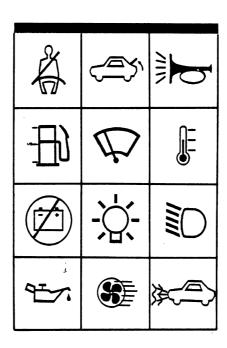
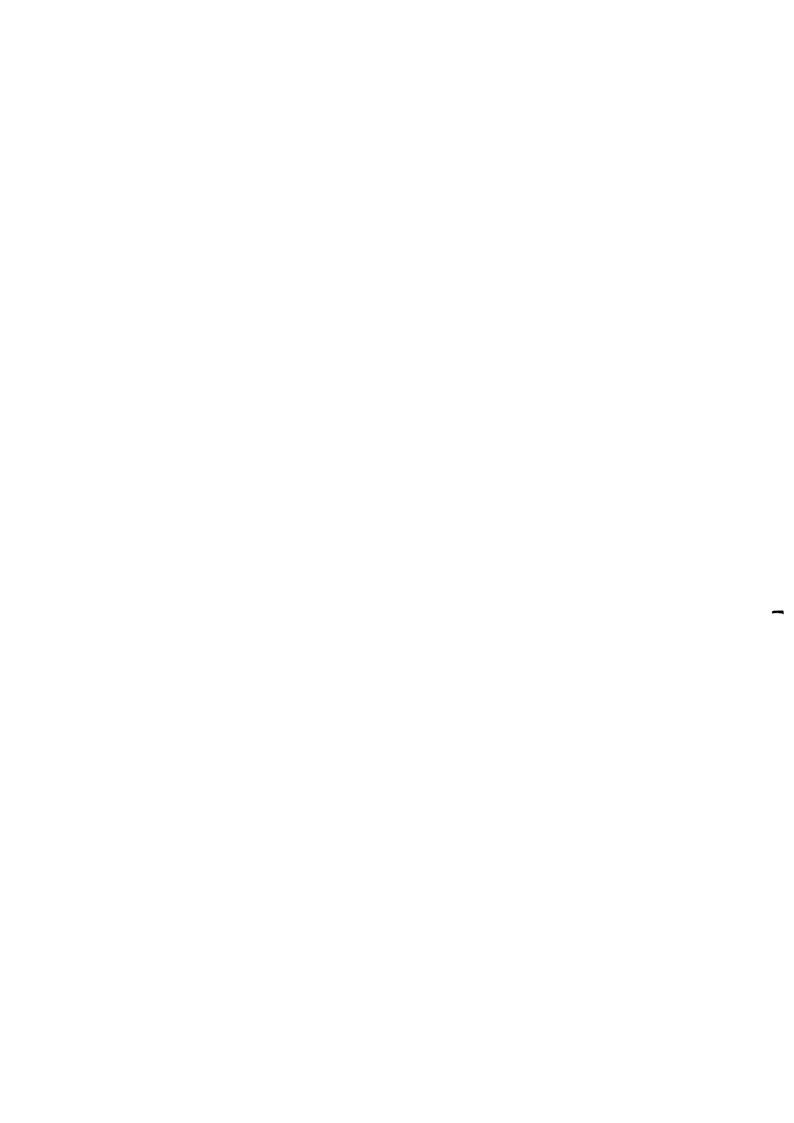
Automobile Instrument Panel Symbols: Do Drivers Prefer Alternatives Over Those in the ISO Standard?

James R. Sayer Paul Green



FEBRUARY 1988

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- ABSTRACT -

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In addition, we would like to thank Flora Simon for her timely help in the completion of this report and the Michigan Secretary of State branch office in Ann Arbor for their cooperation.

- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -

PREFACE

This technical report is an expansion of an almost identical document presented at the Society of Automotive Engineers International Congress and Exposition in Detroit, Michigan (Sayer and Green, 1988). Because of space constraints, it was not possible to include all of the test materials in the SAE paper which are included in this document. This report was written after the SAE document, but prior to its delivery.

