

Q.3. Read the following text carefully and answer the questions below: (20)

Experience has quite definitely shown that some reasons for holding a belief are much more likely to be justified by the event than others. It might naturally be supposed, for instance, that the best of all reasons for a belief was a strong conviction of certainty accompanying the belief. Experience, however, shows that this is not so, and that as a matter of fact, conviction by itself is more likely to mislead than it is to guarantee truth. On the other hand, lack of assurance and persistent hesitation to come to any belief whatever are an equally poor guarantee that the few beliefs which are arrived at are sound. Experience also shows that assertion, however long continued, although it is unfortunately with many people an effective enough means of inducing belief, is not in any way a ground for holding it.

The method which has proved effective, as a matter of actual fact, in providing a firm foundation for belief wherever it has been capable of application, is what is usually called the scientific method. I firmly believe that the scientific method, although slow and never claiming to lead to complete truth, is the only method which in the long run will give satisfactory foundations for beliefs. It consists in demanding facts as the only basis for conclusions, and in consistently and continuously testing any conclusions which may have been reached, against the test of new facts and, wherever possible, by the crucial test of experiment. It consists also in full publication of the evidence on which conclusions are based, so that other workers may be assisted in new researchers, or enabled to develop their own interpretations and arrive at possibly very different conclusions.

There are, however, all sorts of occasions on which the scientific method is not applicable. That method involves slow testing, frequent suspension of judgment, restricted conclusions. The exigencies of everyday life, on the other hand, often make it necessary to act on a hasty balancing of admittedly incomplete evidence, to take immediate action, and to draw conclusions in advance of the evidence. It is also true that such action will always be necessary, and necessary in respect of ever larger issues; and this inspite of the fact that one of the most important trends of civilization is to remove sphere after sphere of life out of the domain of such intuitive judgment into the domain of rigid calculation based on science. It is here that belief plays its most important role. When we cannot be certain, we must proceed in part by faith—faith not only in the validity of our own capacity of making judgments, but also in the existence of certain other realities, pre-eminently moral and spiritual realities. It has been said that faith consists in acting always on the nobler hypothesis, and though this definition is a trifle rhetorical, it embodies a seed of real truth.

Answer briefly in your own words the following questions:

1. Give the meaning of the underlined phrases as they are used in the passage. (04)
2. What justification does the author claim for his belief in the scientific method? (04)
3. Do you gather from the passage that conclusions reached by the scientific method should be considered final? Give reasons for your answer. (04)
4. In what circumstances, according to the author, is it necessary to abandon the scientific method? (04)
5. How does the basis of "intuitive judgment" differ from that of scientific decision? (04)

Compoehension CSS 2015

Q1- "justified by the event" :- There are different reasons for clinging on to a particular belief. This phrase conveys that there are some reasons that ^{contribute} ~~are~~ more solid to make a belief strong.

"an effective enough means of inducing belief" :- Author is talking about assertion; that this is something that contributes to make people believe for something. However, experience shows that this is exactly not the case ~~always~~ because of which they ~~always~~ have a strong belief.

"trends of civilization" :- Societies and civilizations, after reach to research, and science while digging to find evidence for any intuitive judgement. Hence, scientific method would ~~always~~ and is always used.

"the nobler hypothesis" :- It is a saying that whenever we are confused ~~is~~ between two belief hypothesis for faith and belief; the more positive one is more ^{likely to be} ~~prob~~ ~~probably~~ ~~no~~ true.

Q2- The scientific method relies on facts, ^{and} consistent, ^{and} ^{and experimentation} continuous testing to draw any conclusion. Moreover, the findings are also published, hence, open for more researchers to validate or deny.

Q3- Scientific method's conclusion are not reliable for every case. These include the cases of which, experimentation takes long to durations, and those of which the judgements and/or conclusions are denied by other researchers frequently after they are published. However, if the conclusions are validated by other researchers, then this method is more reliable.

Q4- The scientific method could be abandoned for ^{the} occasions which ~~to take~~ ^{require} more duration for their experiments, and those that have restricted conclusions. Moreover, it is also necessary for a great majority ^{of researchers} to arrive to the same conclusion that is going to be accepted.

Q5- Scientific decision is reached upon through a complete process, whereas this is not the case for intuitive judgement. Facts, experimentation, and the consensus of a great majority of researchers is necessary for the validation of a scientific decision. Whereas, intuitive judgement comes to the rescue whose ^{the} scientific method fails, that is for longer ^{durations} processes. Intuitive judgement could be applied for ^{to} every type of scenarios.