

- 4 (a) Define *specific heat capacity*.

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[1]

- (b) A container of volume V contains N molecules, each of mass m , of an ideal gas at pressure p . Each molecule travels with a mean-square speed $\langle c^2 \rangle$.

The pressure p of an ideal gas is given by

$$p = \frac{1}{3} \frac{Nm}{V} \langle c^2 \rangle.$$

- (i) Show that the mean kinetic energy $\langle E_K \rangle$ of a molecule is given by:

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

where k is the Boltzmann constant and T is the thermodynamic temperature.

[2]

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

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[2]

- (c) The mass of a hydrogen molecule is 3.34×10^{-27} kg.

Use the expression in (b)(i) to determine the root-mean-square (r.m.s) speed of a molecule of hydrogen gas at 25°C.

$$\text{r.m.s. speed} = \dots \text{ m s}^{-1} [2]$$

- (d) Use the first law of thermodynamics to explain the following observations:

- (i) The specific heat capacity of an ideal gas measured at constant volume is lower than the specific heat capacity when measured at constant pressure.

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- (ii) The internal energy of the water in an ice cube increases when the ice melts, at atmospheric pressure, to form a liquid without any change of temperature.

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[Total: 11]