INTRODUCTION

In order to safely operate a motor vehicle, it is essential that the driver be able to identify controls and interpret displays. To provide drivers with the information they need to complete those tasks pictographic symbols are frequently used. There are circumstances when pictographic symbols can be recognized more rapidly and accurately than words (Green and Pew, 1978), which makes the vehicle easier to operate. In addition, the use of language-free (non-verbal) labeling of controls and displays is a definite advantage to the manufacturer for vehicles sold on the international market, since the same design can be used worldwide.

This report concerns the development of new symbols to identify automobile controls and displays, and how well these and existing pictographic symbols are understood. Several studies (e.g., Green and Burgess, 1980; Green and Pew, 1978; Saunby, Farber and DeMello, 1987a, b, 1988; and Wiegard and Glumm, 1979) have shown low comprehension and/or recognition of some of the symbols in ISO Standard 2575 (International Standards Organization, 1982) and SAE Recommended Practice J1048 (Society of Automotive Engineers, 1980). This paper utilizes the stereotype production method for symbol development (Mudd and Karsh, 1961; Howell and Fuchs, 1968). This method has been shown to lead to better symbols than those developed based on just the ideas of designers (Karsh and Mudd, 1962), human factors experts, or a limited number of subject matter experts. In addition, the authors make recommendations for the modification or replacement of some symbols in ISO Standard 2575.

- INTRODUCTION -

SYMBOL PRODUCTION EXPERIMENT

TEST PLAN

PARTICIPANTS - Thirty-two people (17 men and 15 women) from the general populous in and around the Central Campus of The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor volunteered to serve in this experiment. The experiment was conducted on a very hot and humid afternoon when people could be induced to participate in exchange for an ice cold soft drink. Approximately one-half of the participants were approached at random as they walked on campus between classes. The remaining half of the participants were members of either a course in art history or Spanish, and were asked to participate after class.

Participants ranged in age from 19 to 37 (mean = 23). Most were students at The University of Michigan (though the group included a doctor and a journalist). All were licensed drivers and had been licensed for an average of six years. Participants reported having driven a variety of different vehicles (Chevrolet Chevette, Ford Escort, and Saab 900), though the majority drove domestic economy cars. The average model year was 1981.

TEST MATERIALS - The experimental materials were photocopies of a ten-page test booklet and broad tipped felt pens. (See Appendix A.) The first page of the booklet was a consent form. The second requested biographical information; while the third and remaining seven pages contained instructions, descriptions of symbols, and response boxes. Each function for which a symbol suggestion was being sought included a brief description/scenario in which the control or display might be used. Immediately below these descriptions were 1-1/2 inch (38 mm) square response boxes. Participants were instructed to draw an image they thought could be used to represent the function, trying to fill the space provided.

Broad tipped felt pens were used in an attempt to limit the amount of detail people included in their drawings. Fine details can not easily or economically be incorporated in the actual symbols for controls and displays. Further, the ISO standards for symbols state that all lines in a symbol must be at least 2 mm in thickness.

TEST STRUCTURE AND SEQUENCE - Participants completed the test booklet in various locations on the University of Michigan campus, such as classrooms and the Diag (the campus central walkway). After completing the first three pages, participants drew a picture in each response box which they thought represented the function described. These functions were divided into two sections, one being 19 controls examined and the other for 5 displays. Controls were always presented

- SYMBOL PRODUCTION EXPERIMENT -

first. It took participants about 20 minutes to complete this survey.

RESULTS

Reduced versions of the participants' drawings, grouped by function, appear in Appendix B. For the most part, participants tended to enjoy this experiment. Some even went to great lengths to produce symbols for the various functions. One participant spent 1-1/2 hours on the task. However, participants often included the use of words, letters and abbreviations in their drawings for functions they found difficult to represent (contrary to the instructions).

