

3. A package  $P$  of mass 2 kg is held at rest on a horizontal table.  
One end of a thin rope is attached to  $P$ .  
The rope passes over a pulley that is fixed at the edge of the table.  
The other end of the rope is attached to a package  $Q$  of mass 3 kg that hangs freely below the pulley.

Package  $P$  is 1.2 m from the pulley.

Package  $Q$  is 0.4 m above a horizontal floor and the rope is taut, as shown in Figure 2 on page 7.

Package  $P$  is released from rest and  $Q$  moves downwards.

In an initial model of the motion of  $P$  and  $Q$

- the table is modelled as being smooth
- the packages are modelled as particles
- air resistance is modelled as being negligible
- the pulley is modelled as being small and smooth
- the rope is modelled as being light and inextensible

Using this model,

(a) write down an equation of motion for  $Q$  as it moves downwards, (2)

(b) find the acceleration of  $Q$  as it moves downwards, (3)

(c) find the speed of  $Q$  at the instant when  $Q$  hits the floor. (2)

Given that  $K$  seconds **after**  $Q$  hits the floor,  $P$  hits the pulley

(d) use the model to find the value of  $K$ . (2)

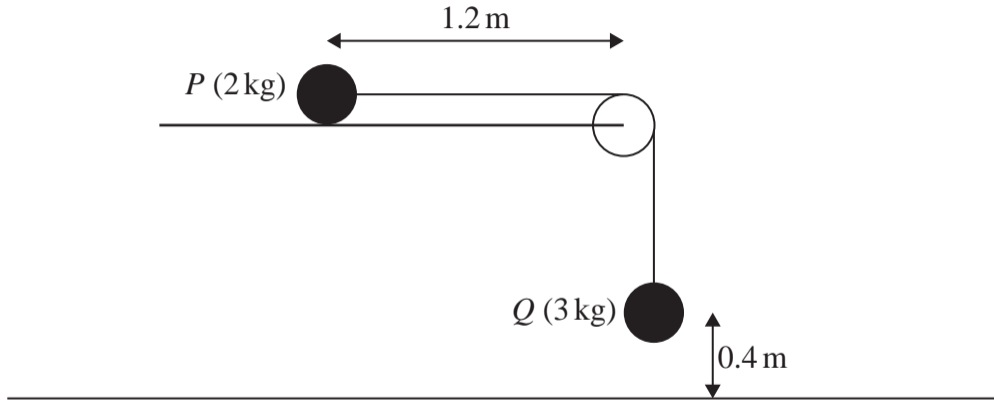
In a refinement of the model, there is a **resistance** which acts against the motion of  $P$ .

This refined model is now used to find the acceleration of  $Q$  as it moves downwards.

(e) State, **with a reason**, whether this **new** acceleration will be greater than, equal to, or less than, the acceleration found in part (b). (1)

(f) Suggest one **further** refinement that could be made to the model, apart from including air resistance, that would make the model more realistic. (1)

**Question 3 continued**



**Figure 2**