This is a modified version of the first part of an AP question on projectiles.


A student releases a block from rest at the top of a slide of height, $h_{1}$. The block slides down the frictionless slide and off the end at point $P$, which is at a height, $h_{2}$, from the floor. The block hits the floor at a distance, $d$, from the end of the table. The overall height, $H$, is determined by the height of the lab ceiling and is fixed. The heights of the table and the slide are variable but must add up to the overall height $H$.
a) Familiarize yourself with the experiment and sketch in the path of the block as it leaves the slide. Air resistance and friction are negligible. (1)
b) Explain, without using any equations, why making the slide height, $h_{1}$, short would cause the range, $d$, to be small even though the height of the table, $h_{2}$, would be large. (3)
c) Explain, without using any equations, why making the table height, $h_{2}$, short would cause the range, $d$, to be small even though the height of the slide, $h_{1}$, would be large. (3)

