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Nota di contenuto	SEMIOLOGICALINVESTIGATIONS,ORTOPICS PERTAINING TO THE GENERAL THEORY OF SIGNS; Editorial page; Title page; Copyright page; Table of contents; Translator's Introduction; Note on the translation; Acknowledgments; Notes; Bibliography; Biographical Sketch; Notes; Preface; Contents; Semiological Investigations orTopics Pertaining to the General Theory of Signs; 1. Definitions; 2. Natural Signs; 3. Their Necessary Conditions; 4. Why terms especially deserve to be considered; 5. Grounds for distinguishing necessary and possible terms; Corollaries; 6. Intuitive and symbolic knowledge 7. The material and formal components of signs8. Primitive and derived signs; 9. The number of elements; 10. Relative aptitudes of sense objects to be signs; 11. How terms further clear and distinct knowledge; 12. The improving of derived signs; 13. The system of signs; 14. An example from the Arabic number system; 15. Derived, hypothetically necessary signs and when primitive signs are manifestly arbitrary; 16. Necessary elements in derived signs; 17. Material elements, more closely considered; 18. Formal elements of the sign,

more closely considered

19. What the derivational laws demand 20. Why languages do not contain systems of signs; 21. Dangers of a universal characteristic as developed by Leibniz, Becher, Toennies, Kalmar, and others; 22. Perfection of hieroglyphic or iconic signs; 23. The subjective perfection of signs; 24. How one is to consider the brevity of the sign without prejudicing its objective perfection; 25. The twofold use of essential signs; 26. Discovery with the aid of a calculus; 27. B) The sign at which we ultimately arrive

28. The idea of a calculus more universal than an algebra constructed in accordance with such a model. 29. How hieroglyphic signs aid invention; 30. Perfection of hieroglyphic or iconic signs recounted in preceding paragraph reduces to the perfection of essential signs; 31. Parallelism more closely considered; 32. The special use of hieroglyphic metaphorical signs; 33. B) Synecdochical signs; Appendix; Notes

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## Sommario/riassunto

Reprint of the original Latin text *Tentamina semiologica, sive quaedam generalem theoriam signorum spectantia* (1789), edited, translated and with an Introduction by Robert E. Innis The 33 sections of this classic text by Hoffbauer have a twofold focus: a descriptive inventory of signs, and a comparison of the expressive and cognitive powers of different sign systems. Using his sign typology as a point of departure, Hoffbauer inquires into the elements of matter and form both necessary and adequate to arrive at a definition of the sign. His purpose in doing so is to present his own versi

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