While at times the authors were not able to interpret some drawings produced by participants, many other drawings were very creative and innovative. It was surprising to observe the commonality between participants drawings for a particular function (i.e., the use of an arrow in the hood release function). For several of the functions participants frequently offered suggestions which closely resembled those symbols in the ISO Standard 2575 (i.e., battery charging condition and fan suggestions). While for other functions, few if any suggestions resembled the ISO standards (i.e., hazard warning suggestions). In general, participants understood the need for simple yet meaningful suggestions and were able to provide them. Examples of suggestions provided by participants are shown in Figures 1-4.

- FIGURE 1 In suggestions for the front fog light function, participants frequently tried to show the location of the fog lights relative to the remainder of the car, specifically the front end of the car. A few participants also included features to represent fog in the path of the car.
- FIGURE 2 Participants in the production study had various suggestions for representing the headlamp cleaner. These suggestions included featuring wiper blades, smiling faces, and even laundry detergent. While a few participants showed the headlamps relative to the front of the automobile, most suggestions focused on the headlamp(s).
- FIGURE 3 Suggestions from participants for representing the parking light function were varied considerably. Suggestions depicted parking meters, parking stalls, and automobiles with their running lights on. A few suggestions also included the use of the letter "P".
- FIGURE 4 Participants were almost unanimous in their suggestions for the temperature function. Almost every drawing was of a thermometer in one form or another. While some suggestions included gradations, others did not. A few drawings included a snowman, ice cube, or other feature to represent the range of temperature. Oddly though, no

- SYMBOL PRODUCTION EXPERIMENT -

suggestions included the "waves" as featured in the ISO standard to represent engine coolant.

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- SYMBOL PRODUCTION EXPERIMENT -

SYMBOL RANKING EXPERIMENT

TEST PLAN

PARTICIPANTS - One hundred and four patrons (60 men and 44 women) of the Michigan Secretary of State's office in Ann Arbor volunteered to participate in this experiment. They were asked to participate after they had completed business within the office (e.g., license renewal, change of address, etc.). In addition, individuals who had come with a friend or relative and who were just waiting were also approached.

Participants ranged in age from 17 to 82 (mean = 33), and all but five were licensed drivers. They averaged 16 years of licensed driving experience. The participants reported having driven a variety of different vehicles (Mercedes 190S, Buick Century, BMW 320I). Imported and domestic cars were equally represented. With regard to size, mid-sized vehicles were most common. The average model year was 1982, only one year different from that reported in the first experiment.

TEST MATERIALS - Participants were given photocopies of the 28-page booklet and pencils with erasers. (See Appendix C.) As in the production study, the first three pages contained a consent form, biographical data sheet and instructions. The remaining 25 pages were devoted to the ranking of symbol candidates for 25 automotive functions, 1 function per page. The candidates were arranged in circular arrays of four to nine symbols, with a label and description at the top of each page. All candidates were randomly distributed in this circular array, with care taken not to place variations of the same theme adjacent to one another.

Symbol candidates were obtained from various sources. Most were modified versions of drawings provided by participants in the first experiment. However, additional symbols were obtained from ISO Standard 2575/3 and SAE J1048, and still others were products of the authors' imaginations. In all, some 167 different candidates were presented.

TEST STRUCTURE AND SEQUENCE - After having completed the first three pages of the booklet, participants were asked to rank the symbols provided based on their meaningfulness in representing the described functions. The most meaningful candidate was ranked "1", and the second most "2" (etc.) until all possible choices had been ranked. The 25 automotive functions tested were arranged in six counterbalanced orders of presentation in the experiment booklet. It took participants an average of 22 minutes to complete this task.

- SYMBOL RANKING EXPERIMENT -

RESULTS

The analysis of drivers' rankings for the symbol candidates appears on the following pages. Each contains a scale on which symbols are ordered from best to worst based on the mean ranking averaged over participants. Tables explaining the ranking distribution for each of the candidates is also provided. For each function a Kruskal-Wallis test was performed and the \underline{H} statistic for differences in the means is represented. For every function a significant difference among rankings of candidates was observed. Also presented are statistical comparisons of the ISO standard symbols with the most preferred symbols when they were not the same.

In examining each of the results, the reader should notice several recurring points.

