

## ENERGY IN CHEMICAL REACTIONS

**PART I INTRODUCTION**

**Purpose:** To determine the heat of a chemical reaction ( $\Delta H_{rxn}$ )

1. What is a calorie?

A calorie is a unit of heat. It is the amount of heat needed to raise the temperature of 1 gram water 1 degree Celsius. You will actually measure the calories of a food product and compare this to the calories on the container. Food Calories usually have an upper case C. 1 Calorie = 1000 calories. Today you will measure calories and then convert them to Calories.

2. How are heat and temperature different?

Temperature is the average amount of kinetic energy contained in the molecules of a substance. It is measured with a thermometer and the units are degrees Celsius. Heat is the total amount of energy in a sample of substance. It is measured indirectly and the units are calories.

3. How is heat measured?

To measure calories in food, for example, the food is burned in a combustion chamber. The heat from the combustion reaction of the food is used to raise the temperature of a sample of water. By knowing the mass of the water and the temperature change of the water, the heat gained by the water can be calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Mass (M)} \times \text{Specific Heat}_{\text{H}_2\text{O(l)}} \text{ (C)} \times \text{Temp change } (\Delta T) = \text{Heat change in the water (q)}$$

M is the mass of the water.  $\Delta T$  is the final temperature of the water – the initial temperature of the water ( $\Delta T$  means change in temperature). C is a constant called specific heat. It tells how a particular substance absorbs heat. All substances absorb heat differently. It takes one calorie of heat to raise the temperature of one gram water one degree Celsius. C for water is 1.00 cal/g °C. The heat lost (-q) by the food is theoretically the same as the heat absorbed (+q) by the water (q gain = q loss).

**PART II PROCEDURE****Procedure and Data:****A. How much energy is in a peanut**

1. Measure the mass of the apparatus (a paperclip that is attached to a cork wrapped with aluminum foil).
2. Place 1/2 of a peanut on the apparatus and find the initial mass.
3. Put exactly 25 ml of water in a 100 ml beaker. Measure and record the initial temperature of the water.
4. Light the peanut on fire with a match and once the nut is lit, quickly hold the beaker of water with your beaker tongs over the nut. The goal is to get as much heat into the water as possible (Is it possible to get all of the heat into the water?)
5. Do not let the water boil! Blow out the flame before this happens.
6. After the nut has burned, make sure the water is mixed so that the hot water is evenly dispersed in the beaker, and measure and record the final temperature of the water.
7. Record the final mass of the apparatus and nut after it was burned. Be sure to pick up any crumbs that fell off of the paperclip.
8. Repeat this experiment until you have performed 3 trials.

**Table 1: Mass and Temperature Changes in a Chemical Reaction**

| Mass of apparatus | Mass of apparatus and nut (initial) | Mass of apparatus and nut (final) | Temperature of water (initial) | Temperature of water (final) | Mass of water used |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
|                   |                                     |                                   |                                |                              |                    |
|                   |                                     |                                   |                                |                              |                    |
|                   |                                     |                                   |                                |                              |                    |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lab Section \_\_\_\_\_

Initials\_\_\_\_\_

**EXPERIMENT 13**  
**ENERGY IN CHEMICAL REACTIONS**

**Part III Sample Calculations**

Show all of the calculations for one nut below, but show the results of all calculations in a table 2.

1. What is the initial mass of the nut?
2. What is the final mass of the nut ?
3. What is the change in mass of the nut?
4. What is the change in temperature of the water?
5. What is the heat gain of the water in calories ?
6. What is the heat gain of the water in kcal (Cal) ?
7. What is the experimental heat loss of the nut in Calories?
8. What is the heat loss per gram of the nut?
9. What is the average heat loss per gram of the nut?
10. What is the theoretical heat loss per gram of the nut in kcal (Cal)? (from the nut container)
11. What is the efficiency of this experiment? (from the average)

**Table 2: Calculating Heat Changes in a Chemical Reaction**

| Initial mass of nut | Final mass of nut | Change in mass of nut | Change in Temp. of water | Heat gain of water cal. | Heat gain of water Cal. (kcal) | Experimental heat loss of nut in Cal. (kcal) | Experimental heat loss per gram of nut in Cal. (kcal) | Ave. heat loss of nut | Theo. heat loss of nut | % Efficiency |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------|
|                     |                   |                       |                          |                         |                                |  |   |                       |                        |              |
|                     |                   |                       |                          |                         |                                |  |   |                       |                        |              |
|                     |                   |                       |                          |                         |                                |  |   |                       |                        |              |

**Questions**

1. How could you make it so that more of the heat from the burning nut goes into the water

---

---

---

---

2. The mass of the nut decreased and the temperature of the water increased. Did you change matter into energy? Make sure you explain your answer with evidence.

---

---

---

---

3. What happened to the atoms that were originally in the nut that was burned?

---

---

---

---