



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2017/2018

SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

AUGUST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (SCIENCE)

SPH 203: THERMAL PHYSICS 1

DATE: SCHOOLBASED

TIME:

The following constants may be useful, n is number of moles, Universal gas constant $R = 8.31 \text{ J/mol.K}$, specific heat capacity of gold and water is $129 \text{ J/kg.}^\circ\text{C}$ and $4186 \text{ J/kg.}^\circ\text{C}$ respectively, Latent heat of fusion of ice $3.33 \times 10^5 \text{ J/kg}$, specific heat capacity of argon $c_p = 20.5$ and $c_v = 12.5$, $1 \text{ atm} = 1.01 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$. Coefficient of linear expansion of copper is $17 \times 10^{-6} (^\circ\text{C})^{-1}$, for steel is $11 \times 10^{-6} (^\circ\text{C})^{-1}$, for aluminum $24 \times 10^{-6} (^\circ\text{C})^{-1}$

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- Some water trapped a volcano undergoes heating and blows off the volcano in a big explosion, give an explanation why this happens. (1 mark)
- The lowest temperature -273.15 cannot be measured directly. Explain how it can be inferred with aid of well labeled diagram. (4 marks)
- A man is seated on a 10°C concrete floor in a police cell, insulation provided by his clothing is 0.5 cm thick with a coefficient of thermal conductivity of $0.09 \text{ J/s.m.}^\circ\text{C}$ and the area of contact is 0.10 m^2 . If his body temperature is 37°C , compute his rate of heat loss. (4 marks)
- A person with a skin temperature of 33°C is in a room at 24°C . What is the net rate of heat transfer by radiation? (4 marks)
- 3 moles of Hydrogen gas initially at 10°C and at 1.00 atm expands to twice its initial volume isothermally in one case and adiabatically in another. Calculate the work done during the
 - Isothermal process (5 marks)
 - Adiabatic process (5 marks)

- f) A fluorescent tube of cross sectional area 10 cm^2 and length 100 m contains argon gas at 20°C . It is being heated at a rate of 50 J/s from 7.00 pm to 10 pm at constant atmospheric pressure. (assume the process is adiabatic)
- Find total heat energy absorbed by the gas (2 marks)
 - Determine the number of moles of argon gas in the tube (2 marks)
 - Find the temperature rise? (3 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

A cylinder with a movable piston contains 0.016 mole of helium. A researcher expands the gas via the process illustrated in figure 1.

- To achieve this, does she need to heat the gas or cool it? (2 marks)
- From the graph read the initial and final volume of the gas in SI units (4 marks)
- Using ideal gas law find initial and final temperature of the gas in kelvin (K) (4 marks)
- Compute change in internal energy (ΔU) given that $\Delta U = \frac{3}{2}nR\Delta T$ (3 marks)
- From the graph estimate work done by the gas? (4 marks)
- How much heat energy must be added or removed? (3 marks)

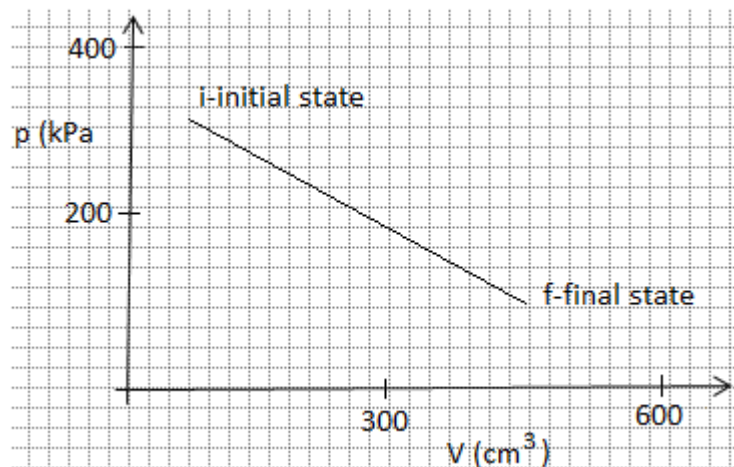


Figure 1

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- Explain the changes that water undergoes while changing the phase from solid to liquid at 0°C (2 marks)
- Show that thermal coefficient of volume (β) is thrice as large as the coefficient of linear expansion (α) (6 marks)
- Temperature of water in Lake Naivasha changes from 12°C to 16°C given that the thermal coefficient of volume for water is $\beta = 2.07 \times 10^{-4}(\text{C})^{-1}$ and coefficient of linear expansion (α)
 - Estimate the fractional change in volume of water in lake Naivasha, (6 marks)
 - If initial depth of the Lake is $4.0 \times 10^3 \text{ m}$, find the change in depth. (6 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) A plate with a circular hole (Figure 2) on the center is heated. What happens to the hole, does it become larger or smaller. (2 marks)

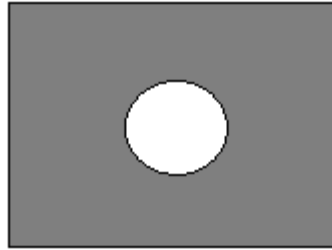


Figure 2

- b) A squared metallic plate of side L is heated from initial temperature T_i to a final temperature T_f . If the new dimension of its side is L_f , derive an equation for its fractional change in area. (8 marks)
- c) A steel ring with a hole having area of 3.99 cm^2 is to be placed on an aluminum rod with cross sectional area of 4 cm^2 . Both ring and rod are initially at a temperature of 35°C . At what common temperature can the steel ring be slipped onto one end of the aluminum rod? (8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) What mass of water at 25°C must be allowed to come to thermal equilibrium with a 3 kg gold bar at 100°C in order to lower the temperature of the bar to 50°C ? (10 marks)
- b) A 100 g cube of ice at 0°C is dropped into 1.0 kg of water that was originally at 80°C . What is the final temperature of the water after the ice has melted? (10 marks)