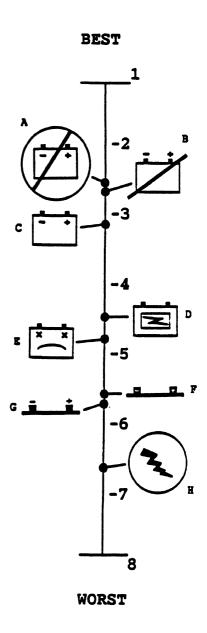
- (1) The characteristic(s) which participants found most informative for the function.
- (2) The statistical comparison of the ISO standard symbol to other candidates which had been preferred.
- (3) The recommendations made by the authors for the various symbols based upon the results observed in this experiment and found in the experiment performed by Saunby, Farber, and DeMello (1987a, 1987b, 1988).

1. BATTERY CHARGING CONDITION

For the battery charging condition, all five of the top ranked candidates were variations of the automotive battery outline. In one variation (A), the use of a line drawn diagonally through the figure produced a statistically significant difference with relation to the ISO standard (C) ($\underline{H}(1) = 5.95$, p < .05). The authors were surprised that other candidates, such as the frowning battery (E), were not more highly ranked. While "A" was significantly different from the ISO standard (C), the difference is not large. Further, Saunby et al. (1987a, b, 1988) found the current ISO symbol was well understood (Identification = 93.7%, Matching = 94.1%). This would suggest that it is not worth changing the standard symbol for this function.

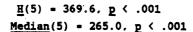
 $\underline{H}(7) = 296.2, p < .001$ Median(7) = 229.9, p < .001

		BEST	`					>1	NORST	
	1	2	3	4	5_	6	7	8	MISS	MEAN
A	41	18	17	11	5	4	3	3	2	2.6
В	19	. 41	16	15	3	3	3	2	2	2.7
С	28	11	23	16	13	9	1	2	1	3.2
D	4	16	13	15	25	9	16	5	1	4.5
E	4	10	15	20	12	17	16	8	2	4.8
F	1	5	3	13	24	22	25	9	2	5.6
G	2	4	7	9	17	26	25	12	2	5.7
H	3	3	8	5	3	12	9	56	5	6.6

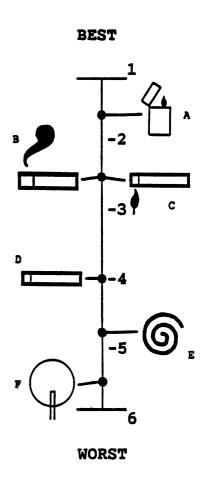


2. CIGARETTE LIGHTER

For the cigarette lighter symbol, showing a cigarette was not an informative characteristic. Those three candidates were ranked second, third and fourth. The top ranked choice (mean 1.6) was that of a pocket style cigarette lighter (candidate A). Rankings of it were significantly different from those of the ISO standard (B), $(\underline{H}(1) = 39.97, p < .001)$ with "A" receiving more than three times as many #1 rankings as the ISO standard (B)(66 of 104). In the Saunby et al. study, the current ISO standard symbol fared poorly (Identification = 28.5%, Matching = 67.3%). Therefore, replacing the ISO standard symbol (C) with the lighter (A) should be considered.

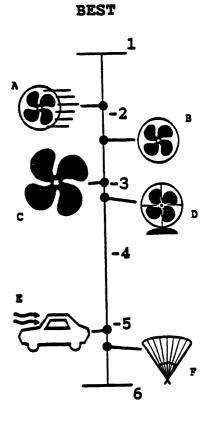


	BEST>WORST												
	1_	2	3	4_	5	6	MISS	MEAN					
A	66	20	13	3	1	0	1	1.6					
В	21	28	32	14	6	2	0	2.4					
С	11	47	29	10	5	1	1	2.6					
D	2	4	17	50	23	6	2	4.0					
E	3	4	10	11	34	38	4	4.8					
F	0	0	2	13	32	54	3	5.4					



3. FAN

Of the candidates for the fan control, subjects preferred candidate "A" significantly over the ISO standard symbol "C" (H(1) = 35.91, p < .001) with "A" receiving almost 3 times as many #1 rankings than "C". While the standard fan blade was a characteristic of "A", other symbols which used car profiles (E) and a hand-held fan were not favorably ranked. Though the preferred symbol was ranked much more highly than the ISO standard, it is debatable whether the standard should be changed. Saunby et al. found the current ISO symbol was well understood (Identification = 77.4%, Matching = 95.0%). Further, the fan blades, the critical portion of the image, are large in the ISO standard symbol, and hence that symbol is likely to be more legible under suboptimal lighting conditions.



