Reading Question Week 6 Day 2

Write your name, section and table number, on the upper right hand corner of your answer and hand it in at the start of class that day.

Oct 9/10 W06D2 Conservation of Energy
Reading Assignment:

Reading Questions

(1) (a) What is the definition for a conservative force? (b) Explain the difference between a conservative force and a non-conservative force. (c) Give one example of each type and explain why. (d) In your own words define the potential energy difference between two points for a conservative force.

(2) The gravitational potential energy difference $U(r_2) - U(r_1)$ is defined as the negative of the work done by the earth’s gravitational force in moving an object from one point, a distance $r = r_1$ from the center of the earth, to another point, a distance $r = r_2$ from the center of the earth. What is a good candidate point $P$ to choose for the zero for the potential energy, $U(P) = 0$? Explain your reasoning.