

# NCERT Solutions for Class 11th Physics: Chapter 12 – Thermodynamics

**Question 12.1:**

A geyser heats water flowing at the rate of 3.0 litres per minute from 27 °C to 77 °C. If the geyser operates on a gas burner, what is the rate of consumption of the fuel if its heat of combustion is  $4.0 \times 10^4$  J/g?

Answer

Water is flowing at a rate of 3.0 litre/min.

The geyser heats the water, raising the temperature from 27°C to 77°C.

Initial temperature,  $T_1 = 27^\circ\text{C}$

Final temperature,  $T_2 = 77^\circ\text{C}$

∴ Rise in temperature,  $\Delta T = T_2 - T_1$

$= 77 - 27 = 50^\circ\text{C}$

Heat of combustion  $= 4 \times 10^4$  J/g

Specific heat of water,  $c = 4.2 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$

Mass of flowing water,  $m = 3.0 \text{ litre/min} = 3000 \text{ g/min}$

Total heat used,  $\Delta Q = mc \Delta T$

$= 3000 \times 4.2 \times 50$

$= 6.3 \times 10^5 \text{ J/min}$

∴ Rate of consumption  $= \frac{6.3 \times 10^5}{4 \times 10^4} = 15.75 \text{ g/min}$

**Question 12.2:**

What amount of heat must be supplied to  $2.0 \times 10^{-2}$  kg of nitrogen (at room temperature) to raise its temperature by 45 °C at constant pressure? (Molecular mass of  $\text{N}_2 = 28$ ;  $R = 8.3 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ .)

Answer

Mass of nitrogen,  $m = 2.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg} = 20 \text{ g}$

Rise in temperature,  $\Delta T = 45^\circ\text{C}$

Molecular mass of  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $M = 28$

Universal gas constant,  $R = 8.3 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Number of moles,  $n = \frac{m}{M}$

$$= \frac{2.0 \times 10^{-2} \times 10^3}{28} = 0.714$$

Molar specific heat at constant pressure for nitrogen,  $C_p = \frac{7}{2}R$

$$= \frac{7}{2} \times 8.3$$

The total amount of heat to be supplied is given by the relation:

$$\Delta Q = nC_p \Delta T$$

$$= 0.714 \times 29.05 \times 45$$

$$= 933.38 \text{ J}$$

Therefore, the amount of heat to be supplied is 933.38 J.

### Question 12.3:

Explain why

- (a) Two bodies at different temperatures  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  if brought in thermal contact do not necessarily settle to the mean temperature  $(T_1 + T_2)/2$ .
- (b) The coolant in a chemical or a nuclear plant (i.e., the liquid used to prevent the different parts of a plant from getting too hot) should have high specific heat.
- (c) Air pressure in a car tyre increases during driving.
- (d) The climate of a harbour town is more temperate than that of a town in a desert at the same latitude.

Answer

**(a)** When two bodies at different temperatures  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are brought in thermal contact, heat flows from the body at the higher temperature to the body at the lower temperature till equilibrium is achieved, i.e., the temperatures of both the bodies become equal. The equilibrium temperature is equal to the mean temperature  $(T_1 + T_2)/2$  only when the thermal capacities of both the bodies are equal.

**(b)** The coolant in a chemical or nuclear plant should have a high specific heat. This is because higher the specific heat of the coolant, higher is its heat-absorbing capacity and vice versa. Hence, a liquid having a high specific heat is the best coolant to be used in a

nuclear or chemical plant. This would prevent different parts of the plant from getting too hot.

**(c)** When a car is in motion, the air temperature inside the car increases because of the motion of the air molecules. According to Charles' law, temperature is directly proportional to pressure. Hence, if the temperature inside a tyre increases, then the air pressure in it will also increase.

**(d)** A harbour town has a more temperate climate (i.e., without the extremes of heat or cold) than a town located in a desert at the same latitude. This is because the relative humidity in a harbour town is more than it is in a desert town.

