
KEY VOCABULARY

light

light is a **source of illumination, it allows us to see**; there are natural and artificial sources of light on earth (the sun is a natural source of light that supports life on earth)

speed of light

the speed of light is believed to be **the fastest speed at which anything in the universe can travel**, approximately 650 million miles per hour; scientists use the speed of light when calculating vast distances in space

mirror

a **surface which reflects a clear image**; archaeologists have found mirrors made from polished stone dating back over 6000 years (the ancient Egyptians used polished copper to create mirrors)

shade

a **dark patch where light has been blocked**; shade is darker and cooler than areas exposed to direct sunlight

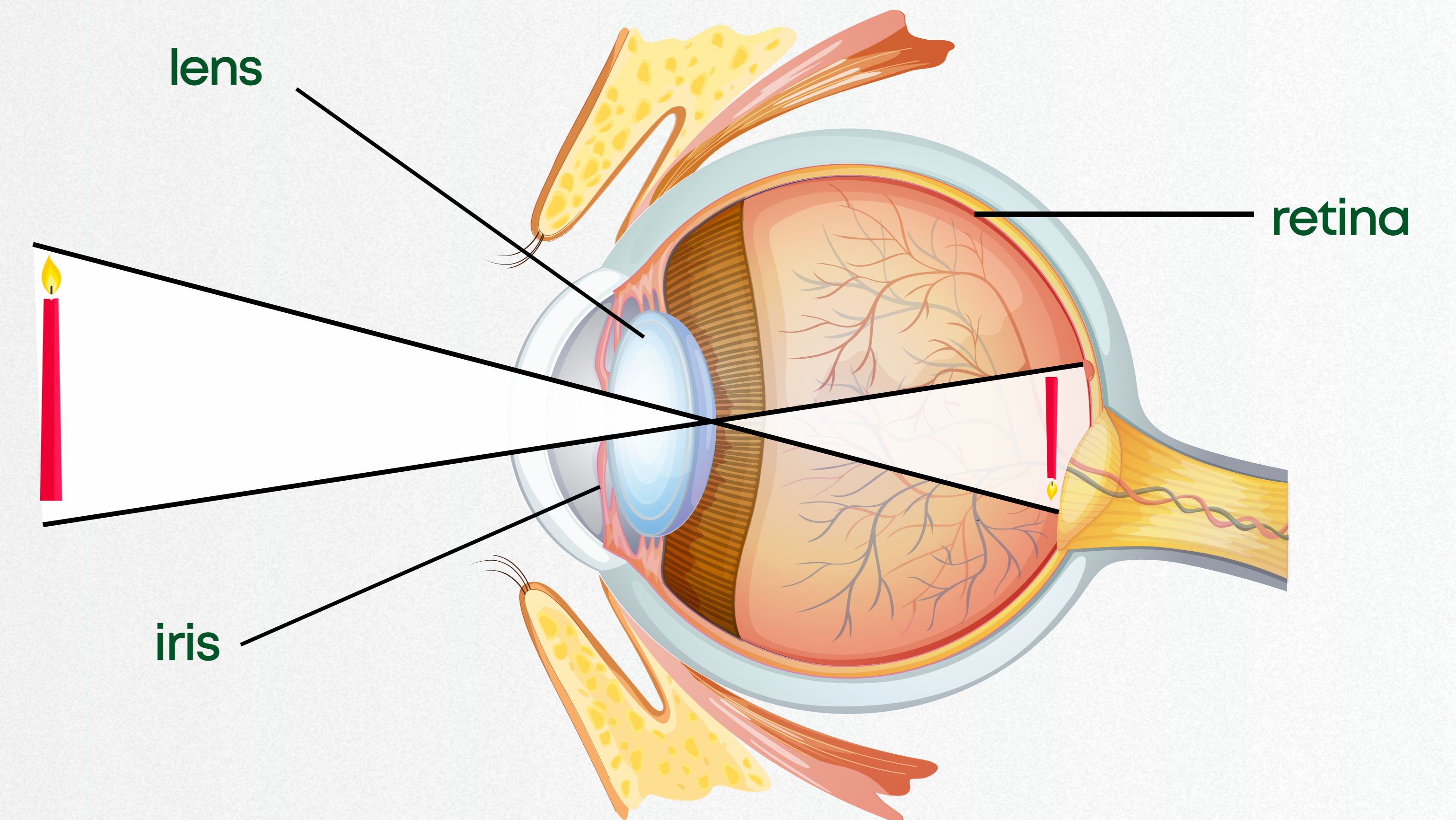
reflection

the **return of light from a surface**; some materials absorb light, but others reflect it

