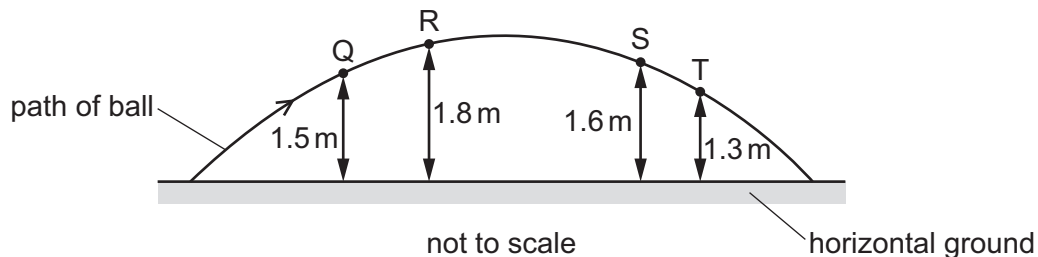


**18** A ball is projected into the air from horizontal ground and follows the path shown in the diagram.



At points Q, R, S and T, the ball has kinetic energies  $E_Q$ ,  $E_R$ ,  $E_S$  and  $E_T$  respectively. The heights above the ground of these four points are shown.

Air resistance is negligible.

Which difference in kinetic energies is the smallest?

**A**  $E_Q - E_S$

**B**  $E_S - E_R$

**C**  $E_T - E_Q$

**D**  $E_T - E_R$