## PhyzSpringboard: <br> Torque



Consider the following findings about torque. The "torque-ometer" consists of a vertical bar with three holes in it. Through one hole, a rope is attached. The base of the bar is its axis of rotation. But instead of rotating when a torque is applied, the torque-o-meter measures the torque.

## 1. Force

a. When no force is applied to the bar, no torque is found.
(By the way, what is the name of the curve formed by the drooping rope?*)
b. When some force is applied, some torque appears.

c. When more force is applied, more torque appears.
d. What does this indicate about torque?

## 2. Distance between axis and force

a. When a force is applied close to the axis of rotation, some torque is found.
b. When the same force is applied farther from the axis of rotation, more torque appears.
c. When the same force is applied even farther from the axis of rotation, even more torque appears.

d. What does this indicate about torque?


## 3. Direction of force

a. When a force is applied perpendicular to the bar, some torque is found.

b. When the same force is applied at an obtuse angle, less torque appears.
c. When the same force is applied at an acute angle, less torque appears again.
d. When the same force is applied at a zero angle , no torque appears.

e. What does this indicate about torque?
4. Considering all the factors, how could the greatest torque be applied and measured on the torque-o-meter? Describe the conditions and draw the picture.
5. What factors determine torque and how is each related to torque?

