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Part II: Realism and Antirealism about Science5. Scientific Realism; 5.1 Appearance and reality; 5.2 The metaphysics of the external world; 5.3 Semantics; 5.4 Standard scientific realism; 5.5 Antirealism; Further reading; 6. Underdetermination; 6.1 Underdetermination; 6.2 Constructive empiricism; Further reading; 7. Explanation and Inference; 7.1 Explanation; 7.2 Inference to the best explanation; 7.3 Common sense, realism and constructive empiricism; Further reading; 8. Realism About What?; 8.1 Theory change; 8.2 Multiple models; 8.3 Idealisation; 8.4 Structural realism; Further reading  
GlossaryBibliography; Index

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## Sommario/riassunto

Few can imagine a world without telephones or televisions; many depend on computers and the Internet as part of daily life. Without scientific theory, these developments would not have been possible. In this exceptionally clear and engaging introduction to philosophy of science, James Ladyman explores the philosophical questions that arise when we reflect on the nature of the scientific method and the knowledge it produces. He discusses whether fundamental philosophical questions about knowledge and reality might be answered by science, and considers in detail the debate between realist

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