

Unit 2 Matter and Energy
Specific Heat Practice Problems

Name _____ Block _____

- 1) Calculate the **amount of energy** required to raise the temperature of **73.2 grams** of water from **23.1°C** to **98.6°C**.
(Specific Heat of Water = **4.184 J/g·°C**)

Raising the temperature means heat is absorbed, so Q is positive.

$$Q = m \cdot C_p \cdot (T_{final} - T_{initial})$$

$$Q = (73.2 \text{ g}) \cdot (4.184 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{g} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}}) \cdot (98.6^\circ\text{C} - 23.1^\circ\text{C})$$

$$Q = +23123.2944 \text{ J} \quad \text{sig figs} \rightarrow +23,100 \text{ J} \text{ or } +23.1 \text{ kJ}$$

- 2) The **specific heat capacity of copper** is **0.3845 J/g·°C**. If **245 Joules of energy** is required to raise the temperature of a sample of copper from **25.0°C** to **50.0°C**, what is the **mass** of the sample?

$$m = \frac{Q}{C_p \cdot (T_{final} - T_{initial})}$$

$$m = \frac{+245 \text{ J}}{(0.3845 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{g} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}}) \cdot (50.0^\circ\text{C} - 25.0^\circ\text{C})}$$

$$m = 25.48764629 \text{ sig figs} \rightarrow 25.5 \text{ g}$$

- 3) A **30.0 gram** sample requires **930 Joules of energy** to increase the temperature by **25°C**. What is the **specific heat capacity** of the sample? Identify the sample using the table to the right.

$$C_p = \frac{Q}{m \cdot \Delta T}$$

$$C_p = \frac{+930 \text{ J}}{(30.0 \text{ g}) \cdot (25^\circ\text{C})}$$

$$C_p = 1.24 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{g} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}} \quad \text{sig figs} \rightarrow 1.2 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{g} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}}$$

Element	Specific Heat (J/g·°C)
Beryllium	1.824
Sodium	1.224
Magnesium	1.024
Aluminum	0.9025
Calcium	0.6315

Note: ΔT means the CHANGE in Temperature. When using a Δ symbol, always measure the change by calculating the FINAL minus the INITIAL.

- 4) A **10.0 g brass** sample is **heated to 82.3°C** and dropped into a calorimeter containing **25.0 g of liquid water** at **22.0°C**. The accepted **specific heat of brass is known to be 0.377 J/g·°C**. Calculate the final temperature of the mixture? (The **specific heat of water is 4.184 J/g·°C**.)

Note: Based on the **Law of Energy Conservation**, the amount of HEAT absorbed (+Q) by the water is equal to the amount of HEAT transferred (-Q) by the metal.

$$+Q_{\text{water}} = -Q_{\text{brass}}$$

$w = \text{water}$
 $b = \text{brass}$

$$+[m_w \cdot c_{p_w} \cdot (T_{\text{final}_w} - T_{\text{initial}_w})] = -[m_b \cdot c_{p_b} \cdot (T_{\text{final}_b} - T_{\text{initial}_b})]$$

$$+[(25.0 \text{ g}) \cdot (4.184 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{g} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}}) \cdot (T_{\text{final}_w} - 22.0^\circ\text{C})] = -[(10.0 \text{ g}) \cdot (0.377 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{g} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}}) \cdot (T_{\text{final}_b} - 82.3^\circ\text{C})]$$

The Key to solving this problem is to recognize that $T_{\text{final}_w} = T_{\text{final}_b}$.

$$104.6 \frac{\text{J}}{^\circ\text{C}} \cdot (T_{\text{final}} - 22.0^\circ\text{C}) = -3.77 \frac{\text{J}}{^\circ\text{C}} \cdot (T_{\text{final}} - 82.3^\circ\text{C})$$

$$104.6 T_{\text{final}} - 2301.2 = -3.77 T_{\text{final}} + 310.271$$

$$+3.77 T_{\text{final}} \quad \quad \quad = +3.77 T_{\text{final}}$$

$$108.37 T_{\text{final}} - 2301.2 = \quad \quad \quad +310.271$$

$$+2301.2 = \quad \quad \quad +2301.2$$

$$\frac{108.37 T_{\text{final}}}{108.37} = \frac{2611.471}{108.37}$$

$$T_{\text{final}} = 24.09773^\circ\text{C}$$

$$\text{with proper sig figs} = 24.1^\circ\text{C}$$