are such as \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( t \) is \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( S', S'', S''' \) are \( q \);
\( . . . \) \( t \) is \( q \).

Such an argument is double. It combines the two following:-

1

\( S', S'', S''' \) are taken as being \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( S', S'', S''' \) are \( q \).
\( . . . \) (By induction) \( P', P'', P''' \) is \( q \).

\( t \) is \( P', P'', P''' \).
\( . . . \) (Deductively) \( t \) is \( q \).

2

\( S', S'', S''' \) are, for instance, \( P', P'', P''' \).

\( t \) is \( P', P'', P''' \);
\( . . . \) (By hypothesis) \( t \) has the common characters of \( S', S'', S''' \).

\( S', S'', S''' \) are \( q \).
\( . . . \) (Deductively) \( t \) is \( q \).

Owing to its double character, analogy is very strong with only a moderate number of instances.


References: W 2:46-47; CP 2.513

Date of Quote: 1867

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-natural-classification-arguments

Commens: Digital Companion to C. S. Peirce (http://www.commens.org)