


## Chapter 9: Light – Reflection and Refraction

### What is Light?

Light enables us to see objects. We see an object when light reflected from it enters our eyes.

Light travels in a straight line. This property explains how shadows form and why light casts a sharp shadow through a small aperture.

### Reflection of Light


 Reflection is the bouncing back of light when it hits a smooth surface like a mirror.

### Laws of Reflection:

1. **Angle of incidence** = Angle of reflection
2. Incident ray, reflected ray and normal all lie in the same plane

### Image by Plane Mirror:

- Always virtual and erect
- Same size as the object
- Laterally inverted
- Distance of image = Distance of object from the mirror

 **Activity 9.1:** Take a shining spoon and observe your image in the curved surface. Try both sides:

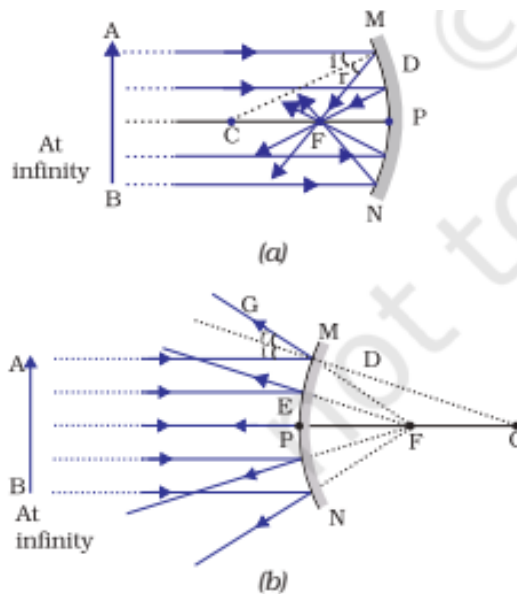
- Inner side (concave): Image appears large and inverted.
- Outer side (convex): Image appears small and erect.

This shows that curved surfaces behave like mirrors—either concave or convex.


### Types of Spherical Mirrors

1. **Concave Mirror:** Reflecting surface is curved inward (like a cave).
2. **Convex Mirror:** Reflecting surface is bulged outward.


### Important Terms (Fig. 9.1, 9.2):



- **Pole (P):** Center of the mirror surface
- **Centre of Curvature (C):** Center of the sphere the mirror is part of
- **Radius of Curvature (R):** Distance between P and C
- **Principal Axis:** Line joining P and C
- **Focus (F):** Point where rays converge (concave) or appear to diverge (convex)
- **Focal Length (f):** Distance between P and F;  $R = 2f$

 **Activity 9.2:** Focus sunlight using a concave mirror on paper. A bright spot (the Sun's image) appears and may burn the paper. This is because the mirror concentrates light to a point—the focus.

### Image Formation by Concave Mirror

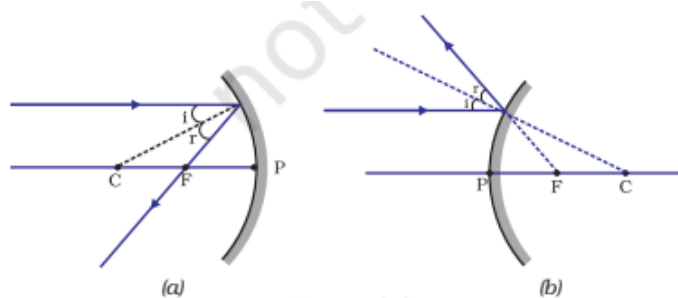
 **Activity 9.3:** Place a burning candle at different distances from a concave mirror and observe image size, position, and nature on a screen.

### Summary (Table 9.1):

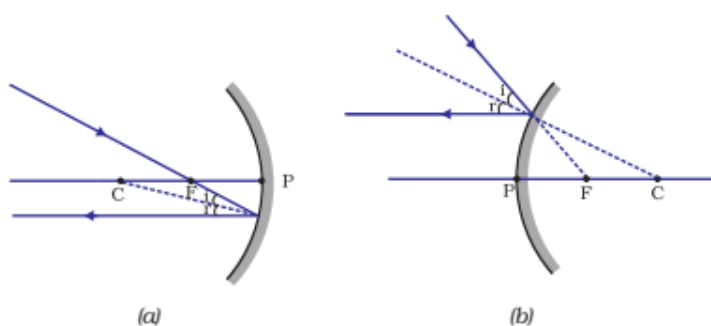
Object Position	Image Position	Size	Nature
At infinity	At F	Point-size	Real, Inverted
Beyond C	Between F and C	Diminished	Real, Inverted
At C	At C	Same size	Real, Inverted
Between C and F	Beyond C	Enlarged	Real, Inverted
At F	At Infinity	Enlarged	Real, Inverted
Between F and P	Behind mirror	Enlarged	Virtual, Erect

