

Thermochemical Calculations QUESTION

Question: Hexane, C₆H₁₄, like pentane, will combust (burn) in sufficient oxygen to produce carbon dioxide gas and water.

Pentane combustion: C₅H₁₂(l) + 8O₂(g) → 5CO₂(g) + 6H₂O(l) Δ_rH° = -3509 kJ mol⁻¹

Hexane combustion: 2C₆H₁₄(l) + 19O₂(g) → 12CO₂(g) + 14H₂O(l) Δ_rH° = -8316 kJ mol⁻¹

Justify which alkane – pentane or hexane – will produce more heat energy when 125 g of each fuel is combusted in sufficient oxygen.

M(C₅H₁₂) = 72.0 g mol⁻¹ M(C₆H₁₄) = 86.0 g mol⁻¹

(An equation and n=m/M are required for this type of thermochemical calculation)

ANSWER

1. Calculate the amount of energy per mol from the equation (divide Δ _r H° by number mol of substance in equation) – substance 1	1 mole of pentane releases 3509 kJ energy $\frac{1}{1} : \frac{3509}{1}$
2. calculate the number of mols of the known (K) n = m/M	n (pentane) = m / M n (pentane) = 125 g / 72.0 g mol ⁻¹ = 1.74 mol
3. multiply amount of energy per mol (step 1) by number of mols calculated (step 2) to get energy per mass <i>Answer with units plus 3sgf</i>	1.74 × 3509 = 6106 kJ energy released.
4. Calculate the amount of energy per mol from the equation (divide Δ _r H° by number mol of substance in equation) – substance 2	If 2 moles of hexane release 8316 kJ energy, then 1 mole of hexane releases 4158 kJ energy. $\frac{2}{2} : \frac{8316}{2}$
5. calculate the number of mols of the known (K) n = m/M	n (hexane) = m / M n (hexane) = 125 g / 86.0 g mol ⁻¹ = 1.45 mol
6. multiply amount of energy per mol (step 4) by number of mols calculated (step 5) to get energy per mass <i>Answer with units plus 3sgf</i>	1.45 × 4158 = 6029 kJ energy released
7. compare both substances with summary statement	Pentane releases 6106 kJ of energy and Hexane releases 4158 kJ of energy, therefore pentane releases more energy (77.0 kJ) than hexane, per 125 g of fuel.

NOTE: The white column is how your answer would appear on your test paper so make sure you **write out complete sentences**. The grey area is just to help you structure your answer and would not appear in the question.