

Physics 30 – Lesson 8 Refraction of Light

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Practice problems

1.

$$\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.00 \sin 24^\circ}{1.33} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\theta_2 = 17.8^\circ}$$

2.

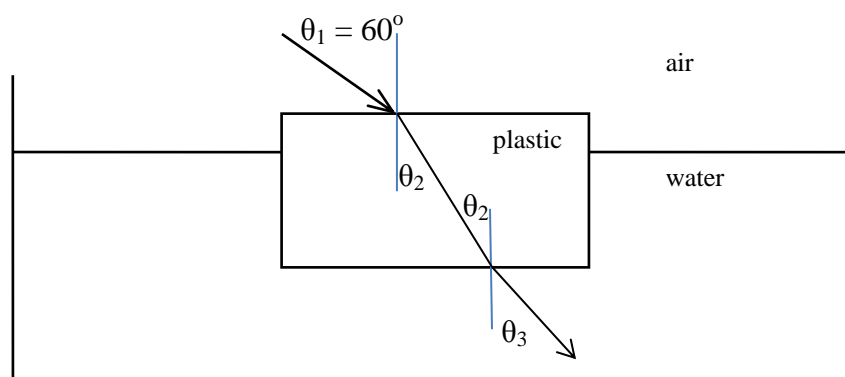
$$\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.52 \sin 20^\circ}{1.00} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\theta_2 = 31.3^\circ}$$

3.



$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.00 \sin 60^\circ}{1.52} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = 34.733^\circ$$

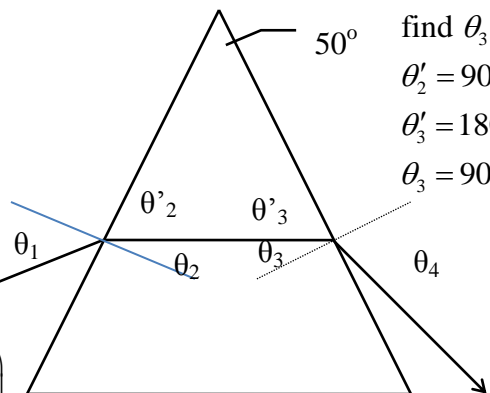
$$\frac{n_2}{n_3} = \frac{\sin \theta_3}{\sin \theta_2}$$

$$\theta_3 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{n_3} \right)$$

$$\theta_3 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.52 \sin 34.733^\circ}{1.33} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\theta_3 = 40.6^\circ}$$

4.



find θ_3

$$\theta'_2 = 90 - \theta_2 = 90 - 25.374 = 64.626$$

$$\theta'_3 = 180 - 50 - \theta'_2 = 180 - 50 - 64.626 = 65.374$$

$$\theta_3 = 90 - \theta'_3 = 90 - 65.374 = 24.626$$

$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.00 \sin 40^\circ}{1.50} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = 25.374^\circ$$

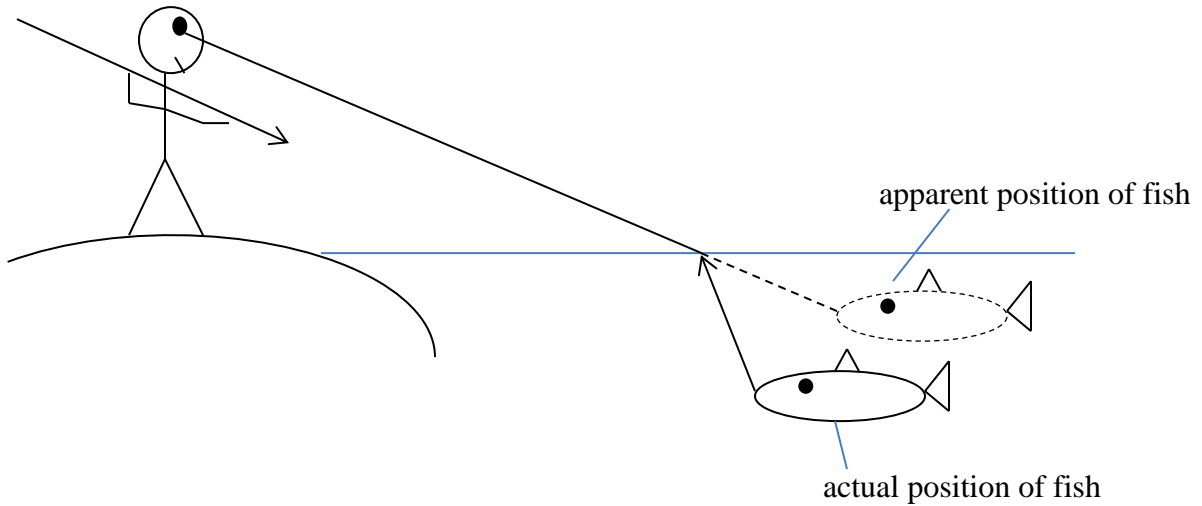
$$\frac{n_3}{n_4} = \frac{\sin \theta_4}{\sin \theta_3}$$

$$\theta_4 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_3 \sin \theta_3}{n_4} \right)$$

$$\theta_4 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.50 \sin 24.626^\circ}{1.00} \right)$$

