

Part 1 Instructions: How to do things

Unit 1 Danger from fire

This is part of a booklet distributed by local fire brigades in Great Britain.

Read the text *slowly*. Pause as often as you like. It will be easier to answer the questions if you imagine you have to make a summary of the text.

Read the text *twice*. The second time, take as much time as you need, and try to see how the different parts of the text fit together .

Then do the exercises. Do not worry if you cannot answer all the questions without referring to the text. This is normal: The exercises are to teach you, not test you.

In the bedroom

1. Don't smoke in bed - it causes about 1,000 fires a year, many with fatal results.
2. Don't overload your electrical points: the ideal is 'one appliance, one socket'.
3. Don't use an electric underblanket over you or an overblanket under you. An underblanket, unless of the low- voltage type, **MUST** be switched off before you get into bed.
4. Never let furnishings or clothing get close to a lighted fire. Make sure that there is a suitable guard for the room heater.
5. Keep aerosol-type containers away from heat and **NEVER** burn or puncture them.
6. Don't dim a table lamp by covering it: buy a low-wattage bulb.
7. Pyjamas and nightdresses, especially for children and elderly people, should be made from flame-resistant material.

If cut off by fire

8. Close the door of the room and any fanlight or other opening and block up any cracks with bedding etc.
9. Go to the window and try to attract attention.
10. If the room fills with smoke, lean out of the window unless prevented by smoke and flame coming from a room below or nearby. If you cannot lean out of the window, lie close to the floor where the air is clearer until you hear the fire brigade.
11. If you have to escape before the fire brigade arrives, make a rope by knotting together sheets or similar materials and tie it to a bed or other heavy piece of furniture.
12. If you cannot make a rope and the situation becomes intolerable, drop cushions or bedding from the window to break your fall, get through the window feet first, lower yourself to the full extent of your arms and drop.
13. If possible drop from a position above soft earth. If above the first floor, drop only as a last resort.

(Prepared for the Home Office and the Scottish Home and Health Department by the Central Office of Information 1975.)

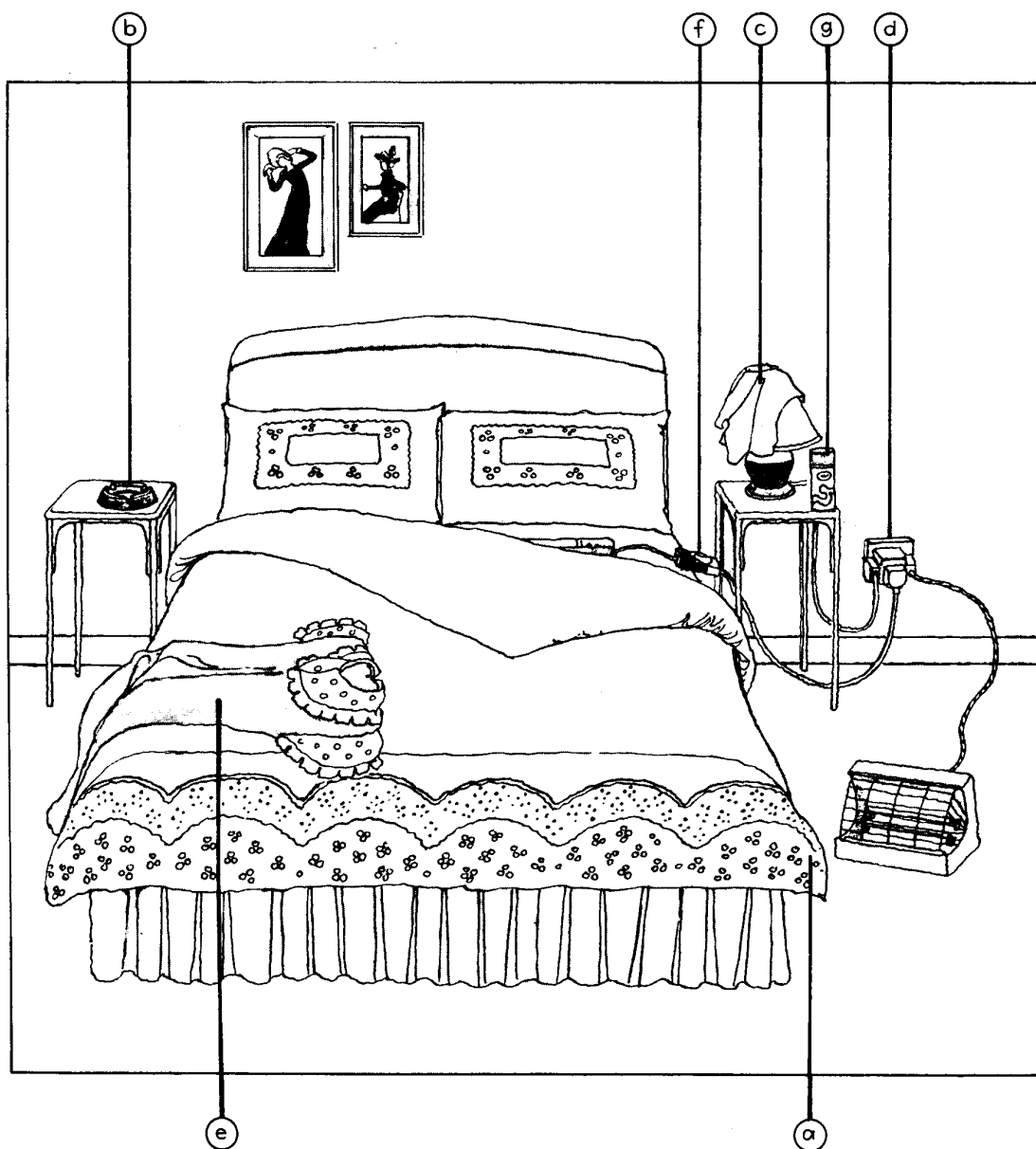
fanlight: a window over a door.