🎯 **Ray Diagrams:** (Fig. 9.3 to 9.7)

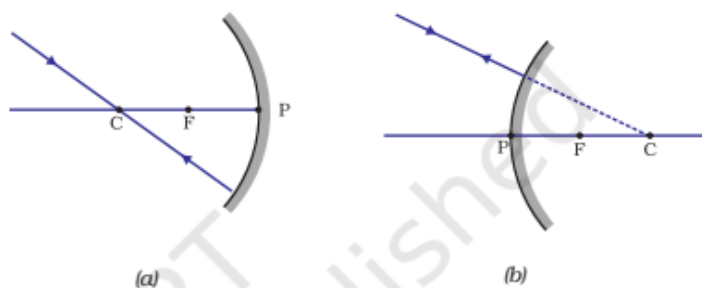
Use two rays:



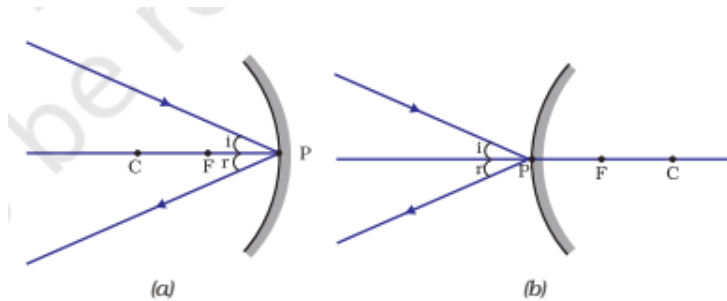
**Figure 9.3**



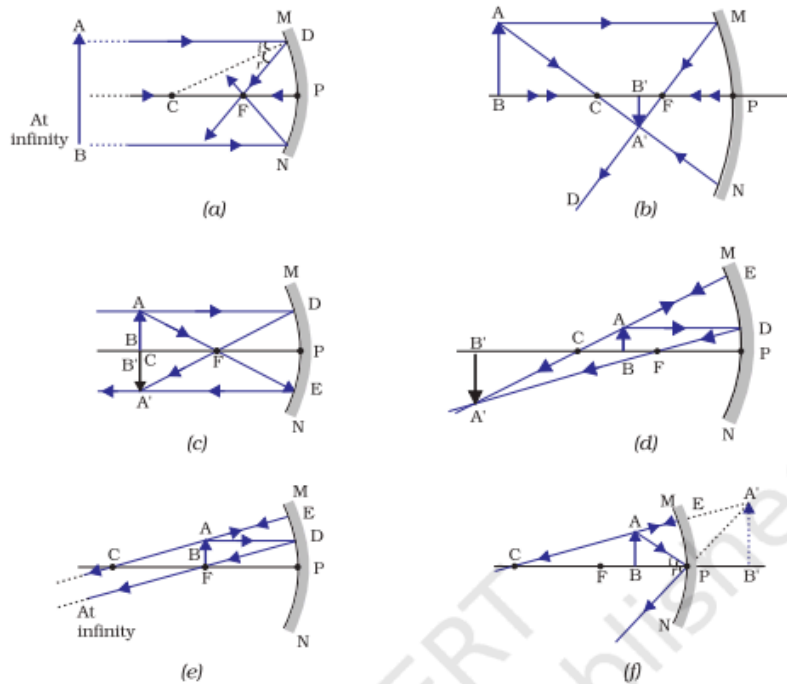
**Figure 9.4**



**Figure 9.5**



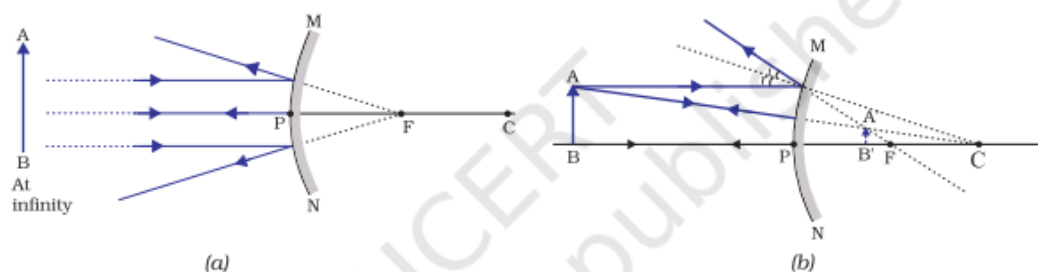
**Figure 9.6**




**Figure 9.7** Ray diagrams for the image formation by a concave mirror

1. Parallel to principal axis → passes through F
2. Through F → reflects parallel
3. Through C → reflects back on itself

### Image Formation by Convex Mirror



**Figure 9.8** Formation of image by a convex mirror

 **Activity 9.5:** Use convex mirror and observe pencil. Image is erect and small. When moved away, image becomes smaller and shifts closer to focus.

