

- 3 Fig. 3.1 shows a frictionless piston-cylinder with a built-in heater.

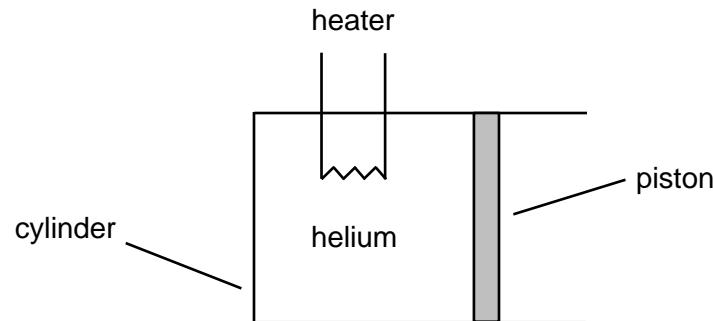


Fig. 3.1

Before the heater is switched on, the cylinder contains 0.60 m^3 of helium gas at pressure 101 kPa and temperature of 28°C . When the heater is switched on for 15 minutes, the gas expands at constant pressure and its temperature rises to 57°C . A heat loss of 7000 J to the surrounding occurs during the process.

Assume the gas behaves like an ideal gas and the heater is rated at 24 W and 120 V.

- (a) (i) Using the kinetic theory of gases, explain why the volume of the gas expands when it is heated at constant pressure.

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[2]

- (ii) On Fig. 3.2, sketch the pressure-volume graph for the process. Label the graph with appropriate values of pressure and volume.

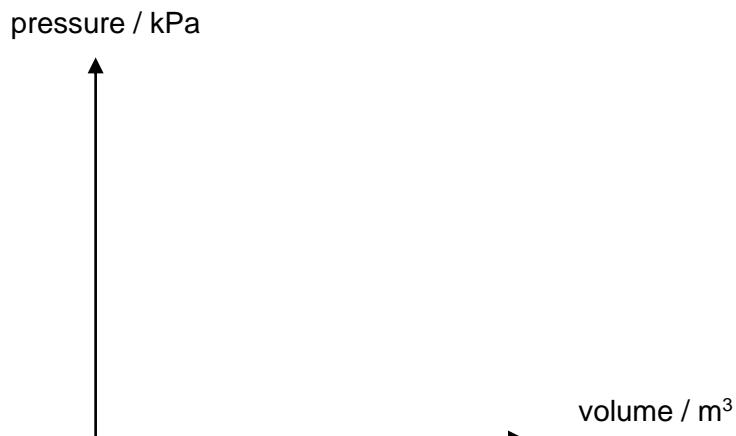


Fig. 3.2

[2]

- (iii) Using *first law of thermodynamics*, determine the change in internal energy of the helium gas.

change in internal energy = J [3]

- (b)** The thermodynamic temperature of a gas T is a measure of the average translational kinetic energy of a molecule in the gas. The pressure p of an ideal gas is related to its microscopic quantities by the relationship $pV = \frac{1}{3}Nm\langle c^2 \rangle$ where

V : volume occupied by the gas
 N : total number of gas molecules
 m : mass of each gas molecule
 $\langle c^2 \rangle$: mean square speed of the gas molecules.

- (i)** By comparing the above relationship with $pV = Nkt$, where k is the Boltzmann constant, show that the average kinetic energy of the molecules is $E = \frac{3}{2}kT$.

[1]

- (ii)** Hence, calculate the root-mean-square speed of a helium molecule at 57.0 °C. The mass of one mole of helium molecules is 4.00 g.

root-mean-square speed = m s⁻¹ [2]