

Chapter 17 Problem 38 †

Given

$$V_1 = 8.0 \text{ L}$$

$$T_1 = 20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} = 293 \text{ K}$$

$$P_1 = 1 \text{ atm}$$

$$P_2 = 0.65 \text{ atm}$$

$$T_2 = -10 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} = 263 \text{ K}$$

Solution

Find the volume at the new altitude.

Notice that the temperatures are converted into absolute temperature (kelvin scale). Begin with the ideal gas law.

$$PV = nRT$$

Assuming there is no loss of gas.

$$\frac{PV}{T} = nR = \text{constant}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{P_1 V_1}{T_1} = \frac{P_2 V_2}{T_2}$$

Solving for the final volume gives

$$V_2 = \frac{P_1 V_1 T_2}{P_2 T_1}$$

$$V_2 = \frac{(1 \text{ atm})(8.0 \text{ L})(263 \text{ K})}{(0.65 \text{ atm})(293 \text{ K})} = 11.0 \text{ L}$$

†Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson