

## Section A

Answer **all** the questions in the spaces provided.

- 1 The planet Mars may be considered to be an isolated sphere of diameter  $6.79 \times 10^6$  m with its mass of  $6.42 \times 10^{23}$  kg concentrated at its centre. A rock of mass 1.40 kg rests on the surface of Mars.

For this rock,

- (a) (i) determine its weight,

$$\text{weight} = \dots \text{N} \quad [3]$$

- (ii) show that its gravitational potential energy is  $-1.77 \times 10^7$  J.

[2]

- (b) Use the information in (a)(ii) to determine the speed at which the rock must leave the surface of Mars so that it will escape the gravitational attraction of the planet.

$$\text{speed} = \dots \text{ms}^{-1} \quad [3]$$

- (c) The mean translational kinetic energy  $\langle E_K \rangle$  of a molecule of an ideal gas is given by the expression

$$\langle E_K \rangle = \frac{3}{2} kT$$

where  $T$  is the thermodynamic temperature of the gas and  $k$  is the Boltzmann constant.

- (i) Determine the temperature at which the root-mean-square (r.m.s.) speed of hydrogen molecules is equal to the speed calculated in (b).  
Hydrogen may be assumed to be an ideal gas.  
A molecule of hydrogen has a mass of 2 u.

temperature = ..... K [2]

- (ii) State and explain one reason why hydrogen molecules may escape from Mars at temperatures below that calculated in (i).

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[2]