appliance: something that uses electricity in the home (heater, washing machine, etc.)

aerosol-type containers: these have gas in them to help spray out liquid or foam.

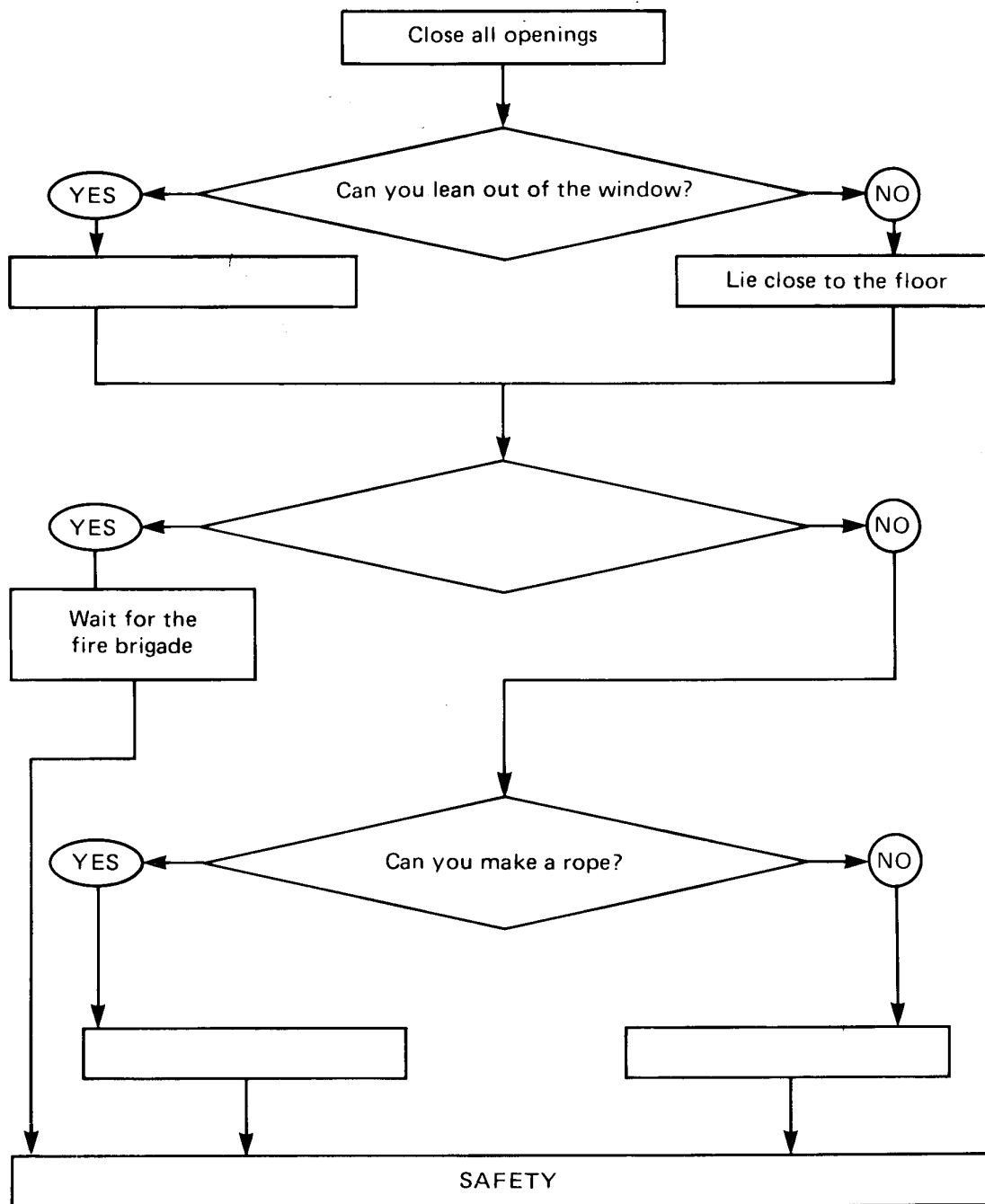
Summary skills 1

Here is a picture of a dangerous bedroom. Each of the lines shows one of the dangers in the numbered instructions. Match the lines with their numbers.



Summary skills 2

Complete this chart with information from 'If cut off by fire'.



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