

Answer on Question #44577-Physics-Optics

A beam of light strikes the side of a glass of water with an angle of incidence of 25 degrees, find the angle of refraction?

Solution

We can use formula

$$n = \frac{\sin \theta_{\text{incidence}}}{\sin \theta_{\text{refraction}}},$$

where $n = 1.333$ is the index of refraction of water, $\theta_{\text{incidence}}$ is an angle of incidence, $\theta_{\text{refraction}}$ is the angle of refraction.

So

$$\theta_{\text{refraction}} = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{\sin \theta_{\text{incidence}}}{n} \right) = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{\sin 25^\circ}{1.333} \right) = 18.5^\circ.$$

Answer: 18.5°.