WORST

 $\underline{H}(5) = 351.9, p < .001$ MEDIAN(5) = 183.3, p < .001

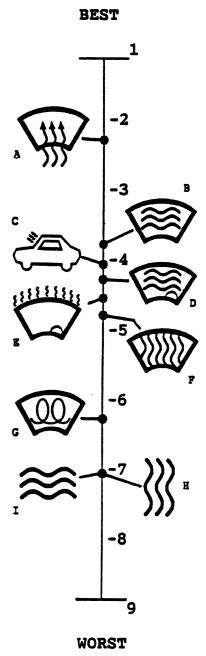
	BEST>WORST												
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	MISS	MEAN					
A	56	17	19	11	0	1	0	1.9					
В	19	44	29	7	4	1	0	2.4					
С	18	17	25	34	8	2	0	3.0					
D	6	23	26	41	6	2	0	3.2					
E	3	1	6	6	47	41	0	5.1					
F	2	1	0	5	39	56	1	5.4					

4. FRONT WINDSHIELD DEFROST

In testing symbol candidates for the front windshield defrost control, the ISO standard "A" was found to be preferred over all others. The arrowheads on the lines which appear to be in motion provided the indication that air is being forced across the windshield surface. Attempts to represent a windshield with frost on it or a defrosting mechanism were not well ranked by subjects. However, while the ISO standard may be preferred, results observed by Saunby et al. (Identification = 23.2%, Matching = 74.5%) would suggest that an alternative symbol is necessary. Therefore, the authors suggest continuing the search for alternative symbol candidates for this function.

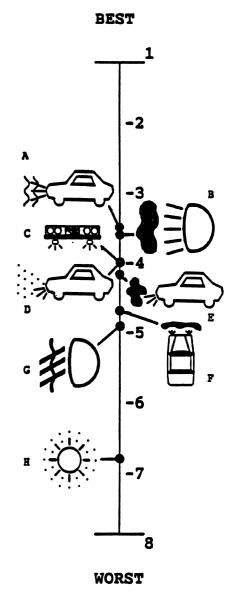
 $\underline{H}(8) = 320.9, p < .001$ MEDIAN(8) = 239.9, p < .001

	BEST>WORST												
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	MISS	MEAN		
A	51	19	12	7	9	1	3	1	0	1	2.3		
В	12	22	21	13	8	11	10	4	1	2	3.8		
C	28	14	9	10	9	5	7	10	10	2	4.1		
D	1	14	21	19	22	11	1	7	2	6	4.3		
E	6	16	13	21	13	10	9	7	7	2	4.6		
F	3	13	18	12	11	20	15	9	1	2	4.8		
G	1	3	5	10	15	12	19	14	17	8	6.3		
H	0	0	2	4	8	20	23	21	22	4	7.1		
I	1	3	1	6	7	12	14	29	26	5	7.1		



5. FRONT FOG LIGHTS

Previous studies have shown there to be low recognition with the ISO standard for this function (Weigard and Glumm, 1979), and resulted in some interesting new ideas. One of these ideas was prompted by the lack of understanding as to how a symbol's orientation (i.e. light rays directed to the left versus the right) expressed the front versus the rear of the automobile. To eliminate this confusion, an attempt was made to express the location of the lights on the automobile itself, while at the same time presenting some characteristic to represent fog. Symbol "A" was found to be significantly preferred over the ISO standard symbol "G" (H(1) = 17.20, p < .001), and ingeneral participants tended to prefer candidates which showed the lights relative to the automobile (A,C,D,E). The ISO standard was ranked next to last in the overall mean ranking. However, the distribution of rankings was unusual in that both "B" and "C" received more #1 rankings than did "A", and there was a considerable amount of missing data for symbol "H". Combined with previously found low levels of recognition for the ISO standard by Saunby et al. (Identification = 9.1%, Matching = 47.7%), this suggests replacing the ISO standard (G) with candidate "A".

