

unheroic line of attack on the problem. Yet experience up to date indicates unmistakably, in my opinion, that the second of these two hard roads is by far the more promising.

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 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)

### Answer 3 (i)

Justified by the event.

Proved by the event.

An effective enough means of inducing belief  
A way to make someone's mind about something.

trends of civilization  
changes of societies.

Nobler hypothesis

Assumption.

### Answer 3 (ii)

The author believes in the scientific method because it doesn't draw conclusions without facts. The scientific methods have firm foundations in the form of facts that provides bases for the conclusions drawn. Moreover, these conclusions aren't final, they are open for scrutiny by other researchers.

The conclusions or interpretations might change in the future. Because of its backing from facts and scrutiny of conclusions, Author believes in scientific method.

### Answer 3 (iii)

The conclusions gathered from scientific methods aren't final. They are always open for further testing. The conclusions can be tested continuously with new facts. They are open for experimentations. The old conclusions can be rejected with

new facts and can lead to new theory.  
Hence, the conclusions reached by scientific methods shouldn't be considered final.

### Answer 3(iv)

The author didn't talk about abandoning scientific method, however, he emphasized that in some occasions scientific method is not applicable. As scientific method is slow and demands facts, there are many areas of life in which one can't apply scientific method. One such area is daily life problems. It needs quick way out to deal with the situation and one can't wait for scientific methods to draw conclusions as it is a slow procedure.

### Answer 3(v)

The intuitive judgments differs from scientific method. A scientific method requires a systematic procedure. In systematic procedure, conclusions can't be obtained without following procedure. However, in intuitive judgment one can draw conclusions without going through a systematic procedure. The conclusion drawn by intuitive judgment might be from assumptions or presumptions.