

3 (a) Define *specific heat capacity*.

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..... [2]

(b) A sealed container of fixed volume  $V$  contains  $N$  molecules, each of mass  $m$ , of an ideal gas at pressure  $p$ .

(i) State an expression, in terms of  $V$ ,  $N$ ,  $p$  and the Boltzmann constant  $k$ , for the thermodynamic temperature  $T$  of the gas.

..... [1]

(ii) Show that the mean translational kinetic energy  $E_K$  of a molecule of the gas is given by

$$E_K = \frac{3}{2}kT.$$

[2]

(iii) Explain why the internal energy of the gas is equal to the total kinetic energy of the molecules.

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(c) The gas in (b) is supplied with thermal energy  $Q$ .

(i) Explain, with reference to the first law of thermodynamics, why the increase in internal energy of the gas is  $Q$ .

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- (ii) Use the expression in **(b)(ii)** and the information in **(c)(i)** to show that the specific heat capacity  $c$  of the gas is given by

$$c = \frac{3k}{2m}.$$

[2]

- (d) The container in **(b)** is now replaced with one that does not have a fixed volume. Instead, the gas is able to expand, so that the pressure of the gas remains constant as thermal energy is supplied.

Suggest, with a reason, how the specific heat capacity of the gas would now compare with the value in **(c)(ii)**.

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