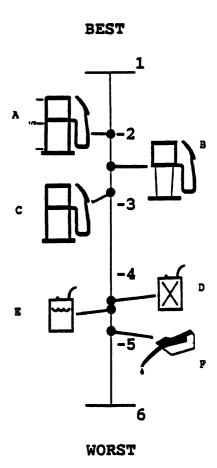


 $\underline{H}(7) = 138.3, p < .001$ <u>MEDIAN(7)</u> = 69.8, p < .001

	BEST>WORST											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	MISS	MEAN		
A	17	22	23	8	12	6	11	3	2	3.5		
В	22	21	8	11	15	11	8	5	3	3.6		
С	29	7	8	8	12	16	15	5	4	4.0		
D	12	15	15	17	19	9	12	3	2	4.0		
E	7	13	21	21	15	11	7	7	2	4.2		
F	6	8	15	19	14	21	13	6	2	4.7		
G	8	14	8	16	10	13	21	12	2	4.9		
Н	2	3	4	1	4	15	13	51	11	6.8		

6. FUEL

For the fuel display symbol, the top three ranked symbol candidates were all variations of a gasoline pump outline. One of the candidates (A) used markings to represent the amount of fuel remaining in the fuel tank. This minor addition to the standard ISO symbol (C) resulted in a statistically significant difference (H(1) = 24.8, p < .001), with "A" receiving 61 of the 104 #1 rankings (five times more than the ISO standard received). The authors also noted that candidate "B", while it did not include gradations, received a favorable ranking. This might be in part because symbol "B" more closely resembles a modern fuel pump than does the ISO standard. A preference for the slightly more modern fuel pump was also observed in a study by Green and Burgess (1980). Possibly the ideal symbol is a modern pump with gradations, though this alternative was not tested. While "A" did produce a significant difference when compared to "C", the difference was not overwhelming. Further, Saunby et al. found that the current ISO standard symbol is well understood (Identification = 82.2%, Matching = This suggests that it is not 85.0%). worth changing the ISO standard for this function.



 $\underline{H}(5) = 254.8, p < .001$ MEDIAN(5) = 161.5, p < .001

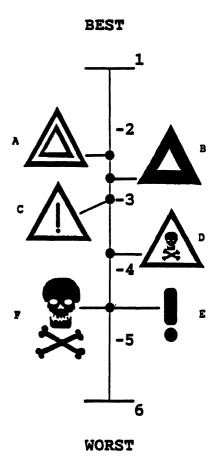
	BEST			>WORST							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	MISS	MEAN			
A	61	11	16	6	7	3	0	2.0			
В	16	41	37	2	5	2	1	2.5			
C	11	35	36	12	4	4	2	2.8			
D	3	6	7	29	41	17	1	4.4			
E	7	5	4	28	33	25	2	4.5			
F	6	5	3	26	13	50	1	4.8			

7. HAZARD WARNING

In examining the results of various candidates offered to subjects for the hazard warning lights function, the preferred choice of participants was the current ISO standard. The study by Saunby et al. has shown that the ISO standard is not well understood (Identification = 24.6%, Matching = 61.8%). Therefore, further investigation of alternative candidates is necessary.

