

September 4th, 1892

My Dearest Darling,

It's now been a month since I left your house and I miss you so much. I want to apologize for slamming the screen door too hard when I left. **It bounced wildly in the storm.** I guess I don't know my own strength. I tried to catch one last glimpse of you as I rounded the corner, but **the outside window slightly distorted your wonderful face.** I chose to look away instead. The next time we meet, I want there to be nothing between my gaze and your beauty.

I can finally write to you now that we've docked in a port town. **It's lonely out here at sea.** We are all sailors impatiently biding our time. We entertain ourselves by singing the same tired songs and we try to catch as much sleep as we can each night **before the morning sun peeks through the boards of the hull.**

I spend a lot of time in the crow's nest, trying to spot interesting things on the horizon. Unfortunately, the humid sea air has corroded our telescope. **The images that flow through it come out quite wrong** and it takes time to figure out what I'm seeing.

I don't want to worry you, but it is indeed very fortunate that we made it to this port. Our food supply was lost in an accident a week into the trip so we had to improvise with whatever we could find. **As it turns out, squid are very squishy and pass through the throat easily** (provided you hold your nose!)

I wish that our ship was equipped with one of those new radio devices. **How lovely it would be to speak into a box and have it**

transformed into a magic wave! I could fly through the air like a dove and be at your side in moments. All you would have to do is listen.

For now, we shall have to make do with these letters. Alas, my pitiful sailor's salary prevents me from sending even a simple telegram. **The wires would carry my words** much faster than the ponies.

In your reply, please tell me how your knitting is coming! You were becoming quite skilled even before I left. I am envious of your dexterity, dear. I would become frustrated with the effort of **binding all those strands together. Still, they serve a great purpose carrying** our warmth with us through these hard winters.

I do hope this letter reaches you quickly. **Tonight I will place it on a train and send it to the post office.** Some of my fellows tell me that **the post office in this part of the country often sends its packages** to the wrong places. I have faith that this time will be different, though. I will dream of it flying like cupid's arrow to your doorstep.

In the meantime, take care and tell your mother to continue her painting! I look forward to seeing the new landscapes she had started before my departure. When I saw her last one, **I felt like I understood** what it must be like to climb that mountain, even though I've never so much as glimpsed one in person.

Your Everlasting Love,

Oculus

Light bounces off an object and into your eye.



Light enters the cornea, where the light is refracted slightly.



The light passes through a clear liquid called the aqueous humor.



Light travels through the pupil, which controls the amount of light entering the eye.



The light passes through the lens where it is refracted even more. (In fact, the image continues on completely upside down!)



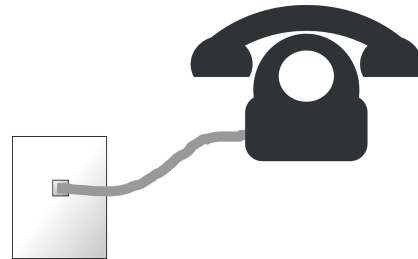
It travels through the vitreous humor until it reaches the retina.



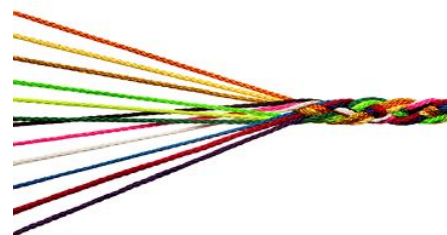
Photoreceptors within the retina (rods and cones) are excited by the light stimuli and generate a nerve impulse.



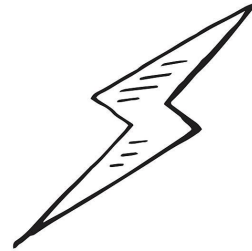
The nerve impulse is handed over to the bipolar cells, which carry the signal like an old fashioned phone line.



The nerve impulse is delivered to the ganglion cells, which converge to form the optic nerve.



The nerve impulse travels down the optic nerve to this brain part which functions as the sensory switching station.



The thalamus takes the nerve impulse and sends it to its proper destination.



The visual cortex in the occipital lobe manufactures an image that we can perceive and understand (flipping it right-side up in the process.)



Answer Key - In order from first to last:

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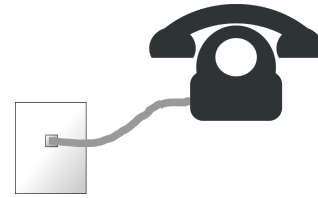
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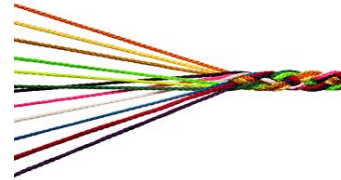
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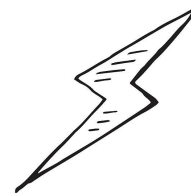
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