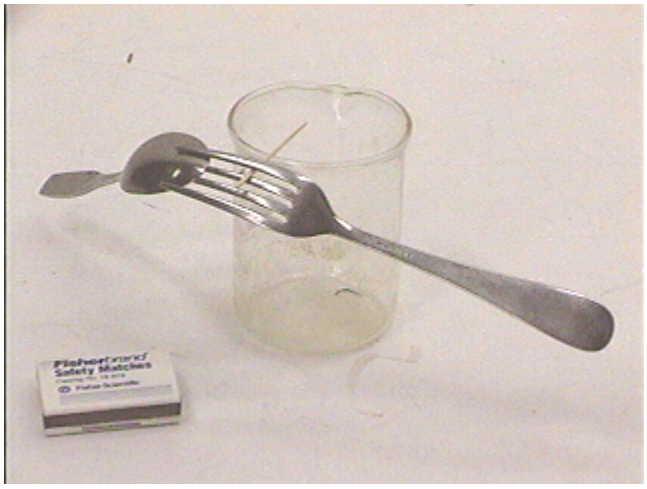
Question #106

A fork and a spoon are connected together by pushing the spoon between the tines of the fork, and the fork/spoon is then balanced on the rim of a glass using a toothpick, as seen in the photograph below. The inside end of the toothpick is then lit on fire by a match, as seen in an mpeg video by clicking your mouse on the photograph.



The question this week involves exactly will happen to the balancing system when the fire gets close to the rim of the glass. In particular, when will the fork and spoon fall?

The fork and spoon will:

- (a) fall down when the flame gets close to the rim of the glass.
- (b) fall down when the flame gets above the rim of the glass.
- (c) never fall down.

Click here for Answer #106 after February 18, 2002.

Question of the Week

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For questions and comments regarding the *Question of the Week* contact
Dr. Richard E. Berg by e-mail or using phone number or regular mail address
given on the Lecture-Demonstration Home Page.