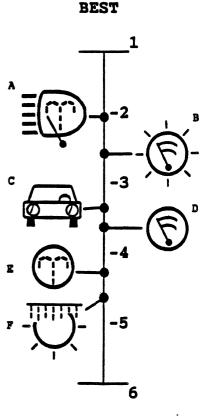
 $\underline{H}(5) = 153.3, p < .001$ $\underline{MEDIAN}(5) = 166.1, p < .001$

	BEST>WORST											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	MISS	MEAN				
A	27	43	13	9	5	5	2	2.4				
В	16	9	10	23	39	6	2	2.7				
С	23	10	34	14	15	5	3	3.0				
D	16	9	10	23	39	6	1	3.8				
E	2	4	9	41	8	38	2	4.6				
r	11	11	5	7	21	40	2	A 6				



8. HEADLAMP CLEANER

In the results of subject preference for the headlamp cleaner control symbol, the current ISO standard symbol was the top ranked choice (A, mean = 2.1). While most other candidates did not receive favorable ranking by participants, the current degree of recognizability for the ISO symbol is highly variable. methods of testing in the study by Saunby et al. found that how well drivers understood this symbol very much depended upon the experimental procedure used to evaluate it (Identification = 26.1%, Matching = 75.5%). Poor understanding of symbols for this function may be because few cars are fitted with headlamp cleaners and therefore it is not a function drivers think about. The authors believe that further investigation of alternative symbols for this function is necessary.



WORST

 $\underline{H}(5) = 166.5, p < .001$ **MEDIAN**(5) = 143.1, p < .001

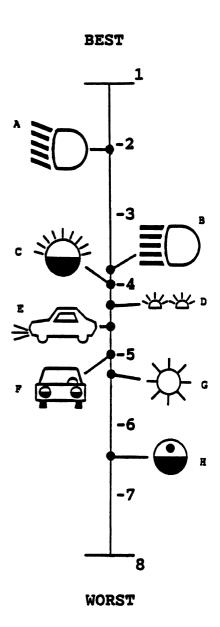
	BEST	·			>WORST					
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	MISS	MEAN		
A	46	27	13	8	2	5	2	2.1		
В	23	32	16	25	7	1	0	2.6		
С	24	14	19	11	12	23	1	3.4		
D	7	14	25	25	22	10	1	3.7		
E	2	10	17	19	29	24	3	4.3		
P	0	R	12	14	30	37	2	A 7		

9. HIGH BEAM HEADLAMPS

Of the candidates for the high beam headlamp function, participants preferred candidate "A" over the ISO standard symbol "B" $(\underline{H}(1) = 32.6, p < 6.6)$.001), with "A" receiving more than twice as many #1 rankings as "B". While symbol "A" is only a slight variation of the ISO standard symbol, altering the angle of the depicted light rays differentiated the high beam headlamp symbol from the low beam symbol. However, Saunby et al. found the ISO standard symbol to have a high degree of recognition (Identification = 79.8%, Matching = 74.5%). Yet the overwhelming choice was for participants to rank "A" as most preferred. These contradictory results support the need for further evaluation of possible alternative symbols for this function.

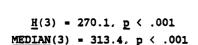
 $\underline{H}(7) = 218.0, p < .001$ **MEDIAN**(7) = 160.4, p < .001

	BES7	·					>b	KORST		
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	MISS	MEAN
A	55	21	10	7	4	3	1	2	1	2.1
В	19	24 ·	13	7	5	12	19	14	1	3.8
C	6	18	19	20	16	13	6	4	2	4.0
D	3	5	11	17	15	13	10	13	3	4.3
E	9	9	17	17	15	13	10	13	1	4.6
F	3	7	15	13	20	18	15	11	2	5.0
G	3	11	11	8	13	21	19	14	4	5.3
H	4	2	1	6	11	13	24	39	4	6.5

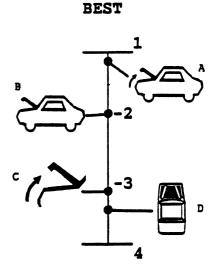


10. HOOD RELEASE

The production study did not produce many alternative suggestions to represent the hood release control. However, one characteristic suggested by participants was significantly preferred when it was combined with the existing ISO standard (B). The addition of an arrow indicating the motion of the hood resulted in a significant difference in the mean ranking by subjects between symbols "A" and "B" $(\underline{H}(1) = 80.8, p <$.001). In fact, 86 of the 104 participants ranked "A" as #1 while 85 participants ranked "B" as #2. Saunby et al. found that people recognize the ISO standard symbol representing the hood release function quite well (Identification = 75.0%, Matching = 92.7%). Nonetheless, the strong preference of participants suggests that "A" should be considered as an alternative.