#### Question 12.4:

A cylinder with a movable piston contains 3 moles of hydrogen at standard temperature and pressure. The walls of the cylinder are made of a heat insulator, and the piston is insulated by having a pile of sand on it. By what factor does the pressure of the gas increase if the gas is compressed to half its original volume?

Answer

The cylinder is completely insulated from its surroundings. As a result, no heat is exchanged between the system (cylinder) and its surroundings. Thus, the process is adiabatic.

Initial pressure inside the cylinder =  $P_1$

Final pressure inside the cylinder =  $P_2$

Initial volume inside the cylinder =  $V_1$

Final volume inside the cylinder =  $V_2$

Ratio of specific heats,  $\gamma = 1.4$

For an adiabatic process, we have:

$$P_1 V_1^\gamma = P_2 V_2^\gamma$$

The final volume is compressed to half of its initial volume.

$$\therefore V_2 = \frac{V_1}{2}$$

$$P_1(V_1)^\gamma = P_2\left(\frac{V_1}{2}\right)^\gamma$$

$$\frac{P_2}{P_1} = \frac{(V_1)^\gamma}{\left(\frac{V_1}{2}\right)^\gamma} = (2)^\gamma = (2)^{1.4} = 2.639$$

Hence, the pressure increases by a factor of 2.639.

#### Question 12.5:

In changing the state of a gas adiabatically from an equilibrium state  $A$  to another equilibrium state  $B$ , an amount of work equal to 22.3 J is done on the system. If the gas is taken from state  $A$  to  $B$  via a process in which the net heat absorbed by the system is 9.35 cal, how much is the net work done by the system in the latter case? (Take 1 cal = 4.19 J)

Answer

The work done ( $W$ ) on the system while the gas changes from state  $A$  to state  $B$  is 22.3 J.

This is an adiabatic process. Hence, change in heat is zero.

$$\therefore \Delta Q = 0$$

$$\Delta W = -22.3 \text{ J (Since the work is done on the system)}$$

From the first law of thermodynamics, we have:

$$\Delta Q = \Delta U + \Delta W$$

Where,

$\Delta U$  = Change in the internal energy of the gas

$$\therefore \Delta U = \Delta Q - \Delta W = -(-22.3 \text{ J})$$

$$\Delta U = +22.3 \text{ J}$$

When the gas goes from state  $A$  to state  $B$  via a process, the net heat absorbed by the system is:

$$\Delta Q = 9.35 \text{ cal} = 9.35 \times 4.19 = 39.1765 \text{ J}$$

$$\text{Heat absorbed, } \Delta Q = \Delta U + \Delta Q$$

$$\therefore \Delta W = \Delta Q - \Delta U$$

$$= 39.1765 - 22.3$$

$$= 16.8765 \text{ J}$$

Therefore, 16.88 J of work is done by the system.

**Question 12.6:**

Two cylinders *A* and *B* of equal capacity are connected to each other via a stopcock. *A* contains a gas at standard temperature and pressure. *B* is completely evacuated. The entire system is thermally insulated. The stopcock is suddenly opened. Answer the following:

- (a) What is the final pressure of the gas in *A* and *B*?
- (b) What is the change in internal energy of the gas?
- (c) What is the change in the temperature of the gas?
- (d) Do the intermediate states of the system (before settling to the final equilibrium state) lie on its *P-V-T* surface?

Answer

- (a) 0.5 atm
- (b) Zero
- (c) Zero
- (d) No

**Explanation:**

(a) The volume available to the gas is doubled as soon as the stopcock between cylinders *A* and *B* is opened. Since volume is inversely proportional to pressure, the pressure will decrease to one-half of the original value. Since the initial pressure of the gas is 1 atm, the pressure in each cylinder will be 0.5 atm.

(b) The internal energy of the gas can change only when work is done by or on the gas. Since in this case no work is done by or on the gas, the internal energy of the gas will not change.

(c) Since no work is being done by the gas during the expansion of the gas, the temperature of the gas will not change at all.

