

Observing a Shadow

Fill out the table and answer the following questions:

The starting brightness of the shadow and the screen are both 100 to begin with. Choose a number, either higher or lower, that best represents the brightness of each element (shadow and screen) for each different number of papers over the projector:

| Number of Papers | Brightness of Screen | Brightness of Shadow | Observational Notes |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 9 | 100 | 100 | |
| 8 | | | |
| 7 | | | |
| 6 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 1 | | | |
| 0 | | | |

1. When is the first time that you can distinguish for certain the existence of a shadow that is of a different brightness than the rest of the screen?
2. Describe your observation of what happens to the brightness of the screen from 9 covering papers to no covering papers.
3. Describe your observation of what happens to the brightness of the shadow from 9 covering papers to no covering papers.
4. Give at least one well-thought out *reason* for your statements in #2 and #3.

Your main lesson book write-up should include:

1. a description of the experiment
 - a. including the procedure,
 - b. your personal experience, and
 - c. your data table
2. a drawing of some representative stages of the sequence *as you first observed them*, with a title and description, then also
3. a drawing of some representative stages of the sequence *as they “objectively” existed* (as we discovered through our discussions) also with a title and description
4. Include major points and topics from class discussion such as
 - a. whether you changed your opinion on what you observed at any point, and why
 - b. how others viewed the phenomenon
 - c. how we eventually tried to ‘figure out’ what was happening and the results
 - d. Also include your best description of the actual phenomenon, for example by discussing:
 - i. What is “really” happening?
 - ii. What kinds of ways can we approach the phenomenon?
 - iii. The *meaning* of the experiment for your life as a whole – what does it mean about the relationship between your *perception* of things and your *thoughts about* things? Do they necessarily coincide?