$\theta_4 = 38.7^\circ$

5.



6. At the critical incident angle the angle of refraction is 90° .

$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$\theta_1 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{n_1} \right)$$

$$\theta_1 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.00 \sin 90^\circ}{1.50} \right)$$

$\theta_c = 41.8^\circ$

7. At the critical incident angle the angle of refraction is 90° .

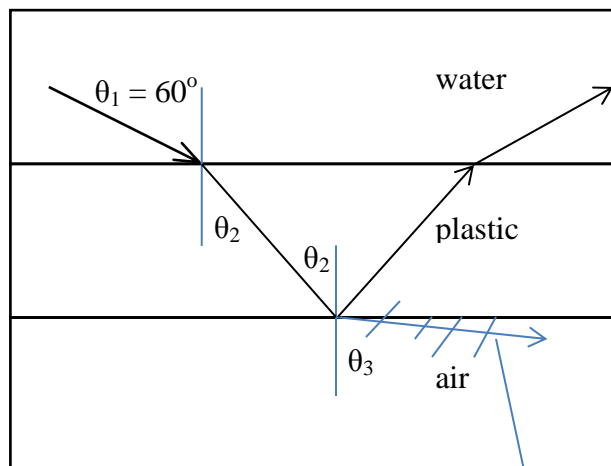
$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$n_1 = \frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$n_1 = \frac{1.33 \sin 90^\circ}{\sin 56.2^\circ}$$

$$n_1 = 1.60$$

8. The angle of refraction in water is 60° . If $n_{\text{plastic}} = 1.62$ trace the ray path through the system below.



$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.33 \sin 60^\circ}{1.62} \right)$$

$$\theta_2 = 45.32^\circ$$

$$\frac{n_2}{n_3} = \frac{\sin \theta_3}{\sin \theta_2}$$

$$\theta_3 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{n_3} \right)$$

$$\theta_3 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1.62 \sin 45.33^\circ}{1.00} \right)$$

$$\theta_3 = \text{undefined} \therefore \text{total internal reflection occurs}$$

Assignment

1) $\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \frac{v_1}{v_2}$

/2 $\frac{n_2}{1.00} = \frac{3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{2.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}$

$n_2 = 1.5$

2) $\frac{v_{\text{violet}}}{v_{\text{air}}} = \frac{n_{\text{air}}}{n_{\text{violet}}}$

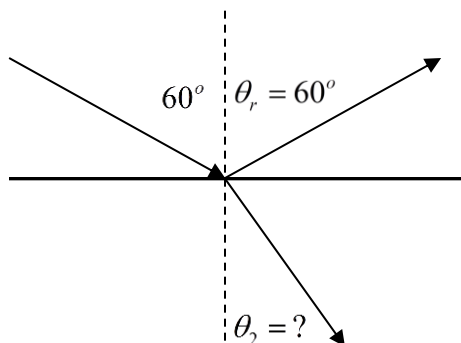
/4 $v_{\text{violet}} = \frac{n_{\text{air}} v_{\text{air}}}{n_{\text{violet}}}$

$v_{\text{violet}} = \frac{(1.00)3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{1.53}$ $v_{\text{red}} = \frac{(1.00)3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{1.52}$

$v_{\text{violet}} = 1.96 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

$v_{\text{red}} = 1.97 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

3)



$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2}$

$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.00 \sin 60}{1.33}$

$\theta_2 = 41^\circ$

/3

4)

$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta}{n_2}$

/3

$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.00 \sin 30}{1.52}$

$\theta_2 = 19^\circ$

5)

$n_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2}$

/3

$n_2 = \frac{1.00 \sin 20}{\sin 10}$

$n_2 = 1.97$

6)