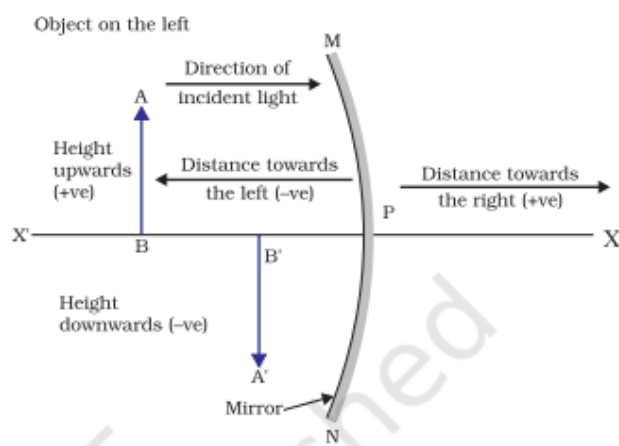
 Summary (Table 9.2):

Object Position	Image Position	Size	Nature
At infinity	At F behind mirror	Diminished	Virtual, Erect
Between $\infty$ and P	Between P & F	Diminished	Virtual, Erect

### Uses:

- **Concave mirrors:** torches, shaving mirrors, solar furnaces
- **Convex mirrors:** rear-view mirrors (wide field of view)

### Sign Convention (Fig. 9.9)



**Figure 9.9**  
The New Cartesian Sign Convention for spherical mirrors

- Pole (P) is origin.
- All distances are from P:
  - Left side of mirror: negative
  - Right side: positive
  - Above principal axis: positive
  - Below axis: negative

### Mirror Formula:

$$\frac{1}{v} + \frac{1}{u} = \frac{1}{f}$$

Where:

- $v$  = image distance
- $u$  = object distance
- $f$  = focal length

### Magnification:


$$m = \frac{h'}{h} = -\frac{v}{u} \quad m = \frac{h'}{h} = \frac{-v}{u} \quad m = \frac{h'}{h} = \frac{-v}{u}$$

+  $m > 0$ : Image is virtual, erect

–  $m < 0$ : Image is real, inverted

## Refraction of Light

When light passes obliquely from one medium to another, its direction changes. This bending is called refraction.

 **Activity 9.7–9.9:** Coin in water appears shifted. Printed text under glass appears raised. These are results of refraction.

## Laws of Refraction (Snell's Law):

1. Incident ray, refracted ray and normal lie in the same plane.
2.  $\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \text{constant} = \frac{n_2}{n_1}$  or  $\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{n_2}{n_1}$

## Refractive Index:

$$n_2 = \frac{v_1}{v_2} \quad \text{or} \quad n_m = \frac{c}{v} \quad \text{or} \quad n_m = \frac{c}{v}$$

Where:

- $n$  = refractive index
- $c$  = speed of light in air
- $v$  = speed of light in medium

 Higher refractive index → optically denser


 Table 9.3: Diamond has highest refractive index (2.42)

## Refraction through a Lens

- Convex Lens: thicker in middle → converging lens
- Concave Lens: thinner in middle → diverging lens

## Key Lens Terms:

- **Optical Centre (O):** central point of the lens
- **Principal Axis:** line through  $C_1$  and  $C_2$
- **Principal Focus ( $F_1, F_2$ ):** point where rays converge/diverge
- **Focal Length ( $f$ ):** distance between O and F

 **Activity 9.12:** Use convex lens and candle to observe image formation at different positions

## Image Formation by Convex Lens (Table 9.4):

Object Position	Image Position	Size	Nature
At infinity	At $F_2$	Point-size	Real, Inverted
Beyond $2F_1$	Between $F_2$ & $2F_2$	Diminished	Real, Inverted
At $2F_1$	At $2F_2$	Same size	Real, Inverted
Between $F_1$ & $2F_1$	Beyond $2F_2$	Enlarged	Real, Inverted
At $F_1$	At Infinity	Enlarged	Real, Inverted
Between $F_1$ and O	Same side	Enlarged	Virtual, Erect

### Image Formation by Concave Lens (Table 9.5):

- Always virtual, erect and diminished image between F and optical centre

### Lens Formula:

$$\frac{1}{v} - \frac{1}{u} = \frac{1}{f}$$

### Magnification for Lenses:

$$m = \frac{h'}{h} = \frac{v}{u}$$

### Power of a Lens:

$$P = \frac{1}{f} \text{ (in meters)} \quad \text{Unit: Dioptre (D)}$$

**+ Convex lens:** positive power

**— Concave lens:** negative power

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