Chapter 16 Problem 25 †

Given

$$\begin{split} m &= 350 \; g = 0.350 \; kg \\ \Delta T &= 15 \; K \\ \Delta Q &= 2.52 \; kJ = 2520 \; J \end{split}$$

Solution

a) Find the heat capacity of the wrench.

Heat capacity, C, can be found from

$$\Delta Q = C \Delta T$$

Solving for C gives

$$C = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta T} = \frac{2520 \ J}{15 \ K} = 168 \ J/K$$

b) Find the specific heat of the metal.

Since

$$\Delta Q = mc\Delta T$$

then

$$c = \frac{\Delta Q}{m\Delta T}$$

$$c = \frac{2520 \ J}{(0.350 \ kg)(15 \ K)} = 480 \ J/kgK$$

Notice that this is the same as taking the heat capacity and dividing by the mass of the wrench.

[†]Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson