

adjustment, and their power of doing so will be exactly proportionate to their complexity—that is, to the amount of environment they can control with their correspondences. There are, for example, in the environment of every animal certain things which are directly or indirectly dangerous to life. If its equipment of correspondences is not complete enough to enable it to avoid these dangers in all possible circumstances, it must sooner or later succumb. The organism, then, with the most perfect set of correspondences, that is, the highest and most complex organism, has an obvious advantage over less complex forms. It can adjust itself more perfectly and frequently. But this is just the biological way of saying that it can live the longest. And hence the relation between complexity and longevity may be expressed thus—the most complete organisms are the longest lived."

He then adduces the case of a Medusa tossed ashore by a wave, and finding itself so "out of correspondence with its new surroundings that its life must pay the forfeit." And, "Again, in the case of a bird, in virtue of its more complex organization, there is command over a much larger area of environment. It can take precautions, such as the Medusa could not; it has increased facilities for