/3

$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1}$$

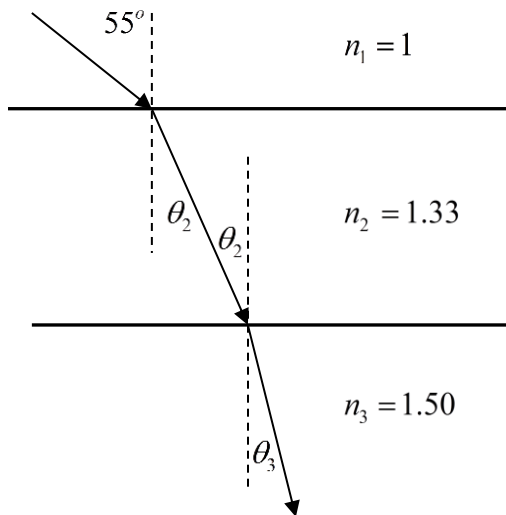
$$\lambda_2 = \frac{n_1 \lambda}{n_2}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{1.0(570\text{nm})}{1.33}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_2 = 429\text{nm}}$$

7)

/4



$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1(\sin 55^\circ)}{1.33}$$

$$\theta_2 = 38^\circ$$

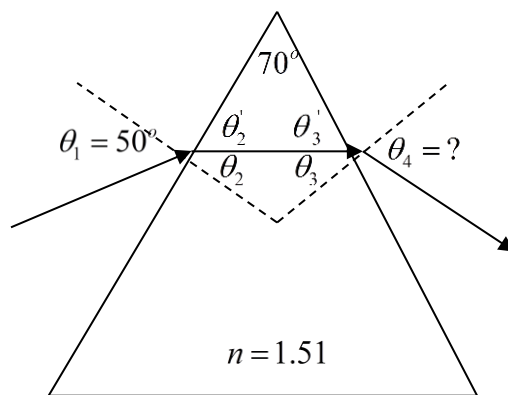
$$\sin \theta_3 = \frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{n_3}$$

$$\theta_3 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.33(\sin 38^\circ)}{1.50}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_3 = 33^\circ}$$

8)

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$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.00 \sin 50.0}{1.51}$$

$$\theta_2 = 30.49^\circ$$

$$\theta_2' = 90 - 30.49 = 59.51$$

$$\theta_3' = 180 - \theta_2' - 70 = 180 - 59.51 - 70$$

$$\theta_3' = 50.49^\circ$$

$$\theta_3 = 90 - 50.49 = 39.51^\circ$$

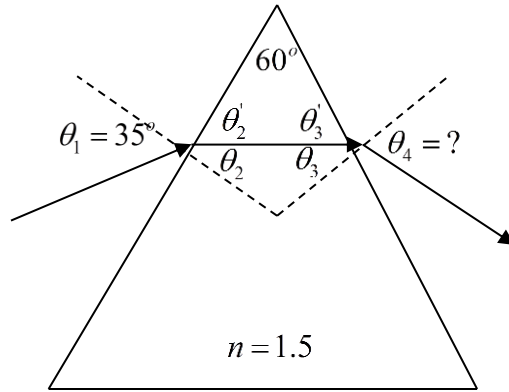
$$\sin \theta_4 = \frac{n_3 \sin \theta_3}{n_4}$$

$$\theta_4 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.51(\sin 39.51^\circ)}{1.00}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_4 = 73.9^\circ}$$

9)

/6



$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1(\sin 35)}{1.5}$$

$$\theta_2 = 22.5^\circ$$

$$\theta_3 = 60^\circ - 22.5^\circ = 37.5^\circ$$

$$\sin \theta_4 = \frac{n_3 \sin \theta_3}{n_4}$$

$$\theta_4 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.5 \sin 37.5^\circ}{1.00}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_4 = 66^\circ}$$

10)

$$\theta_1 = 20^\circ$$

$$n_1 = 1.33$$

$$n_2 = 1.0$$

/8

$$\theta_2 = ?$$

A)

$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.33 \sin 20}{1.0}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_2 = 27^\circ}$$

B)

$$\text{set } \theta_2 = 90^\circ$$

$$\sin \theta_1 = \frac{n_2 \sin 90}{n_1}$$

$$\theta_1 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.0}{1.33}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_1 = 48.8^\circ}$$

11)

a) in glass

$$\sin \theta_r = \frac{n_i \sin \theta_i}{n_r}$$

$$\theta_r = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.33 \sin 30}{1.50}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_r = 26.3^\circ}$$

in air

$$\sin \theta_r = \frac{n_i \sin \theta_i}{n_r}$$

$$\theta_r = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.50 \sin 26.3}{1.00}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_r = 42^\circ}$$

