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Sommario/riassunto	Chris Rojek considers the influence of such key social constructs as capitalism, modernity, and postmodernity on the ways we have come to perceive and use leisure. Within a capitalist framework, issues ranging from the meaning of workers' free time to the gendered nature of leisure are explored; the impact of modernity is examined next, offering accounts and analyses of the prevailing - and conflicting - theories. Finally, the author assays the cultural condition that has radically changed the idea of leisure: postmodernism.