

Understanding vectors.

In PovRay, coordinates in three dimensions are represented by vectors. A vector is a multi–dimensional number, and is noted by < and >.

For example <3,4,5> means 3 units to the right, 4 units up, and 5 units back. <-3,-4,-5> means 3 units to the left, 4 units down, and 5 units forward.

As an example, lets first set up the scene:

```
camera
{
location <10,10,-70>
look_at <0,0,0>
}
light_source
{
<30,30,-30> color rgb <1,1,1>
}
sphere
{
<0,0,0>,10
pigment {color rgb<1,.6,.3>}
}
```

Render this scene to see what it looks like.

Questions:

- 1) What do the location and look_at arguments of camera mean? Where in 3-space are they?
- 2) Describe the meaning of the two vectors in light_source.
- 3) Describe the meaning of the two vectors in sphere. What does the 10 mean?

and two cylinders:

```
cylinder
{
            <10,0,0>,<20,0,0>,2
            pigment {color rgb<0,0,1>}
}
cylinder
{
            <-10,0,0>,<-20,0,0>,2
            pigment {color rgb<0,0,1>}
}
```

Questions:

- 4) Using the help file lookup what the two vectors in box mean.
- 5) Using the help file lookup what the two vectors in cylinder mean. What is the number after the two vectors?
- 6) Write the cylinder statement that would place a cylinder on top of the sphere with a radius of 1 unit and a length of 20 units colored completely red.

Now, lets play with some textures. First, lets shine up the sphere. The way that a surface reflects light in povray is called the finish. In this case we're going to change the finish to be 60% reflective, and have a 60% glare. Change the sphere statement to match:

sphere

{

}

Notice how the sphere has become shiny.

Questions:

- 7) What other finishes are there? What do they do?
- 8) Change the cylinder definitions to make them perfect mirrors

Now add the following statement to the end of your file? plane {

```
<0,1,0>,-20
pigment {wood}
}
```

Questions:

- 9) The vector in plane means something quite different from vectors in other primitives. What does it mean in this case.
- 10)What did the wood pigment do? What other pigment types are there, and what do they do?

To make the wood surface look more real, change the plane statement to: **plane**

```
<0,1,0>,-20
pigment {
wood
turbulence .2
scale 3
}
```

```
}
```

{

Note how the texture changes.

```
Questions:
11)What did the turbulence argument do?
12)Where else can you use turbulence?
13)What does scale do?
```

The scene still looks rather dark. A solution to this is to add a sky. The sky_sphere primitive creates a sphere that is infinitely big. You can apply any texture you like to the inside of it. For example, add the following code: sky_sphere

{

pigment{color rgb<0,.5,1>}

}

Note how the scene changes. This still doesn't look much like a sky, so lets change the definition to:

```
sky_sphere
{
    pigment{
        gradient y
        color_map{
            (0 color rgb <0,.5,1>)(.7 color rgb <1,1,1>)
            }
        turbulence .5
        }
}
```

Questions: 14)What is a gradient? 15)What is a color map and why do you need one? 16)What is the purpose of the turbulence statement?

Assignments:

- 1) Change the light to make the scene brighter.
- 2) Make the sphere less reflective.
- 3) Give the plane 70% bumps, and a 20% reflectivity.
- 4) Add at least 5 more primitives to the scene. (These objects should make the scene more meaningful.)