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- **1.** If we increase the wavelength of the light used to form a double-slit diffraction pattern:
 - A) the width of the central diffraction peak increases and the number of bright fringes within the peak increases
 - **B**) the width of the central diffraction peak increases and the number of bright fringes within the peak decreases
 - C) the width of the central diffraction peak decreases and the number of bright fringes within the peak increases
 - **D**) the width of the central diffraction peak decreases and the number of bright fringes within the peak decreases
 - **E**) the width of the central diffraction peak increases and the number of bright fringes within the peak stays the same

2. When a highly coherent beam of light is directed against a very fine wire, the shadow formed behind it is not just that of a single wire but rather looks like the shadow of several parallel wires. The explanation of this involves:

A) refraction

D) the Doppler effect

B) diffraction

E) an optical illusion

C) reflection

3. A diffraction grating of width W produces a deviation θ in second order for light of wavelength λ. The total number N of slits in the grating is given by:
 A) 2W2 (i = 0, P) (W2) = 0, C) 2W2 = 0, P) (W2) = 0, P) 22 (i = 0, P)

- **A)** $2W\lambda/\sin\theta$ **B)** $(W/\lambda)\sin\theta$ **C)** $\lambda W/2\sin\theta$ **D)** $(W/2\lambda)\sin\theta$ **E)** $2\lambda/\sin\theta$
- **4.** The dispersion of a diffraction grating indicates:
 - A) the resolution of the grating
 - **B**) the separation of lines of the same order
 - C) the number of rulings in the grating
 - **D**) the width of the lines
 - E) the separation of lines of different order for the same wavelength

- **5.** A student wishes to produce a single-slit diffraction pattern in a ripple tank experiment. He considers the following parameters:
 - frequency
 wavelength
 water depth
 slit width
 Which two of the above should be decreased to produce more bending?
 A) 1, 3 B) 1, 4 C) 2, 3 D) 2, 4 E) 3, 4
- **6.** At the first minimum adjacent to the central maximum of a single-slit diffraction pattern the phase difference between the Huygens wavelet from the top of the slit and the wavelet from the midpoint of the slit is:
 - A) $\pi/8 \operatorname{rad}$ B) $\pi/4 \operatorname{rad}$ C) $\pi/2 \operatorname{rad}$ D) $\pi \operatorname{rad}$ E) $3\pi/2 \operatorname{rad}$
- **7.** A light beam incident on a diffraction grating consists of waves with two different wavelengths. The separation of the two first order lines is great if:
 - **A**) the dispersion is great
 - **B**) the resolution is great
 - **C**) the dispersion is small
 - **D**) the resolution is small
 - **E**) none of the above (line separation does not depend on either dispersion or resolution)
- **8.** Two slits in an opaque barrier each have a width of 0.020 mm and are separated by 0.050 mm. When coherent monochromatic light passes through the slits the number of interference maxima within the central diffraction maximum:
 - **A**) is 1
 - **B**) is 2
 - **C**) is 4
 - **D**) is 5
 - E) cannot be determined unless the wavelength is given
 - **9.** Consider a single-slit diffraction pattern caused by a slit of width *a*. There is a maximum if sin θ is equal to:
 - **A)** slightly more than $3\lambda/2a$ **B)** slightly less than $3\lambda/2a$
- **D**) exactly $\lambda/2a$
- **E**) very nearly $\lambda/2a$

C) exactly $3\lambda/2a$

- **10.** In a double-slit diffraction experiment the number of interference fringes within the central diffraction maximum can be increased by:
 - A) increasing the wavelength
- **D**) increasing the slit width
- **B**) decreasing the wavelength
- E) decreasing the slit width
- **C**) decreasing the slit separation
- **11.** A diffraction grating just resolves the wavelengths 400.0 nm and 400.1 nm in first order. The number of slits in the grating is:

A) 400 B) 1000 C) 2500 D) 4000 E) not enough information is given

- 12. What is the minimum number of slits required in a diffraction grating to just resolve light with wavelengths of 471.0 nm and 471.6 nm?
 A) 99 B) 197 C) 393 D) 786 E) 1179
- **13.** Radio waves are readily diffracted around buildings whereas light waves are negligibly diffracted around buildings. This is because radio waves:
 - A) are plane polarized
 - **B**) have much longer wavelengths than light waves
 - C) have much shorter wavelengths than light waves
 - **D**) are nearly monochromatic (single frequency)
 - E) are amplitude modulated (AM).

14. In the equation $\sin \theta = \lambda/a$ for single-slit diffraction, θ is:

- A) the angle to the first minimum
- **B**) the angle to the second maximum
- C) the phase angle between the extreme rays
- **D**) $N\pi$ where N is an integer
- **E**) $(N + 1/2)\pi$ where N is an integer

15. The diagram shows a single slit with the direction to a point P on a distant screen shown. At P, the pattern has its second minimum (from its central maximum). If X and Y are the edges of the slit, what is the path length difference (PX) - (PY)?



- 16. 600-nm light is incident on a diffraction grating with a ruling separation of 1.7 × 10⁻⁶ m. The second order line occurs at a diffraction angle of:
 A) 0 B) 10° C) 21° D) 42° E) 45°
- 17. When 450-nm light is incident normally on a certain double-slit system the number of interference maxima within the central diffraction maximum is 5. When 900-nm light is incident on the same slit system the number is:
 A) 2 B) 3 C) 5 D) 9 E) 10
- 18. The rainbow seen after a rain shower is caused by:A) diffraction B) interference C) refraction D) polarization E) absorption
- **19.** In the equation $\phi = (2\pi a/\lambda) \sin \theta$ for single-slit diffraction, ϕ is:
 - A) the angle to the first minimum
 - **B**) the angle to the second maximum
 - C) the phase angle between the extreme rays
 - **D**) $N\pi$ where N is an integer
 - E) $(N + 1/2)\pi$ where N is an integer

20. Light of wavelength λ is normally incident on some plane optical device. The intensity pattern shown is observed on a distant screen (θ is the angle measured from the normal of the device). The device could be:



Answer Key

1. E Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 29 **2.** B Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 5 **3.** D Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 47 **4.** B Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 60 5. B Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 12 6. D Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 17 **7.** A Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 61 8. D Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 31 **9.** B Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 23 **10.** E Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 33 11. D Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 64 **12.** C Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 65 **13.** B Origin: Chapter 37-Diffraction, 2 14. A Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 9 15. D Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 15 **16.** E Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 41 17. C Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 32 **18.** C Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 4 19. C Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 10 **20.** A Origin: Chapter 37- Diffraction, 53