

LEVEL 1 QUESTION (GRADES 5 – 8)

Solution: Calculating Efficiency

Step 1: Calculate efficiency in decimal using useful power output and gross wind power output

$$P_{useful} = \eta P_{wind}$$

$$475 W = \eta \times 500 W$$

$$\eta = \frac{475 W}{500 W}$$

$$\eta = \frac{19}{20}$$

$$\eta = 0.95$$

Step 2: Convert the decimal to a percentage by multiplying by 100%

$$\eta = 0.95 \times 100\%$$

$$\eta = 95\%$$

Final answer: The turbine efficiency = 95%

LEVEL 2 QUESTION (GRADES 8 –11)

Solution: Finding Final Useful Power Output in kW

Step 1: Calculate P_{wind} using $P_{wind} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{m}(v_{in}^2 - v_{out}^2)$

What is known:

$$\dot{m} = 53kg/s$$

$$v_{in} = 14m/s$$

$$v_{out} = 9m/s$$

Therefore,

$$P_{wind} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{53kg}{s} \times ((14m/s)^2 - (9m/s)^2)$$

$$P_{wind} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5kg}{s} \times \left(196 \frac{m^2}{s^2} - 81 \frac{m^2}{s^2} \right)$$

$$P_{wind} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{53kg}{s} \times 115 \frac{m^2}{s^2}$$

$$P_{wind} = 3047.5 \frac{kg \cdot m^2}{s^3}$$

Recall that $1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{s}^3 = 1 \text{ J/s} = 1 \text{ W}$

$$P_{wind} = 3047.5 \text{ W}$$

Step 2: Calculate useful power output

$$P_{useful} = \eta P_{wind}$$

Remember, the turbine loses 18% of its total output due to inefficiencies. This means it operates at 82% efficiency because $100\% - 18\% = 82\%$.

$$P_{useful} = \frac{82\%}{100\%} \times 3047.5 \text{ W}$$

$$P_{useful} = 2498.95 \text{ W}$$

$$P_{useful} = 2498.95 \text{ W} \times \frac{1 \text{ kW}}{1000 \text{ W}}$$

$$P_{useful} = 2.49895 \text{ kW}$$

Final Answer: The final useful power output (in kW) = 2.5 kW