

- A mass of 1.250 g of benzoic acid, $C_7H_6O_2$, underwent combustion in a bomb calorimeter. The heat of combustion of benzoic acid is $-3226 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$. What is the change in internal energy during this reaction?

Marks
4

The molar mass of benzoic acid is:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{molar mass} &= (7 \times 12.01 \text{ (C)}) + 6 \times 1.008 \text{ (H)} + 2 \times 16.00 \text{ (O)} \text{ g mol}^{-1} \\ &= 122.12 \text{ g mol}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

The number of moles of benzoic acid in 1.250 g is therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{number of moles} &= \text{mass} / \text{molar mass} = 1.250 \text{ g} / 122.12 \text{ g mol}^{-1} \\ &= 0.01024 \text{ mol}\end{aligned}$$

As combustion of 1 mol leads to a heat change of -3226 kJ , this quantity will generate an energy change of:

$$q = (0.01024 \text{ mol}) \times (-3226 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}) = -33.02 \text{ kJ}$$

Answer: **-33.02 kJ**

If the heat capacity of the calorimeter is 10.134 kJ K^{-1} , calculate the temperature change that should have occurred in the apparatus.

The heat change, q , and temperature change, ΔT , are related by the heat capacity, C :

$$q = C\Delta T$$

or

$$\Delta T = q / C = 33.02 \text{ kJ} / 10.134 \text{ kJ K}^{-1} = 3.258 \text{ K}$$

An exothermic reaction will lead to a temperature increase in the apparatus.

Answer: **+3.258 K**