

**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

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based, so that other workers may be assisted in new researches, 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.

**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)



- Q: Give the meaning of the underlined phrases as used in passage.

(1) Justified by the event:

- Validation or backing of an event; something which has more chances to be logical or sound due to the fact that it is validated and supported.

(2) An effective enough means of inducing belief

- The efficient and practical way of instilling belief; one of the ways to drive the primary element of belief

(3) trends of civilization

- The pattern of civilizations; something that has persistently been practiced in normal course

(4) the nobler hypothesis

- The well-accepted and logical experiment, based upon relatively true facts



Date:    /    / 20  

- Q: What justification does the author claim for his belief in the scientific method?

Scientific method provides a firm basis of the conclusion based on the proven facts. The logical conclusion, although may not prove to be true, is reached on the basis of facts including the continuous process of testing against emergence of new facts. These conclusions, eventually become the basis of new researches. Hence, the author considers the scientific method as one of the sound method to derive conclusion on the basis of facts.

- Q: Do you gather from the passage that conclusions reached by the scientific method should be considered final. Give reasons for your answer.

Scientific method involves the testing of facts in order to reach to a logical conclusion. However, it is wrong to assume that these conclusions are final and can't be erroneous. It is only the sound and practical method, compared to



Other methods, which provides strong conviction than others. The conclusion is reached on the basis of available fact, implying that there is room for new facts to emerge which can prove the prior conclusion as false. ~~That is why, these conclusions should not be considered final.~~

- Q: In what circumstances, according to the author, is it necessary to abandon scientific method?

The author believes that at some instances, scientific method is not considered an appropriate method to derive conclusions, primarily because of incomplete evidence. This encompasses the routinely and day-to-day activities which are devoid of sound facts in order to reach at conclusion. In these cases, it is not the facts which enable us to deduce conclusion but our sound reasoning plays the prominent role in this regard.



Date: 1/1/20

- Q: How does the basis of "intuitive judgement" differ from that of scientific decision?

Scientific judgement is predominantly driven by the facts which become the basis of logical conclusion. On the other hand, the intuitive judgement is based on moral and spiritual facts. It is the belief that becomes important and plays the central role. In cases of uncertainties, our faith becomes the driving force along with moral and spiritual realities.

SATISFACTORY  
ANSWERS ARE RELEVANT

over all there is no need to write the cut lines  
need improvement  
9/20

over all satisfactory