Term: Interpretant

Quote: How shall we name the entire mental effect which a sign of itself is calculated, in its proper significative function, to produce? The word *signification* is somewhat too narrow, since, as examples will soon show, this mental effect may be of the nature of an emotion or that of an effort. No existing word is sufficiently appropriate. Permit me to call this total proper effect of the sign taken by itself the *interpretant* of the sign.


References: EP 2:429; MS [R] 318:40-1

Date of Quote: 1907

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-pragmatism-32