

Physical Principles in Living Systems
Interactions of Light with Matter

Name: _____
Period: _____

Use Chapter 3, Section 2 of your textbook to answer the questions below.

Section 2: Interactions of Light with Matter

1. Because the back of a cat's eyes can _____ light, their eyes appear to glow in the dark.

Reflection (p.82)

2. A ray of light shining through the air is usually _____ .

3. If light rays bounce off of something, we call that _____ .

The Law of Reflection (p.82)

4. If you throw a ball straight down (or shine a ray of light straight down), they will both bounce back _____ . If you throw a ball at an angle (or shine a ray of light at an angle), they will both bounce away at an _____ .

- _____ 5. Which of the following angles are equal according to the law of reflection?
- a. angle of electromagnetism and angle of visible light
 - b. angle of incidence and angle of visible light
 - c. angle of reflection and angle of electromagnetism
 - d. angle of incidence and angle of reflection

Look at Figure 1, then match the correct description with the correct term. Write the letter in the space provided.

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| _____ 6. line perpendicular to a mirror's surface | a. incident beam |
| _____ 7. beam of light reflected off a mirror | b. normal |
| _____ 8. beam of light traveling toward a mirror | c. reflected beam |
| _____ 9. arrival of a beam of light at a surface | d. angle of incidence |
| _____ 10. angle between the incident beam and the normal | e. angle of reflection |
| _____ 11. angle between the reflected beam and the normal | f. incidence |



Types of Reflection (p.83)

12. _____ reflection occurs when light beams reflect at the same angle (like off of a mirror).
13. _____ reflection occurs when light beams reflect at many different angles (like off of a wall).

Light Source or Reflection? (p.84)

14. You can see a light source in the dark because your eyes _____ the light coming from it.
15. An object that emits visible light is called _____ .
16. A visible object that reflects light is said to be _____ .

Physical Principles in Living Systems

Interactions of Light with Matter

Name:

Period:

Absorption and Scattering (p.84)

17. Light gets _____ the further it gets from its source.

Absorption and Scattering: Absorption of Light (p.84)

_____ 18. What happens during the process of absorption?

- a. Light energy is transferred to particles of matter.
- b. Light energy is diffused by particles of matter.
- c. Light energy is reflected by particles of matter.
- d. Light energy is illuminated by particles of matter.

_____ 19. What happens to light when air particles absorb energy from the light?

- a. The light becomes bright.
- b. The light becomes dim.
- c. The light becomes infrared.
- d. The light becomes ultraviolet.

Scattering of Light (p.85)

_____ 20. What happens when light is scattered?

- a. Light is absorbed.
- b. Light is reflected.
- c. Light becomes brighter.
- d. Light changes direction.

21. Scattering is what makes the sky look _____ .

Light and Matter (p.85)

22. _____ is the passing of light through matter.

_____ 23. Look at Figure 5. Why can you see objects outside through a glass window?

- a. Light is absorbed by the glass.
- b. Light is transmitted through the glass.
- c. Light is reflected off the glass.
- d. Light is dissolved by the glass.

_____ 24. Look at Figure 5. Why can you see your reflection in a window?

- a. Light is absorbed by the glass.
- b. Light is dissolved by the glass.
- c. Light is reflected off the glass.
- d. Light is transmitted through the glass.

_____ 25. Look at Figure 5. Why does a glass window feel warm when you touch it?

- a. Some light is absorbed by the glass.
- b. Some light is dissolved by the glass.
- c. Some light is magnified through the glass.
- d. Some light is transferred by the glass.



CoolClips.com

Types of Matter (p.86)

26. Visible light is easily transmitted through _____ objects such as glass and water.

27. Matter that transmits and scatters light, such as wax paper, is _____.

28. Matter that does not transmit light, such as metal, is _____.