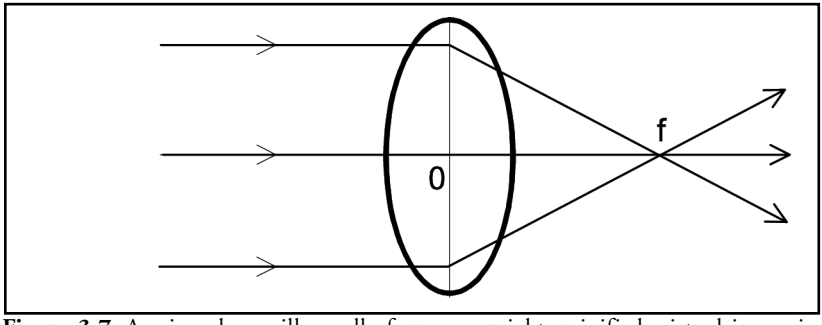

Figure 3-7. A minus lens will usually form an upright, minified, virtual image in minus space.

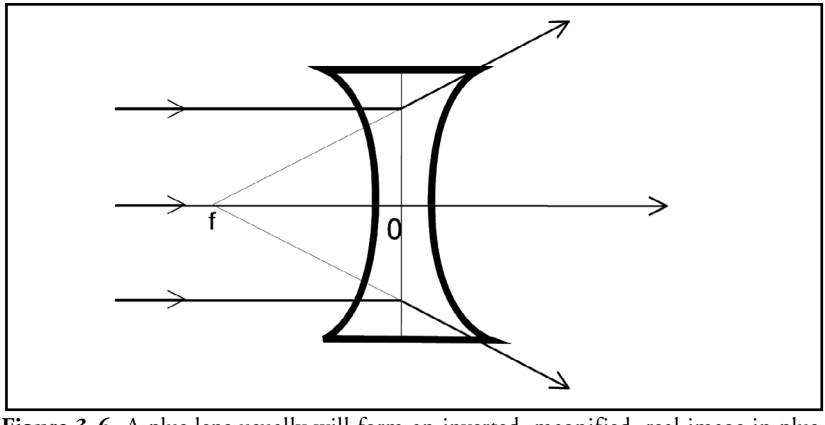

Figure 3-6. A plus lens usually will form an inverted, magnified, real image in plus space.

10. A *minus* lens is any lens that focuses parallel light onto the *minus* side of the lens (usually as a virtual image). Minus lenses are also known as *diverging* lenses (because they cause parallel light to diverge), or *concave* lenses. The term "minus lens" is the easiest to remember, however, and in keeping with the convention described in #4 above, minus lenses are usually colored red (Figure 3-7).

That should be enough basic optics to get you started. To apply optics to the eye clinic, you only need to add a few specific rules.

The Eye as an Optical System

In the eye clinic, for light to be considered parallel, it must come from at least 20 feet (or 6 meters) away. This is why our lanes are so long, and thus the birth of the name "lane"—that they look more like country lanes than actual rooms.