73. The style of reasoning used here is presented in §8-5.

(a) The horizontal line representing E_1 intersects the potential energy curve at a value of $r \approx 0.07$ nm and seems not to intersect the curve at larger r (though this is somewhat unclear since $U(r)$ is graphed only up to $r = 0.4$ nm). Thus, if m were propelled towards M from large r with energy E_1 it would "turn around" at 0.07 nm and head back in the direction from which it came.

(b) The line representing E_2 has two intersections points $r_1 \approx 0.16$ nm and $r_2 \approx 0.28$ nm with the $U(r)$ plot. Thus, if m starts in the region $r_1 < r < r_2$ with energy E_2 it will bounce back and forth between these two points, presumably forever.

(c) At $r = 0.3$ nm, the potential energy is roughly $U = -1.1 \times 10^{-19}$ J.

(d) With $M >> m$, the kinetic energy is essentially just that of m. Since $E = 1 \times 10^{-19}$ J, its kinetic energy is $K = E - U \approx 2.1 \times 10^{-19}$ J.

(e) Since force is related to the slope of the curve, we must (crudely) estimate $|F| \approx 1 \times 10^{-9}$ N at this point. The sign of the slope is positive, so by Eq. 8-20, the force is negative-valued. This is interpreted to mean that the atoms are attracted to each other.

(f) Recalling our remarks in the previous part, we see that the sign of F is positive (meaning it's repulsive) for $r < 0.2$ nm.

(g) And the sign of F is negative (attractive) for $r > 0.2$ nm.

(h) At $r = 0.2$ nm, the slope (hence, F) vanishes.