

Answer on Question #46982, Physics, Optics

If the sun is 150 million km away from the earth, how long does it take sunlight to reach the earth

- 0.5 s
- 1500 s
- 45 s
- 500 s

Solution:

Given:

$$d = 150 \cdot 10^6 \text{ km} = 150 \cdot 10^9 \text{ m},$$
$$v = 3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m/s is the speed of light,}$$
$$t = ?$$

$$\text{time} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{speed}}$$

We will divide the distance to the Sun by the speed of light, which will give us the answer in seconds:

$$t = \frac{d}{v} = \frac{150 \cdot 10^9}{3 \cdot 10^8} = 500 \text{ s}$$

Answer: 500 s