

PHYSICS DEFINITIONS GRADE 11 - FILL IN THE MISSING TERM

OPTICS

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Refraction of light – the change in direction of a light ray due to a change in speed when light travels from one medium into the other of different density

Optical density – a measure of the power of a medium

Refractive index – the ratio of the speed of light in a vacuum to the speed of light in a medium.

Normal – the line which is perpendicular to the plane of the surface

Critical angle – the angle of incidence in the optically denser medium for which the angle of refraction in the optically rarer medium is 90°

Angle of incidence – the angle between the light ray to a and the

Angle of refraction – the angle between the light ray to a and the

Law of reflection – when light is reflected the angle of reflection is always equal to the angle of incidence.

Snell's Law – the ratio of the sine of the angle of incidence to the sine of the angle of refraction is constant in one medium to another.