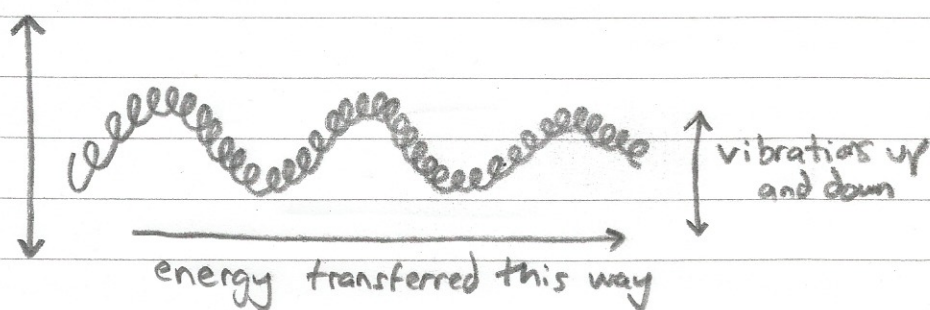


Wave Types

Waves can be longitudinal or transverse.

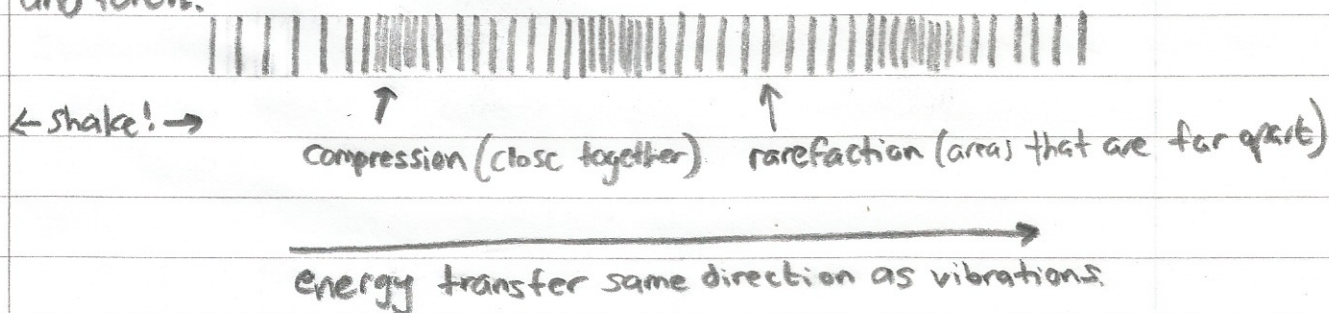
Transverse: These vibrate sideways to the direction that they travel in - another way of saying it is that they are perpendicular (90°) to the direction of energy transfer of the wave.

You can visualise a transverse wave by shaking a piece of string or slinky up and down.



Examples of transverse waves include Light and the electromagnetic spectrum, water waves and some earthquake waves.

Longitudinal: These vibrate along the same line they travel, the vibrations are parallel to the direction of energy transfer of the wave. You can visualise this by shaking the slinky back and forth.



Examples: Sound waves, ultrasound and some earthquake waves.