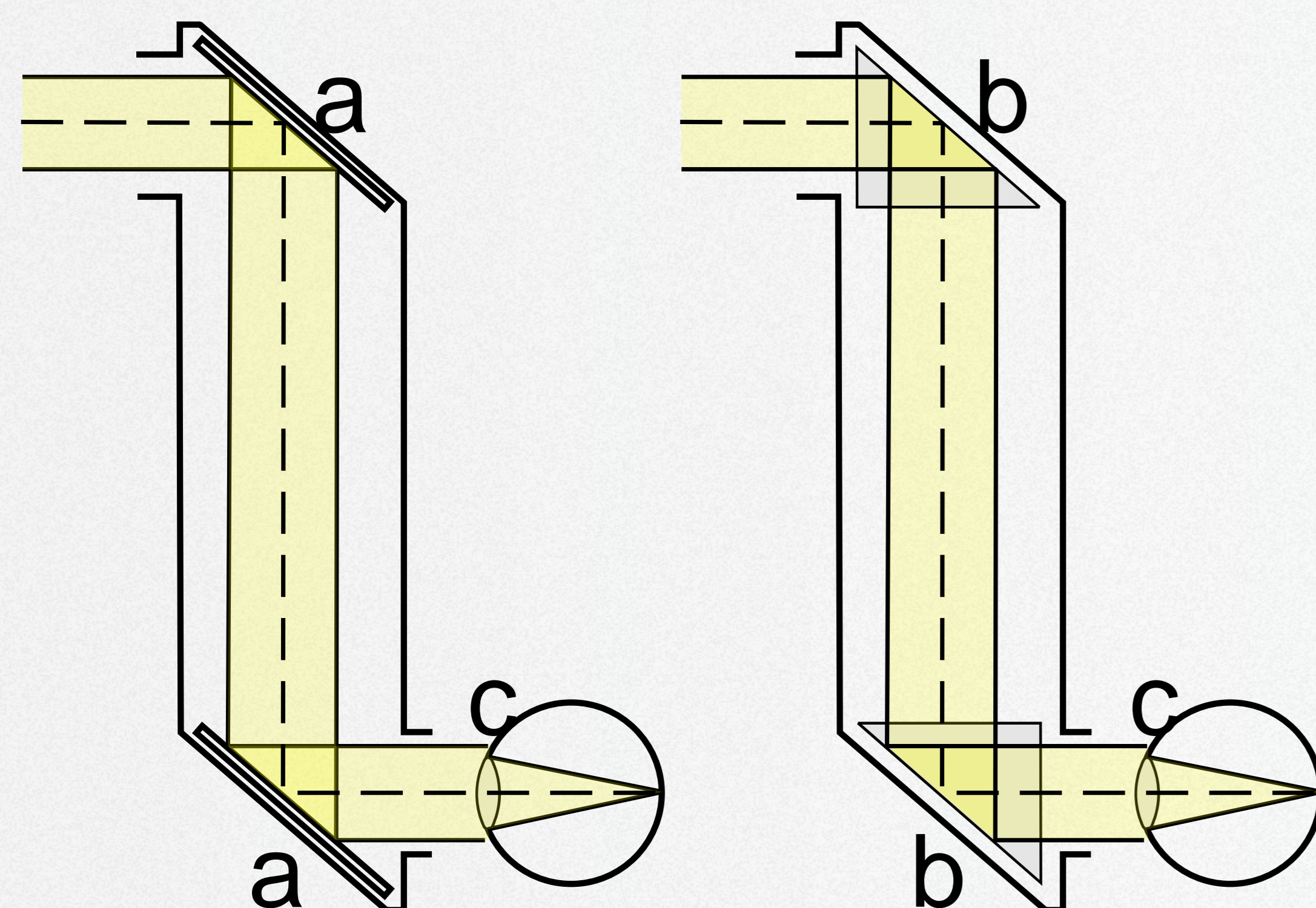
prism

a wedge shaped object which **can split white light into a rainbow spectrum of colours**; scientists call the splitting of light 'dispersion'

cross section of a human eye



light is essential for our eyes to see



a periscope: a device that uses reflection of light to allow the user to see something that is out of their line of sight

at A, the mirrors are tilted 45°

at B, the light reflects from the mirrors travelling down the Periscope

at C, the image can be seen by the user



dispersion

a prism can split white light into rainbow colours