

'Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]' (pub. 28.01.13-21:03). 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-new-list-categories-6>.

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**Term:** Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]

**Quote:** In an argument, the premises form a representation of the conclusion, because they indicate the interpretant of the argument, or representation representing it to represent its object. The premises may afford a likeness, index, or symbol of the conclusion. In deductive argument, the conclusion is represented by the premises as by a general sign under which it is contained. In hypotheses, something *like* the conclusion is proved, that is, the premises form a likeness of the conclusion. Take, for example, the following argument: -

M is, for instance, PI, PII, PIII, and PIV;

S is PI, PII, PIII, and PIV:

∴ S is M.

Here the first premise amounts to this, that "PI, PII, PIII, and PIV" is a likeness of M, and thus the premises are or represent a likeness of the conclusion.

**Source:** Peirce, C. S. (1867). On a New List of Categories. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, 7, 287-298.

**References:** W 2:58; CP 1.559

**Date of** 1867

**Quote:**

**URL:** <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-new-list-categories-6>