A particle P 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 string is held taut with OP horizontal. The particle P is projected vertically downwards with speed  $\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}ag}$  and starts to move in a vertical circle. P passes through the lowest point of the circle and reaches the point Q where OQ makes an angle  $\theta$  with the downward vertical. At Q the speed of P is  $\sqrt{kag}$  and the tension in the string is  $\frac{11}{6}mg$ .

(a) Find the value of k and the value of  $\cos \theta$ . [4]

At Q the particle P becomes detached from the string.

(b) In the subsequent motion, find the greatest height reached by *P* above the level of the lowest point of the circle. [4]