Answer on Question 56913, Physics, Solid State Physics

Question:

If the radius of Earth decreased with no change in mass, your weight would

- a) increase
- b) decrease
- c) stay the same

Solution:

By the definition of the weight we have:

$$W = mg = G \frac{M_E m}{R_E^2},$$

here, *m* is the mass of the person, $g = G \frac{M_E}{R_E^2}$ is the acceleration due to gravity, *G* is the gravitational constant, M_E is the mass of Earth, R_E is the radius of Earth.

As we can see from the formula above, if the radius of Earth decreased with no change in mass, your weight would increase.

Answer:

a) increase