
2019-Ph-H1-Q6

Section: Particles and Waves

Topic: Interference

Question:

A beam of light passes through a double slit and creates an interference pattern on a screen. What causes the bright fringes?

Answer:

Bright fringes are caused by **constructive interference** — where waves arrive **in phase** and reinforce each other.

Correct Option: A (Constructive interference)

Guidance for Students:

Interference patterns result from **wave superposition**. Bright spots = waves in phase; dark spots = waves out of phase.

Revision Tips:

- Constructive interference: crest + crest = bright fringe
 - Destructive interference: crest + trough = dark fringe
 - The slit spacing and wavelength determine fringe spacing: $\lambda = \frac{ax}{D}$
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