(d) The given process is a case of free expansion. It is rapid and cannot be controlled. The intermediate states do not satisfy the gas equation and since they are in non-equilibrium states, they do not lie on the *P-V-T* surface of the system.

**Question 12.7:**



A steam engine delivers  $5.4 \times 10^8 \text{ J}$  of work per minute and services  $3.6 \times 10^9 \text{ J}$  of heat per minute from its boiler. What is the efficiency of the engine? How much heat is wasted per minute?

Answer

Work done by the steam engine per minute,  $W = 5.4 \times 10^8 \text{ J}$

Heat supplied from the boiler,  $H = 3.6 \times 10^9 \text{ J}$

Efficiency of the engine =  $\frac{\text{Output energy}}{\text{Input energy}}$

$$\therefore \eta = \frac{W}{H} = \frac{5.4 \times 10^8}{3.6 \times 10^9} = 0.15$$

Hence, the percentage efficiency of the engine is 15 %.

Amount of heat wasted =  $3.6 \times 10^9 - 5.4 \times 10^8$

$$= 30.6 \times 10^8 = 3.06 \times 10^9 \text{ J}$$

Therefore, the amount of heat wasted per minute is  $3.06 \times 10^9 \text{ J}$ .

Question 12.8:

An electric heater supplies heat to a system at a rate of 100W. If system performs work at a rate of 75 Joules per second. At what rate is the internal energy increasing?

Answer

Heat is supplied to the system at a rate of 100 W.

$\therefore$  Heat supplied,  $Q = 100 \text{ J/s}$

The system performs at a rate of 75 J/s.

$\therefore$  Work done,  $W = 75 \text{ J/s}$

From the first law of thermodynamics, we have:

$$Q = U + W$$

Where,

$U$  = Internal energy

$$\therefore U = Q - W$$

$$= 100 - 75$$

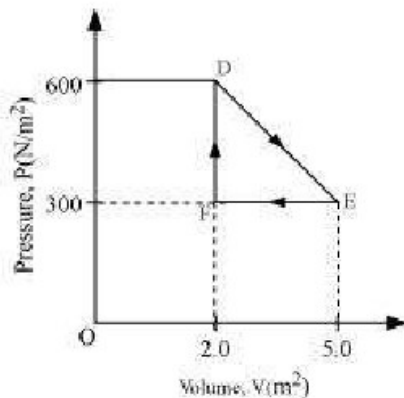
$$= 25 \text{ J/s}$$

$$= 25 \text{ W}$$

Therefore, the internal energy of the given electric heater increases at a rate of 25 W.

**Question 12.9:**

A thermodynamic system is taken from an original state to an intermediate state by the linear process shown in Fig. (12.13)



Its volume is then reduced to the original value from E to F by an isobaric process. Calculate the total work done by the gas from D to E to F

Answer

Total work done by the gas from D to E to F = Area of  $\triangle DEF$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle DEF = \frac{1}{2} DE \times EF$$

Where,

$$\begin{aligned} DF &= \text{Change in pressure} \\ &= 600 \text{ N/m}^2 - 300 \text{ N/m}^2 \\ &= 300 \text{ N/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} FE &= \text{Change in volume} \\ &= 5.0 \text{ m}^3 - 2.0 \text{ m}^3 \\ &= 3.0 \text{ m}^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle DEF = \frac{1}{2} \times 300 \times 3 = 450 \text{ J}$$

Therefore, the total work done by the gas from D to E to F is 450 J.

**Question 12.10:**

A refrigerator is to maintain eatables kept inside at  $9^\circ\text{C}$ . If room temperature is  $36^\circ\text{C}$ , calculate the coefficient of performance.



Answer

Temperature inside the refrigerator,  $T_1 = 9^\circ\text{C} = 282\text{ K}$

Room temperature,  $T_2 = 36^\circ\text{C} = 309\text{ K}$

$$\text{Coefficient of performance} = \frac{T_1}{T_2 - T_1}$$

$$= \frac{282}{309 - 282}$$

$$= 10.44$$

Therefore, the coefficient of performance of the given refrigerator is 10.44.