Direction of Bending

Read from Lesson 1 of the Refraction and Lenses chapter at The Physics Classroom:

http://www.physicsclassroom.com/Class/refrn/u14l1d.html http://www.physicsclassroom.com/Class/refrn/u14l1e.html http://www.physicsclassroom.com/Class/refrn/u14l1f.html

MOP Connection: Refraction and Lenses: sublevels 2 and 3

- 1. The **optical density** is the property of a medium that provides a relative measure of the speed at which light travels in that medium. Light travels ______ (fastest, slowest) in media with a greater optical density.
- 2. Every transparent material is characterized by a unique **index of refraction** value (**n**). The index of refraction value is a numerical value that provides a relative measure of the speed of light in that particular material. Light travels ______ (fastest, slowest) in media with a higher index of refraction value.
- 3. The speed of light (v) in a material is determined using the speed of light in a vacuum (c) and the index of refraction (n) of the material. Calculate the speed of light in the following materials. $v = \frac{c}{n} = \frac{3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{n}$

a. water (n = 1.33): _____ b. glass (n = 1.50): _____

- c. ice (n = 1.31): ______ d. diamond (n = 2.42): _____
- 4. When light passes into a medium in which it travels faster, the light will refract ______ the normal. When light passes into a medium in which it travels slower, light will refract ______ the normal. a. towards, away from b. away from, towards
- 5. When light passes into a medium that is more optically dense, the light will refract ______ the normal. When light passes into a medium that is less optically dense, the light will refract ______ the normal.

a. towards, away from

6. Consider the refraction of light in the five diagrams below. In which case is the light bending towards the normal line? Circle all that apply.



Consider the diagram at the right in answering the next four questions.

- 7. There are ____ (1, 2, 3, ...) media shown in the diagram.
- 8. There are ____ (1, 2, 3, ...) boundaries shown in the diagram.
- 9. Light must travel _____ in medium 1 compared to medium 2. a. slower b. faster c. insufficient info
- 10. Light must travel ______ in medium 2 compared to medium 3. a. slower b. faster c. insufficient info



b. away from, towards

11. In each diagram, draw the "missing" ray (either incident or refracted) in order to appropriately show that the direction of bending is towards or away from the normal.

