Chapter 6 Problem 42 †

Given

$$P_{hd} = 1.20 \ kW = 1,200 \ W$$

 $t_{hd} = 10.0 \ min = 600 \ s$
 $P_{nl} = 7.00 \ W$
 $t_{nl} = 24.0 \ h = 86,400 \ s$

Solution

Find out which consumes the most energy.

First convert to SI units. This has been done and recorded above. The energy consumed by the hair dryer is

$$P = \frac{W}{t}$$
 \Rightarrow $W = Pt$

$$W_{hd} = P_{hd}t_{hd} = (1,200 \ W)(600 \ s) = 720,000 \ J = 720 \ kJ$$

The energy consumed by the night light is

$$W_{nl} = P_{nl}t_{nl} = (7.00 \ W)(86,400 \ s) = 604,800 \ J = 605 \ kJ$$

The night light uses slightly less power.

[†]Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson