- 1. A wave is
  - A) an oscillation in time only.
  - an oscillation in space only. B)
  - C) an oscillation in space propagated through time.
  - an oscillation in time propagated through space. D)
- Compare **sound** and **light** waves. 2.
  - Sound waves are transverse, and so are light waves. A)
  - Sound waves are longitudinal, and so are light waves. B)
  - Sound waves are transverse, light waves longitudinal. C)
  - D) Sound waves are longitudinal, light waves transverse.
- How do you make an electromagnetic wave? 3.
  - Oscillate an un-charged particle (only neutrons work). A) The motion of the mass creates an e·m wave.
  - Oscillate a charged particle (like an electron). The B) accelerating electron creates the varying E and B fields.
  - Keep a charged particle (like an electron) completely at C) rest. Any motion of the particle will collapse the wave.
  - D) It's a mystery. Like Bigfoot and UFOs, no one really knows if e·m waves actually exist.
- The time-varying electric (E) and magnetic (B) fields that 4. comprise an electromagnetic wave are
  - A) parallel.

B)

5.

- C) skew (neither // nor  $\perp$ ). perpendicular. D) non-existent.
- Electromagnetic waves are
- longitudinal and require a material medium to travel A) through.
- B) transverse and require a material medium to travel through.
- longitudinal and do not require a material medium to C) travel through.
- D) transverse and do not require a material medium to travel through.
- The electromagnetic spectrum includes 6.
  - A) radio, television, and sound waves.
  - visible light, but no other types of waves. B)
  - C) radio, sound, and seismic waves.
  - D) radio, infrared, ultraviolet, and gamma rays.
- The speed of light 7.
  - is fastest in a vacuum. **A)**
  - is about 340 m/s. B)
  - C) increases as the frequency increases.
  - D) increases as the wavelength increases.
- 8. True or **false**: A gamma ray will travel faster through vacuum than visible light, and visible light travels faster than radio waves.
- The wavelength of an electromagnetic wave 9.
  - A) is a measure of its speed.
  - B) is a measure of its brightness.
  - decreases with increasing frequency. C)
  - increases with increasing frequency. D)
- 10. The **frequency** of an electromagnetic wave
  - A) is a measure of its speed.
  - B) decreases with increasing wavelength.
  - increases with increasing wavelength. C)
  - D) is unrelated to its wavelength.
- 11. The **energy** of an electromagnetic wave
  - A) is a measure of its speed.
  - decreases with increasing frequency. B)
  - C) increases with increasing frequency.
  - D) is unrelated to its frequency.

- 12. Ultraviolet (UV) waves have a much shorter wavelength than infrared (IR) waves.
  - UV waves have lower frequency than IR. A)
  - B) UV waves have the same frequency as IR.
  - UV waves have higher frequency than IR. **C**)
  - D) There is no correlation between frequency and wavelength; some wavelengths of UV have higher frequencies than visible light, and some have lower frequencies.
- 13. X–rays have a much higher frequency than visible light.
  - X-rays have more energy than visible light. A)
  - X–rays have less energy than visible light. B)
  - C) X–rays have the same energy as visible light.
  - There is no correlation between frequency and energy; D) some frequencies of X-rays have less energy than visible light, and some have more energy.
- 14. Why don't you also need to apply "radio screen" when you apply your ultraviolet-blocking sunscreen lotion before you spend the day outdoors?
  - Because if the lotion blocks UV rays, it will A) automatically block all other forms of em radiation.
  - B) Because radio waves have less energy, so they will not damage your skin the way UV rays do.
  - C) Because humans have evolved to be immune from damage from everything except UV rays.
  - Because none of the radio radiation from the sun gets D) down to the surface of the earth.
- 15. **True** or false: Like the sun, you are currently radiating electromagnetic waves. Just at a much lower frequency.
- 16. When sunlight strikes a clear glass windowpane, about 85% of the incident light is transmitted. What happens to the remaining 15% of the incident light?
  - It is also transmitted. 100% of the light must pass A) through the transparent glass.
  - B) It is mostly reflected, but some light will be absorbed.
  - It is lost, and 15% of the initial energy disappears. C)
  - No one knows. Like the Loch Ness monster or the true D) identity of Jack the Ripper, no one ever will.
- 17. Light incident on a surface may be
  - A) transmitted, if the medium is transparent.
  - B) absorbed, causing the medium to heat up.
  - C) reflected, causing the medium to cool down.
  - D) either A or B; reflection is not a cooling process.
- 18. If a material is **opaque**, visible light that strikes it
  - will pass through to the other side. A)
  - B) will bounce off the surface.
  - will be completely absorbed. C)
  - will be some combination of reflected and absorbed, D) but none will be transmitted.
- 19. The glass windshield of your car is
  - opaque to all forms of electromagnetic radiation. A)
  - transparent to all forms of electromagnetic waves. B)
  - transparent to UV and IR, but opaque to visible light. C)
  - reflective to UV, absorptive to visible, and permeable to D) IR frequencies.
  - E) transparent to visible, but virtually opaque to UV and IR frequencies of radiation.

- 20. Which is the reflected ray? Use the multiple choices on the figure on the right. **E**
- 21. True or **false**: When applying the law of reflection, always measure the angles of incidence and reflection with

respect to the surface that the light is striking.

- 22. The **law of reflection** states that the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection. However, if a mirror is curved slightly outward (like the side-view mirror on a car),
  - A) the angle of reflection will be greater than the angle of incidence.
  - B) the angle of reflection will be less than the angle of incidence.
  - C) the angle of reflection will be 0°, no matter what the angle of incidence.
  - D) the angles will still be equal regardless of the shape or curvature of the mirror.
- 23. You are standing on the bridge, looking down onto the surface of the river. If you see a **specular reflection** on the surface, the water must be
  - A) calm and smooth.
  - B) rough and choppy.
  - C) solid ice. Liquid water cannot reflect light.
  - D) Trick question! There will be no reflection at all, because water cannot *reflect* light, it can only *refract* it!
- 24. A diffuse reflection will appear
  - A) sharp, clear, and well-focused.
  - B) blurry and poorly focused.
  - C) the opposite color of the original object.
- 25. Using either a mirror or a lens, a real image will always
  - A) appear right side up.
  - B) appear upside down (inverted).
  - C) appear larger than the original object.
  - D) appear smaller than the original object.
- 26. Using either a mirror or a lens, a **virtual image** will always **A**) **appear right side up**.
  - B) appear upside down (inverted).
  - C) appear larger than the original object.
  - D) appear smaller than the original object.
- For questions 21–26 below, use the following multiple choices:
  - A) Concave mirror only.
  - B) Convex mirror *only*.
  - C) Both concave and convex mirrors.
  - D) Neither concave nor convex mirrors.
- 27. Reflective surface is curved outward. B
- 28. Reflective surface is curved inward. A
- 29. Reflected light converges to a real focal point. A
- 30. Reflected light diverges away from a virtual focus. **B**
- 31. Angle of incidence less than angle of reflection. **D**
- 32. Can form only real images. **D**
- 33. Can form only virtual images. **B**
- 34. Can form either real or virtual images. A

- 35. Parallel rays of light strike a convex mirror. The reflected rays
  - A) diverge away from each other. The real rays will never intersect.
  - B) are parallel as well. They bounce back along their original path.
  - C) are perpendicular. They make a 90° angle with the incoming rays.
  - D) converge at the focal point in front of the mirror.
  - E) are everywhere. Curved mirrors can only reflect diffusely, so the rays go in all directions randomly.
- 36. Explain the difference between a concave mirror and a convex mirror.
  - A) Both can form either real or virtual images. Concave mirrors curve outward, convex curve inward.
  - B) Concave mirrors form only virtual images. Convex form only real images. Both curve outward.
  - C) Concave mirrors form only real images. Convex form only virtual images. Both curve inward.
  - D) Convex mirrors curve outward and form only virtual images. Concave mirrors are curved inward.
  - E) Convex mirrors cannot form either type of image. Concave can form either real or virtual images.
- 37. When light passes from one medium to another,
  - A) it continues to travel at 300,000 km/s regardless of the type of medium.
  - B) it always slows down, and it refracts regardless of the angle of incidence.
  - C) it bends only when it strikes the boundary between the media at a 90° angle.
  - D) it may slow down or speed up, depending on the medium. The amount of refraction depends on the angle at which the light strikes the boundary.
  - E) it enters another dimension. Like the aliens at Roswell, no one knows where it came from or where it will go.
- 38. As a light wave passes from glass to air,
  - A) it slows down and bends toward the normal.
  - B) it slows down and bends away from the normal.
  - C) it speeds up and bends toward the normal.
  - D) it speeds up and bends away from the normal.
  - E) it does not bend because the speed does not change.
- 39. Under what circumstance would light traveling from air to glass remain un-refracted (un-bent)?
  - A) Under all circumstances. The angle of incidence = the angle of refraction, and no bending occurs.
  - B) When the index of refraction of the glass exactly equals the index of refraction of the air.
  - C) If the light is traveling parallel to the normal to the surface when it strikes the boundary, it will not refract.
  - D) If the light is traveling perpendicular to the normal to the surface, it will not refract.
- 40. Glass has an index of refraction of  $n_g = 1.5$ , and water has an index of refraction of  $n_w = 1.3$ . A beam of light traveling from air (index of refraction = 1) to glass has an incident angle of 30°. A second beam of light, this one traveling from air to water, also has an incident angle of 30°.
  - A) The glass will bend the light more.
  - B) The water will bend the light more.
  - C) They will both bend the light by the same amount.
  - D) Neither glass nor water will bend the light at all.



- 41. Glass has an index of refraction of approximately  $n_g = 1.5$ . Diamond, however, has an index of refraction of  $n_d = 2.4$ .
  - The speed of light is the same through either medium,  $c = 3 \times 10^8$  m/s. Index of refraction does not matter.
  - The speed of light is faster through glass because its B) index is smaller.
  - C) The speed of light is faster through diamond. The higher the index of refraction, the faster the medium.
  - You cannot say for sure which medium is faster; it will D) depend on the color of the glass.

INCIDENT

GLASS

n = 1.5

AIR

n = 1

- 42. In the figure shown on the right, which ray represents the refracted beam of light? C
- 43. True or false: In the figure shown above, if you increase the angle of incidence enough (to 60° or more, for example), the result will be a total internal reflection of the light beam, and no

the air. 44. In the figure shown on the right, which ray represents the refracted beam of light? B

light will emerge into

For questions 35-44 below, use the following multiple choices:

- A) Converging lens only.
- B) **Diverging** lens only.
- Both converging and diverging lenses. C)
- Neither converging nor diverging lenses. D)
- 45. Has a convex shape. A
- 46. Has a concave shape. **B**
- 47. Can form only real images. D
- Can form only virtual images. **B** 48.
- Can form either real or virtual images. A 49.
- Can form magnified images  $(h_i > h_o)$ . A 50.
- 51. Can form "mini-fied" images ( $h_i < h_o$ ). C
- 52. The type of lens found in the human eye. A
- Can correct near-sightedness. B 53.
- 54. Can correct far-sightedness. A
- 55. An object is placed at the focal point of a **diverging** lens,
  - $d_o = f$ . What kind of image will be formed? A) None; the rays of light will all be parallel on both sides
  - of the lens. No real or virtual image forms. B) A real image. Real rays of light will intersect on the side of the lens opposite the object.
  - The real image is formed when real rays intersect on the C) same side of the lens as the object.
  - D) Virtual. Real rays diverge. Virtual rays intersect on the opposite side of the lens as the object.
  - A virtual image forms, but the virtual rays intersect E) on the same side of the lens as the object.



- 56. An object is placed at the focal point of a **converging** lens,  $d_o = f$ . What kind of image will be formed?
  - None; the rays of light will all be parallel on both A) sides of the lens. No real or virtual image forms.
  - A real image. Real rays of light will intersect on the B) side of the lens opposite the object.
  - C) The real image is formed when real rays intersect on the same side of the lens as the object.
  - D) Virtual. Real rays diverge. Virtual rays intersect on the opposite side of the lens as the object.
  - E) A virtual image forms, but the virtual rays intersect on the same side of the lens as the object.
- 57. When you shine white light through a triangular glass prism, white light emerges, unbent. A)
  - the colors are dispersed according to wavelength. B)
  - Red light, having the longest wavelength, bends the most.
  - C) the prism scatters the blue light, and only red light emerges.
  - D) Don't do it!! Do the words Bermuda Triangle mean nothing to you?
- When you see a rainbow in the sky, 58.
  - sometimes the red band is on top, sometimes the blue A) band is. It's completely random.
  - B) the primary will have red on top, blue on bottom. The secondary will have blue on top, red on bottom.
  - C) the primary will have blue on top, red on bottom. The secondary will have red on top, blue on bottom.
  - both the primary and secondary rainbows will have the D) same color order: VIB G ROY, from top to bottom.
- 59. True or false: The Earth's atmosphere is not transparent to all frequencies of electromagnetic waves.
- Why don't humans have x-ray vision-like Superman? 60. Some humans do. The ability see x-rays is uncommon, A) but there are plenty of people who have x-ray vision.
  - B) You cannot see what cannot be seen! There is no known method for detecting x-rays, so there is no way for any eye (human or otherwise) to see x-rays.
  - X-rays cannot penetrate the Earth's atmosphere. C) Eyes (human or otherwise) would not evolve to see wavelengths which are not abundant at the Earth's surface.
- 61. Your polarized sunglasses are great for driving, since they diminish reflected glare from the highway. The fact that light can be polarized proves that
  - A) light is a longitudinal wave.
  - light is a transverse wave. B)
  - particles of light can pass through glass. C)
  - D) it's dangerous to drive without eye protection. You should probably wear a helmet, as well.
- 62. True or false: Light is a particle.
- 63. **True** or false: Light is a wave.
- 64. What is the **photoelectric effect**?
  - The observation that oscillating an electric charge A) creates an electromagnetic wave.
  - B) The observation that a beam of electrons will fog unexposed (and well-shielded) photographic film.
  - When a photograph is bombarded with electrons, it gets C) yellowed and dingy. That's why old-timey photographs are all sepia-toned.
  - D) When a metallic foil is bombarded with photons of light of a particular frequency, electrons are ejected. But using a different frequency has no effect.



GLASS

B

C

## 65. **Reflection** of light is

- A) a wave property only.
  B) a particle property only.
  C) both wave and particle behavior.

- 66. Interference of light is
  A) a wave property only.
  B) a particle property only.
  C) both wave and particle behavior.

- 67. The **photoelectric effect** is

  - A) a wave property only.
    B) a particle property only.
    C) both wave and particle behavior.