



A rectangular block  $B$  is at rest on a horizontal surface. A particle  $P$  of mass  $2.5 \text{ kg}$  is placed on the upper surface of  $B$ . The particle  $P$  is attached to one end of a light inextensible string which passes over a smooth fixed pulley. A particle  $Q$  of mass  $3 \text{ kg}$  is attached to the other end of the string and hangs freely below the pulley. The part of the string between  $P$  and the pulley is horizontal (see diagram).

The particles are released from rest with the string taut. It is given that  $B$  remains in equilibrium while  $P$  moves on the upper surface of  $B$ . The tension in the string while  $P$  moves on  $B$  is  $16.8 \text{ N}$ .

- (a) Find the acceleration of  $Q$  while  $P$  and  $B$  are in contact. [2]
- (b) Determine the coefficient of friction between  $P$  and  $B$ . [3]
- (c) Given that the coefficient of friction between  $B$  and the horizontal surface is  $\frac{5}{49}$ , determine the least possible value for the mass of  $B$ . [3]