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STUDY MATERIAL SCIENCE

CLASS-VI

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▸ Things around us

Transparency :

Glass, clear plastic, water and air are all transparent materials: they allow light to pass through making it possible to see through them. Window glass is **transparent** and lets the light come in, allowing people inside to have a view of the outside. All spectacle lenses are made of **transparent material** so that the wearer can see through them. Transparent glass or plastic containers make the contents inside clearly visible as do glass panes of display cabinets. Transparent polythene sheets are used by horticulturists to cover greenhouses.

In contrast to transparent materials, **opaque materials** block all light falling on them, not allowing any light to pass through. Thus a tree blocks the sunlight and a shadow appears the other side.

It is not possible to see through opaque materials. Brick, concrete, wood, cardboard, metal sheets, cement and asbestos sheets are all opaque. Hence, objects kept inside a metal or wooden box cannot be seen from outside.

Some materials are neither totally transparent nor totally opaque. They are called **translucent**. Fibreglass roofs, frosted glass and fine bone china are all translucent

greenhouse: an enclosure with transparent walls and roof warmed by the sun, used for the cultivation of plants
bone china: fine translucent porcelain that contains bone ash