PRÉCIS Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 1973

Passage.

As a kind of foot-note I should comment that there are those who doubt whether it is within the power of science to ensure over a prolonged period freedom from destitution and famine for mankind. The argument -is the old one of Malthus that in the race between increasing population and increasing production, population must eventually win, Those of us who decline to accept this pessimistic view recognize the difficulty of the practical problem of meeting the needs of an ever-expanding population. We have, however, greater faith in human resourcefulness! We note that it is not only in the technology of production and medicine that the present generation differs so greatly from the one before, A similar rapid change is likewise occurring the thinking of masses of people. This change is brought about partly by experience with technology by more widespread education. Here lies a new realm in which dramatic advance is being made. The hope for the longer future lies in a growing understanding of the conditions for the good life of man in a world of science and technology, and the acceptance of a morality that is consistent with these conditions. With the widespread thought now being given to such problems by persons whose thinking is schooled to rely on reason and tested fact. It is evident that advance from this angle will also appear. Youth may, for example, consider the remarks as an effort to see in truer perspective the type of ideals that are appropriate to the age of science. Many are those who are now sharing to this exploration of human values. The great question is whether such understanding of human goals and the corresponding development of morals can be achieved before the forces seen by Malthus, and emphasized so forcefully by recent writers; overwhelm the efforts of the pioneers in this new and critical field. I do not believe that this is inevitable. Jam confident of man's ability to meet and solve this ethical problem that is so vital to the success of his effort to achieve physical and spiritual freedom. It is relevant that as I analyse the reasons for my faith in man's eventual ability to meet this critical problem! I find that prominent in my mind is the confidence that God who made us holds for us an increasing density, to be achieved through our own efforts in the World setting that he supplies. This observation is significant in the present setting because it is my strong impression that most of those who have the firm faith in man's advancement likewise have a religious basis for their faith. If this impression is valid its consequence is clear. It means that it is men and women of religious faith on whom we must primarily rely to work strongly toward achieving a favourable world society. It means also that those of religious faith because of their faith have a better chance of survival, a fact that has a bearing on the attitude that may be expected in the society of the future.

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TRANSLATION

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EXERCISE 1

Having more man one

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Solutions of Comprehension Questions Asked in Previous CSS Papers (2015-1986)

CSS 2015

Q3. 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 in spite 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.

Questions:

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

DATE: __/_ Comprehension (a) Q: 16) The author firmly believes that the suentific method, with its your on galtering facts , lonstente testing, and working together, gives the sest susis for be liefs. even though it may not apply in every situation. And conclusions can be drawn from experiment conducted of the conclusion is not what is desired then it may help arriving at different/new proposition for more researches. a: The passage makes it clear that secentific conclusions are not get in stone. It requires constant testing, examining, and the einportance of beliefs in uncertain times. Scientizic conclusions can change with you evidence and en certain cases, quick decisions may rely on intuition and faith. In certain everyday situations. the scientific method may not be feasable there due to time containts and ancomplete evidence.

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