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b) in glass

$$\sin \theta_r = \frac{n_i \sin \theta_i}{n_r}$$

$$\theta_r = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.33 \sin 52}{1.50}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_r = 44.3^\circ}$$

in air

$$\sin \theta_r = \frac{n_i \sin \theta_i}{n_r}$$

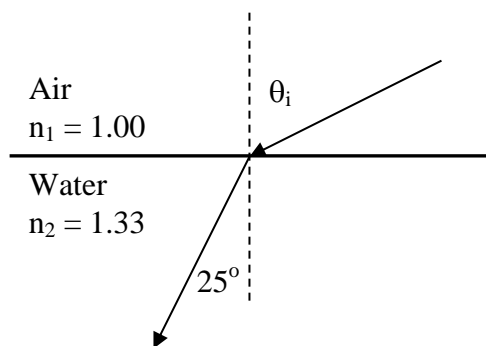
$$\theta_r = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.50 \sin 44.3}{1.00}$$

$$\theta_r = \text{error, not possible}$$

$$\boxed{\therefore \text{no refracted ray}}$$

12)

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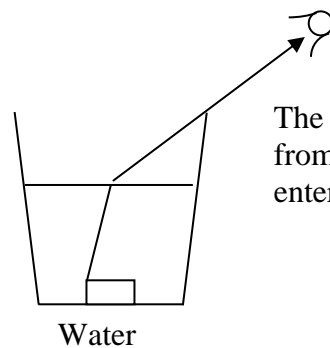
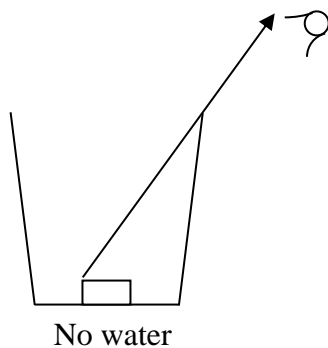
$$\sin \theta_i = \frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{n_i}$$

$$\theta_i = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.33 \sin 25}{1.00}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_i = 34^\circ}$$

13)

/3



The water refracts the light from the penny so it can enter the eye

14) Hot air has a slightly different refraction index than cool air and therefore causes light to bend differently. The refraction is not uniform resulting in irregular bending of light.

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15)

/3

$$n_1 = \frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$n_1 = \frac{1.0 \sin 90}{\sin 40.5}$$

$$\boxed{n_1 = 1.54}$$

16)

/3

$$n_1 = \frac{n_2 \sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1}$$

$$n_1 = \frac{1.0 \sin 90}{\sin 61}$$

$$\boxed{n_1 = 1.14}$$

17)

/3

$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_2}{n_1}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{5/2}{3/2}$$

$$\boxed{\theta_2 = 37^\circ}$$

18)

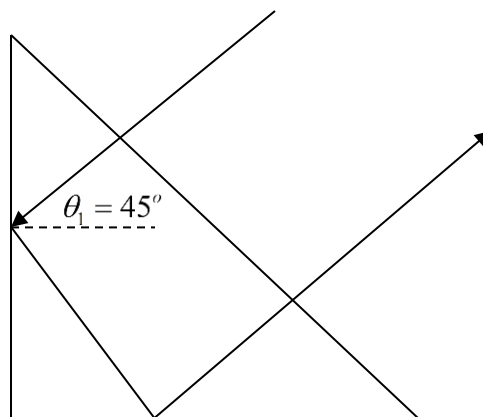
$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1 \sin \theta_1}{n_2}$$

$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{1.50 \sin 45}{1.0}$$

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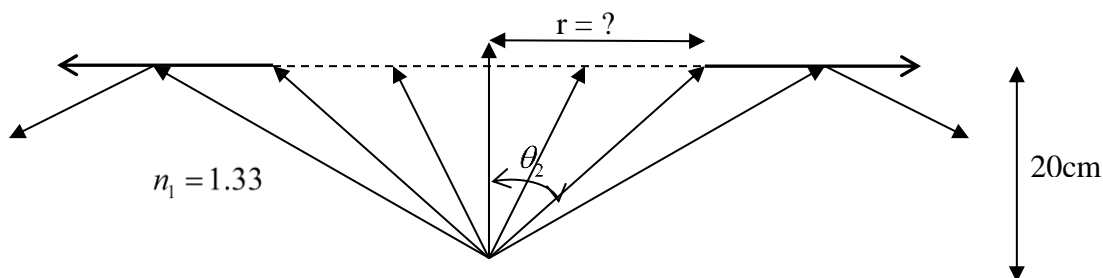
$$\sin \theta_2 = 1.06 \leftarrow \text{impossible}$$

