waves meet in phase and add to form a resultant wave.

(a) State the amplitude of the resultant wave
(b) Calculate the ratio
intensity of wave $\mathbf{B}$ : intensity of wave $\mathbf{A}$.

This question is about an experiment to measure the wavelength of microwaves.
A microwave transmitter $\mathbf{T}$ and a receiver $\mathbf{R}$ are arranged on a line marked on the bench.
A metal sheet $\mathbf{M}$ is placed on the marked line perpendicular to the bench surface.
Figure 1 shows side and plan views of the arrangement.
The circuit connected to $\mathbf{T}$ and the ammeter connected to $\mathbf{R}$ are only shown in the plan view.
Figure 1
side view


The distance $y$ between $\mathbf{T}$ and $\mathbf{R}$ is recorded.
$\mathbf{T}$ is switched on and the output from $\mathbf{T}$ is adjusted so a reading is produced on the ammeter as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2

$\mathbf{M}$ is kept parallel to the marked line and moved slowly away as shown in Figure 3.
Figure 3


The reading decreases to a minimum reading which is not zero.
The perpendicular distance $x$ between the marked line and $\mathbf{M}$ is recorded.
(a) The ammeter reading depends on the superposition of waves travelling directly to $\mathbf{R}$ and other waves that reach $\mathbf{R}$ after reflection from $\mathbf{M}$.

State the phase difference between the sets of waves superposing at $\mathbf{R}$ when the ammeter reading is a minimum.
Give a suitable unit with your answer.
$\qquad$
(b) Explain why the minimum reading is not zero when the distance x is measured.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
(c) When $\mathbf{M}$ is moved further away the reading increases to a maximum then decreases to a minimum.

At the first minimum position, a student labels the minimum $n=1$ and records the value of $x$.
The next minimum position is labelled $n=2$ and the new value of $x$ is recorded.
Several positions of maxima and minima are produced.
Describe a procedure that the student could use to make sure that $\mathbf{M}$ is parallel to the marked line before measuring each value of $x$.
You may wish to include a sketch with your answer.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

