

Question #10

A beaker of water is in equilibrium with 300 grams of steel mass on a pan balance, as shown in the photograph below.



Now suppose that you slowly insert your finger into the water up to the first knuckle, being careful not to touch the beaker. What will happen to the equilibrium condition of the pan balance?

- (a) The side with the water will go down.
- (b) The side with the weights will go down.
- (c) Neither side will go down; the pan balance will remain in equilibrium.

Click here for [Answer #10](#) after May 1, 2000.

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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](#).