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aporiae of Dilthey and historicism; The phenomenological opening; 4
Vigilance and Horizon in Hermeneutics
The constellation of understanding
Prejudices and things themselves:
which aporia?; Help from temporal distance?; The silent work of history;
The vigilance of a historically effective consciousness; The immemorial
canonicity of tradition and of the classical; The ethical vigilance of
application; The mirages of reflexion and the bugbear of relativism; 5
The Dialogue that We Are; Towards the uncanny nearness of language;
From Platonic forgetfulness of language to its Augustinian recall; The
conceptualization and the universality of rhetoric; Conclusion; The
truth of the word
The speculative truth of language
The universal aspect of hermeneutics:
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Sommario/riassunto

The ideas of the German philosopher Hans-Georg Gadamer (1900-2002) have had considerable influence, both in their own right as the leading modern exposition of philosophical hermeneutics and in interpreting the works of others, especially Heidegger, Hegel and Plato. This introduction provides authoritative interpretation and exposition of Gadamer's monumental work, *Truth and Method* (1960). With exemplary clarity Grondin presents the key themes of the book: method, humanism, aesthetic judgement, truth, the work of history and provides readers with an unrivalled guide through Gadamer's often complex and difficult ideas. Of particular value is the way in which Grondin situates Gadamer's concerns within the wider context of traditional philosophical issues, showing, for example, how Gadamer both continues, and significantly modifies, the philosophical problem of the method as it begins with Descartes, and how he advances rather than simply follows Heidegger's treatment of the relationship of thinking and language. In this way Grondin shows how the issues of philosophical hermeneutics are relevant for contemporary concerns in science and history. The *Philosophy of Gadamer* is essential reading for all students, beginning or experienced, setting out to tackle Gadamer's challenging body of work.
