When a strongman suspends a 10—lb telephone book with the rope held vertically, the tension in each strand of rope is 5 lbs.

If a strongman could suspend the book from the strands pulled horizontally as shown, the tension in each strand would be:

A) About 5 lbs
B) About 10 lbs
C) About 20 lbs
D) Stronger than 20 lbs
By inspection of the sketch above, to lift $mg$ with a flat string, it requires a much bigger $T$.

Answer D.

05.07-01 Strongman 2004-3-24