4

$$\tfrac{1}{2}u$$

A particle of mass m is attached to one end of a light inextensible string of length a. The other end of the string is attached to a fixed point O. The particle is initially held with the string taut at the point A, where OA makes an angle θ with the downward vertical through O. The particle is then projected with speed u perpendicular to OA and begins to move upwards in part of a vertical circle. The string goes slack when the particle is at the point B where angle AOB is a right angle. The speed of the particle when it is at B is $\tfrac{1}{2}u$ (see diagram).

Find the tension in the string at A, giving your answer in terms of m and g. [8]

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