Science 8 Unit 3: OPTICS Topic 6: Light And Reflection In Mirrors

Student Name:

Crescent Callegiate

The Ray Model of Light

Some properties of light are best described by considering light as a wave. The ray model of light uses a straight line with an arrowhead, or ray, to show the direction the light wave is travelling.

- ray of light is an extremely narrow beam of light.
- All visible objects emit or reflect light rays in all directions
- Our eyes detect light rays
- We see images when light rays converge in our eyes
- Light travels in a straight line. (Rectilinear Propogation)
- A shadow is created when an opaque object absorbs light rays.
- Shadows demonstrate that light travels in straight lines.

Three uses of the Ray Model of Light

- (1) explaining how light passes through different materials
- (2) predicting how shadows are formed.
- (3) explaining how light reflects off mirrors;

Different materials can either transmit, absorb, or reflect light:



Transparent: materials allows light to pass through freely.

Translucent : materials lets most light through but scatters the light leaving.

Opaque: materials prevent light from passing through.

The farther an object is from a source of light, the smaller its shadow will be.





Light Can be Reflected

Reflection: is when light bounces off of an object. To act like a mirror, the surface must be smooth.

Incident ray:	the incoming light ray	
Reflected ray:	the ray that bounces off the barrier	
Normal:	An imaginary line that is perpendicular to the barrier.	
Angle of incidence:	The angle formed by the incident ray and the normal.	
Angle of reflection:	The angle formed by the reflected ray and the normal.	7



Law of Reflection: states that when an object hits a surface, its angle of incidence will equal the angle of reflection.



Comparing the two types of reflection:

Specular Reflection	Diffuse Reflection
	- With
Occurs on smooth, shiny surfaces	Occurs on rough, dull surfaces
Light is not scattered in all directions	Light is scattered in different directions
Smooth surfaces such as mirrors or a calm body of water	Rough surfaces such as clothing, paper, and the asphalt
Clear image is produced	Image is distorted

PART A: MULTIPLE CHOICE.

Instruction: Circle the correct answer below each question. Also, transfer your answers to the bubble sheet provided.

- 1. What can be used to represent light?
 - (A) Ray only
 - (B) Ray or wave
 - (C) Wave, ray and angles
 - (D) Wave only
- 2. In the ray model of light, light is represented by
 - (A) A series of curves.
 - (B) Circles.
 - (C) Continuous waves.
 - (D) Straight lines.
- 3. What terms is used to describe materials through which objects can be seen clearly?
 - (A) Translucent
 - (B) Opaque
 - (C) Transparent
 - (D) Non-luminous
- 4. Light cannot pass through this type of object
 - (A) Translucent
 - (B) Opaque
 - (C) Prism
 - (D) Transparent
- 5. From left to right in the image, the two cups are best described as
 - (A) Transparent and translucent.
 - (B) Transparent and opaque.
 - (C) Translucent and opaque.
 - (D) Opaque and translucent



- 6. The illustration below demonstrates how light travels. What name is given to this diagram?
 - (A) Light sketch
 - (B) Light diagram
 - (C) Ray sketch
 - (D) Ray diagram

- 7. Which property light allows you to see yourself in a mirror?
 - (A) Absorption
 - (B) Dispersion
 - (C) Reflection
 - (D) Refraction

Use the following information and diagram to answer questions 8 and 9

A rough surface will scatter incoming light rays in different directions, as shown by the yellow light rays in this diagram



- 8. Why does the light scatter?
 - (A) The rough surface refracts light rays.
 - (B) The light rays are absorbed when they strike a rough surface.
 - (C) The light rays strike the rough surface at different angles.
 - (D) The light rays do not obey the law of reflection on a rough surface.
- 9. The lines in the diagram without arrows are known as
 - (A) Incident rays.
 - (B) Angles of incidence.
 - (C) Normal lines.
 - (D) Reflected rays

Use the following information and diagram to answer questions 10, 11, and 12.

A light ray striking a shiny surface will reflect.



- 10. What does the letter "C" in the diagram indicate?
 - (A) Angle of incidence
 - (B) Angle of refraction
 - (C) Reflected ray
 - (D) Angle of reflection
- 11. What does the letter "B" in the diagram indicate?
 - (A) Normal
 - (B) Incident Ray
 - (C) Angle of incidence
 - (D) Reflected ray

- 12. What does the letter "E" in the diagram indicate?
 - (A) Angle of reflection
 - (B) Incident ray
 - (C) Normal
 - (D) Reflected ray

13. The angle of reflection is measured relative to the _____.

- (A) Normal
- (B) Surface
- (C) Light ray origin
- (D) Angle of incidence

14. The law of ______ states that the angle of reflection is equal to the angle of _____.

- (A) Mirrors, the normal
- (B) Reflection, incidence
- (C) Mirrors, incidence
- (D) Reflection, refraction

15. Use the diagram below, what is the measure of the angle of reflection?

- (A) 0°
- (B) 35°
- (C) 55°
- (D) 65°

16. _____ reflection occurs when light reflects off of ______ surfaces.

- (A) Diffuse, smooth
- (B) Specular, rough
- (C) Smooth, specular
- (D) Diffuse, rough

17. This illustration demonstrates a type of reflection referred to as ...

- (A) Regular
- (B) Crooked
- (C) Diffuse
- (D) Specular

PART B: WRITTEN RESPONSE

1. What are three uses for the ray model?

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3. Is a glass of water with red food colouring in it translucent or transparent? Explain.

- 4. What is the relationship between the size of the shadow and the distance of the object from the light source?
- 5. The diagram below shows an incident ray hitting a plane mirror.



- (A) Using a protractor and ruler, construct and label the normal to the mirror at the point of incidence on the diagram on your answer paper.
- (B) Using a protractor, measure the angle of incidence and angle of reflection to the nearest degree
- 6. Explain the difference between specular and diffuse reflection