Oxford A Level Sciences
OCR Physics B

15 The Boltzmann factor Answers to practice questions

| Question | Answer | Marks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | B | 1 |
| 2 | C | 1 |
| 3 a | $k T$ represents an approximation for the mean particle energy. | 1 |
| 3 b | $E$ is much larger than $k T$ at room temperature, giving a low chance of particles escaping the surface of the solid aluminium. | 1 |
| 4 a | $\begin{aligned} & E_{k} \approx k T=1.4 \times 10^{-23} \times 10000 \\ & =1.4 \times 10^{-19} \approx 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \mathrm{~J} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 1 \\ 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 4 b | (Real gases are not ideal therefore) particles collide and energy is exchanged. <br> So particles will possess a range of energies. | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline 1 \\ 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 5 a | $\begin{aligned} & N_{2}=\mathrm{e}^{-\Delta E k I} \text { where } \Delta E=E_{2}-E_{1} \\ & N_{2}=\mathrm{N}^{\frac{-1.6 \times 10^{-18}}{} 1.4 \times 10^{-23} \times 6000}=5 \times 10^{-9} \mathrm{~N} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ |
| 5 b | The energy difference between $E_{3}$ and $E_{2}$ is different to the energy level between $E_{2}$ and $E_{1}$. <br> The equation $\frac{N_{3}}{N_{2}}=\frac{N_{2}}{N_{1}}$ would only work if the difference between energy levels were the same. | 1 |
| 6 ai | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Energy required to evaporate } 1 \text { molecule }= \\ & \frac{\text { energy requiredto evaporate } 1 \mathrm{~kg}}{\text { numberof moleculesin1 } \mathrm{kg}}=\frac{E}{\frac{\text { mass }}{\text { molarmass }} \times N_{\mathrm{A}}} \\ & =\frac{8.4 \times 10^{5}}{\frac{1000}{46} \times 6.02 \times 10^{23}} \\ & =6.4 \times 10^{-20} \mathrm{~J}(1 \text { s.f. }) \end{aligned}$ | 1 |
| 6 aii | $\begin{aligned} & E \approx k T=1.4 \times 10^{-23} \times 310 \\ & =4.34 \times 10^{-21} \mathrm{~J} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 1 \\ 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 6 a iii | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{e}^{-\Delta E K I} \\ & =\mathrm{e}^{-\frac{6.4 \times 11^{-20} \times 310}{1.4 \times 11^{-23}}} \\ & =3.94 \times 10^{-7} \approx 3 \times 10^{-7} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 1 \\ & 1 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ |
| 6 b | The proportion of ethanol molecules with enough energy to evaporate is greater than for water. <br> Therefore ethanol will evaporate from the skin faster than water and carry away energy at a higher rate. | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 7 a | $E \approx k T \times 1.4 \times 10^{-23} \times 300=4.2 \times 20^{-21} \mathrm{~J}$ | 1 |
| 7 b | Potential energy $=m g h=4.6 \times 10^{-26} \times 3000 \times 9.8=1.4 \times 10^{-21} \mathrm{~J}$ | 1 |
| 7 c | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boltzmann factor }=\mathrm{e}^{-E k T}=\mathrm{e}^{-\frac{1.4 \times 11^{-21}}{1.4 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}} \\ & =0.71 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ |
| 7 di | Boltzmann factor $=\mathrm{e}^{- \text {mghk }}$ <br> As $h$ increases above sea level, the probability, according to the Boltzmann probability, that a particle will have the potential energy above ground level energy to occupy that height decreases. | $\begin{array}{l\|} \hline 1 \\ 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |

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| 7 dii | Any sensible suggestion, e.g.: <br> - Calculate the ratio of density for a number of equally-spaced height intervals above sea level. <br> - If the ratio in each case is roughly the same then... <br> - The decrease is exponential. | 1 1 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 e | The Boltzmann factor is given by $\mathrm{e}^{-E k T}$. As $T$ increases, the value of $\frac{E}{k T}$ decreases and so the value of the Boltzmann factor increases. | 1 1 |
| 8 a | As gas molecules collide with the walls of a container they change velocity. <br> There is a corresponding change in momentum that requires an impulse or force. <br> This force acting over an area of the container results in pressure within the container. | 1 1 1 |
| 8 b | $\begin{aligned} & E \approx k T=1.4 \times 10^{-23} \times 288 \\ & =4.032 \times 10^{-21} \mathrm{~J}=4 \times 10^{-21} \mathrm{~J}(1 \text { s.f. }) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 1 \\ 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 8 c | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{e}^{-E / k T}=\mathrm{e}^{-\frac{3.4 \times 10^{-20}}{1.4 \times 10^{-23} \times 288}} \\ & =2.17 \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ |
| 8 di | As $T$ increases, the Boltzmann factor increases exponentially. | 1 |
| 8 dii | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Factor of increase }=\frac{\text { Boltzmannfactor }(360 \mathrm{~K})}{\text { Boltzmannfactor }(300 \mathrm{~K})}=\frac{12.5}{2.5} \\ & =5 \end{aligned}$ | 1 1 |

