

Chapter 13 – Diffraction, Interference and Polarisation

Learning Grid

Diffraction, Interference and Polarisation	Questions	Answers
	Define diffraction.	
	When is diffraction most noticeable?	
	Using diagrams, explain how the size of the gap affects the extent of diffraction.	
	Give two real-world examples where diffraction occurs.	
	Define interference.	
	Describe constructive interference.	

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	Describe destructive interference.	
	What is meant by coherent sources?	
	Using a diagram, show how constructive and destructive interference occur in a ripple tank.	
	How can interference be demonstrated using sound?	

Diffraction, Interference and Polarisation	Questions	Answers
	Define polarisation.	
	Why can only transverse waves be polarised?	
	Explain how polarised sunglasses reduce glare.	
	Using diagrams, explain polarisation using a rope and slits.	
	Name one technology that uses destructive interference.	