\therefore total internal reflection



19)

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The rays that are not refracted
are totally internally reflected

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{n_2 \sin 90^\circ}{n_1}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \frac{1.0 \sin 90^\circ}{1.33}$$

$$\theta_2 = 48.8^\circ$$

$$\tan \theta_2 = \frac{r}{20}$$

$$r = 20 \tan \theta_2$$

$$r = 20 \tan 48.8$$

$$r = 22.81 \text{ cm}$$

$$\text{area} = \pi r^2 = \pi (22.81 \text{ cm})^2$$

$$\boxed{\text{area} = 1634 \text{ cm}^2}$$

- 20) The relationship between n_1 , n_2 , θ_1 and θ_2 is:

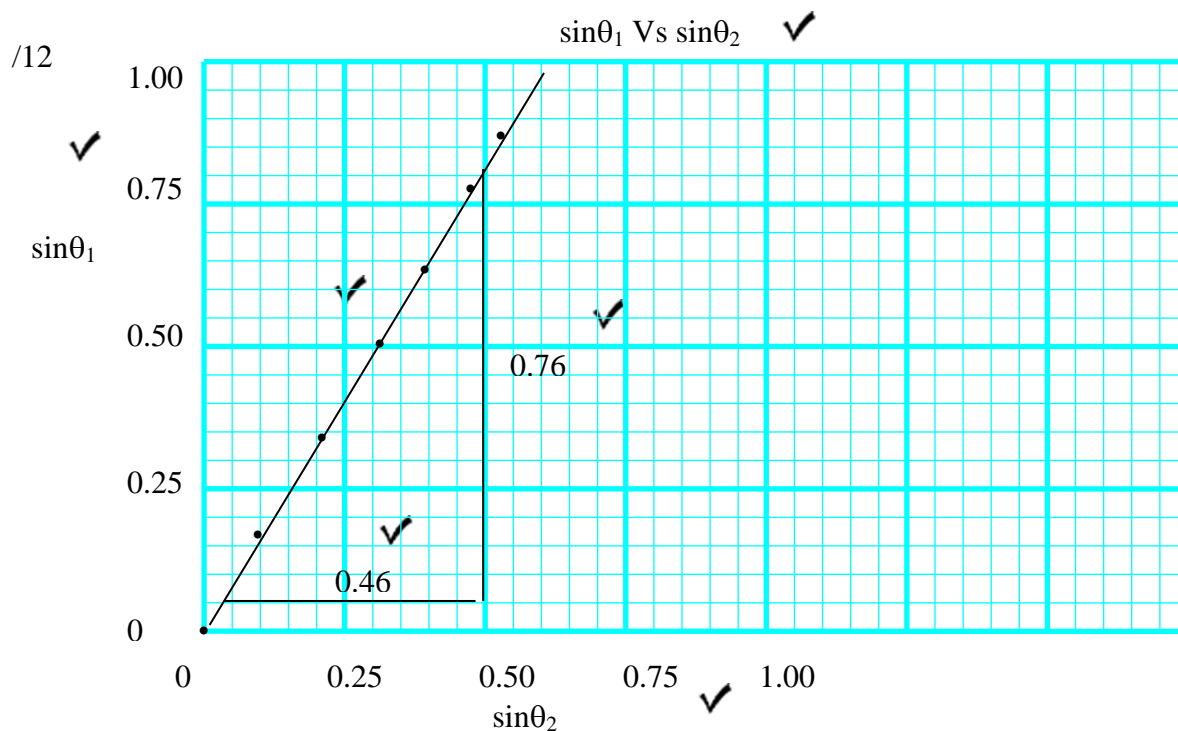
$$\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2} \quad \checkmark$$

since $n_1 = 1.00$

$$n_2 = \frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2} \quad \text{slope} = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} \quad \checkmark$$

Calculate the sine of the angles:

θ_1	$\sin \theta_1$	θ_2	$\sin \theta_2$
0°	0.00	0°	0.00
10°	0.17	6°	0.10
20°	0.34	12°	0.21
30°	0.50	18°	0.31
40°	0.64	23°	0.39
50°	0.77	28°	0.47
60°	0.87	32°	0.53



$$\text{slope} = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} \quad \checkmark$$

$$n_2 = \frac{\Delta \sin \theta_1}{\Delta \sin \theta_2} = \frac{0.76}{0.47} = 1.6$$

$$\boxed{n_2 = 1.6} \quad \checkmark$$