

Rough translation of the citation from Pierre de la Ramée (“Ramus”) on Fish, page 63:

METHOD is the disposition [i.e., placement of things] by which, given several matters, the first that is to be known is put in the first place, the second in the second place, the third in the third place and...

The NATURAL METHOD is that by which the matter that is, both in absolute terms and relative to other matters, most evident and most well-known is assigned to the first place, which Aristotle calls in his *Demonstration* sometimes that which is by nature most well-known, and sometimes that which by nature comes first; moreover that matter which is naturally most evident must come first in the order and declaration of doctrine, as causes precede their effects and consequences, and [?] also their symbols, and also as the general and universal take precedence of the special and particular.

And the more general [or universal] each matter proves to be, the more it must precede the others. And the most general will be the first in rank and order because it surpasses the others in its clarity and evidence. Matters subordinated to it will follow, as they are next in clarity. And of these the most evident will go first, the less evident will follow. And finally the examples that are the most specific and particular will be placed last. This method is singular and unique to well-established doctrines for in these, alone, those matters antecedent to all others and absolutely clearer and better-known, illuminate and illustrates subsequent matters that are obscure and less known.

Rough translation of the citation from Ramus on Fish, page 69:

In which the matters that come first are not those that are best understood, either absolutely or relative to other matters, but rather those that are, nonetheless, more appropriate to those who are to be taught.