

- A priori knowledge: a fact is known a priori if it is known in a way that does not involve observation or sense experience. It can be known through the intellect alone.
 - E.g., the meanings of words are known a priori.
- A fact is known a posteriori if it is learnt through some process of observation or sense experience.
 - E.g., that there is ice-cream in the freezer is known a posteriori.

Benacerraf's Dilemma

- Platonism is best able to explain the semantics of mathematical truths.
- Platonism leaves it mysterious how we know mathematical entities and the truths about them.
 - We know ordinary objects by causally interacting with them.
 - We cannot causally interact with abstract objects.

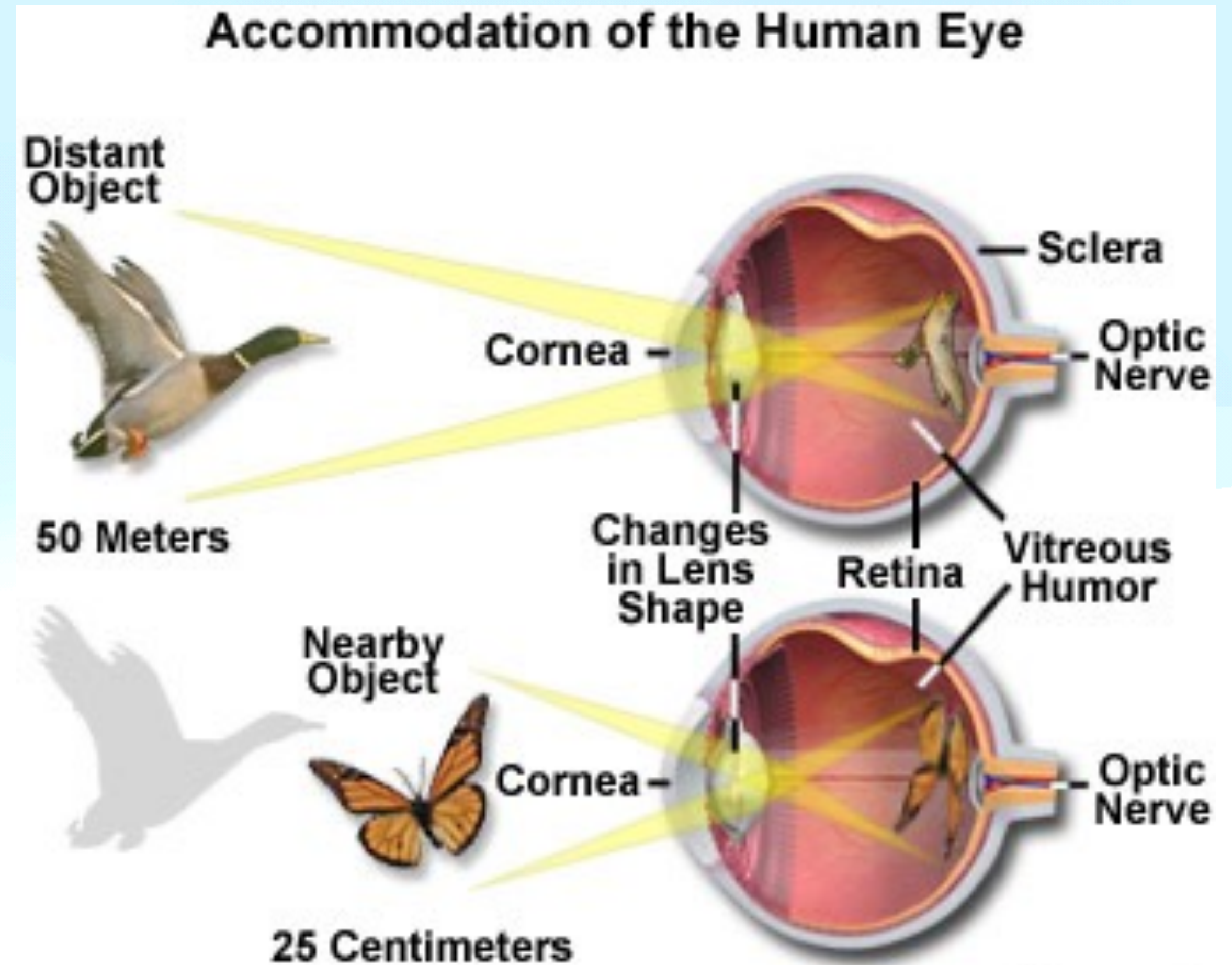


Figure 2