3 One end of a light elastic string, of natural length a and modulus of elasticity kmg, is attached to a fixed point A. The other end of the string is attached to a particle P of mass $4m$. The particle P hangs in equilibrium a distance x vertically below A.

(a) Show that $k = \dfrac{4a}{x-a}$. [1]

An additional particle, of mass $2m$, is now attached to P and the combined particle is released from rest at the original equilibrium position of P. When the combined particle has descended a distance $\frac{1}{3}a$, its speed is $\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{ga}$.

(b) Find x in terms of a. [6]