

Assessment 1 The Use of Philosophy of Science

Richard Feynman was a Nobel-prize winning physicist. He is rumored to have said, in one of his many addresses to public audiences, that “Philosophy of science is about as useful to scientists as ornithology is to birds.”¹ Assess the correctness of Feynman’s analogy. In doing so, explain Feynman’s analogy, and appeal to views from the various readings in Unit 1 about the usefulness of philosophy of science. (The materials by Adler, Noë, and Zynda are especially relevant.)

¹ Attributed to Richard Feynman in Donald E. Simanek and John C. Holden, *Science Askew: A Light-Hearted Look at the Scientific World* (Philadelphia: Institute of Physics Publishing, 2002), 215.

