

# Introduction to Astronomy

## Summary Questions Week 10

9 December 2019

1. What is optical depth and what does it mean that a medium is “optically thick”?
2. What is the definition of the apparent magnitude?
3. What is the definition of the absolute magnitude?
4. What is the supposed mechanism of pulsating variable stars (such as Cepheids)?
5. Why are Cepheid variables so important in astronomy?
6. What are cataclysmic variables?