

Photo Lighting Qualities & Direction, Keep this paper as reference for Lighting Quiz!

The Direction of Light: indicates where it comes from: the **Front, Side, Back, Rim/Edge, Above/Top, or Below** the subject. The direction of the light determines where the shadows will be. By looking at the shadows in a picture you can determine where the light came from.

Back lighting may create a silhouette where the subject is only seen as a shadow outline against a light background.

Rim lighting is similar to back lighting, but the light will hit the back edge of the subject creating a highlight on its rim (like a hair light).

Front lighting will show less shadowing than lighting from the **Side or Top**.

Lighting from Below is also referred to as monster lighting on people, with unnatural shadows going upwards.

A Fill Light or Reflector may be combined with the main light to soften and lighten up shadows, by reflecting light into them.

The Qualities of Light: are also indicated by looking at the shadows.

Direct/Hard light, and **Spot lighting** also known as Dramatic light will have distinct & darker shadows and bright highlights (high contrast), and will show more detailed textures in the subject.

Soft Diffused light is light diffused by clouds (as in an overcast day) or light that **passes thru** a lampshade or photo umbrella. This light will give softer, lighter, and less defined shadows.

Bounced/Reflected light will have even less defined & lighter shadows than diffused light, and even lower contrast. For example when the subject is placed fully in the shadow of something, the light hitting the subject is bounced light. Indoors it could be light bouncing off a wall, or ceiling, or photo reflector and onto the subject.

Lighting Demo Quiz:

Choose one of these 8 answers that most closely match each **Directional Lighting Demonstration.**

A) Top Lighting. B) Side Lighting. C) Back Lighting / Silhouette.

D) Rim/Edge Lighting. E) Front Lighting. F) Monster Lighting from below.

G) Side Lighting with a Fill Reflector. H) Top Lighting with a Fill Reflector.

Demo # 1 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Demo # 2 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Demo # 3 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Demo # 4 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Demo # 5 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Demo # 6 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Demo # 7 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Demo # 8 Answer: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H.

Choose one of these 3 answers that most closely matches each **Lighting Quality Demonstration.**

A) **Direct/Hard light.** B) **Soft Diffused light.** C) **Bounced/Reflected light.**

Demo # 9 Answer: A. B. C.

Demo # 10 Answer: A. B. C.

Demo # 11 Answer: A. B. C.