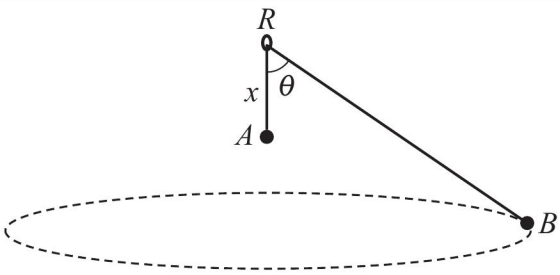

A light inextensible string of length a is threaded through a fixed smooth ring R. One end of the string is attached to a particle A of mass $3m$. The other end of the string is attached to a particle B of mass m. The particle A hangs in equilibrium at a distance x vertically below the ring. The angle between AR and BR is θ (see diagram). The particle B moves in a horizontal circle with constant angular speed $2\sqrt{\frac{g}{a}}$.

Show that $\cos\theta = \frac{1}{3}$ and find x in terms of a. [5]