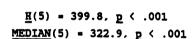
BEST>WORST									
	1	2	3	4	MISS	MEAN			
A	86	14	3	1	0	1.2			
В	9	85	9	1	0	2.0			
С	8	4	50	42	0	3.2			
D	1	1	42	60	0	3.5			



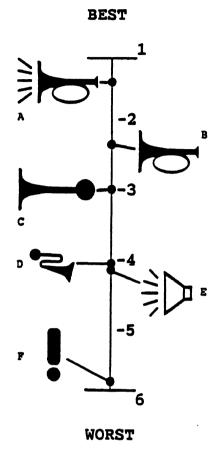
WORST

11. HORN

As found in suggestions for other symbols, minor changes or additions to the ISO standard (B) produce lower mean ranks than the ISO standard alone. the case of the horn control, including lines which are characteristic of sound waves projecting from the standard symbol results in a significant difference between symbols "A" and "B" (H(1) = 60.9, p < .001). However, as reported by Saunby et al., the horn control has a very high rate of recognition (Identification = 97.0%, Matching = 98.2%). Even though 75 of 104 participants ranked "A" #1, the authors would suggest that it is not worth changing the standard symbol for this function.



	BEST>WORST										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	MISS	MEAN			
A	75	16	8	2	0	1	2	1.4			
В	10	58	20	12	2	0	2	2.4			
С	7	16	50	23	5	1	2	3.0			
D	2	5	13	44	35	3	2	4.1			
E	7	7	10	17	51	10	2	4.2			
F	1	0	1	4	9	87	2	5.8			

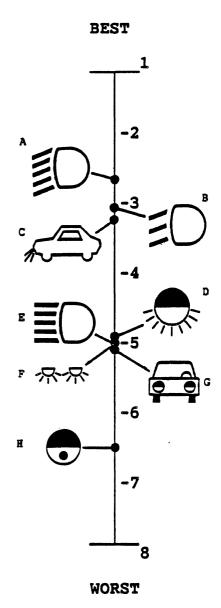


12. LOW BEAM HEADLAMPS

Of the candidates for the low beam headlamp function, candidate "C" received the most #1 rankings (33). However, the ISO standard symbol (A) received the best overall mean ranking (mean = 2.7). This data, as well as the rates of recognition found by Saunby et al. (Identification = 72.2%, Matching = 80.5%), would suggest that the current ISO standard should not be replaced.

 $\underline{H}(7) = 226.8, p < .001$ $\underline{MEDIAN}(7) = 210.1, p < .001$

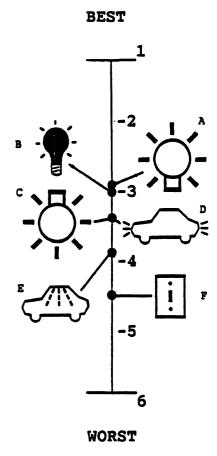
BEST>WORST										
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	MISS	MEAN
A	30	29	20	6	7	6	5	0	1	2.7
В	15	30	24	14	7	7	4	2	1	3.1
С	33	13	18	10	9	7	8	5	1	3.3
D	4	9	11	15	22	16	20	4	3	4.9
E	4	5	9	25	15	18	14	12	2	5.0
F	12	6	13	12	10	17	10	22	2	5.0
G	3	5	7	19	21	19	20	5	5	5.1
H	2	7.	1	1	11	13	21	42	6	6.5



24

13. MASTER LIGHTING SWITCH

Of the candidates offered for the master lighting switch function, participants frequently commented as to how similar all six were in preference. This can be seen in the small differences in the mean rankings. However, one candidate (A) received a significantly better ranking (mean = 2.9) than the current ISO standard symbol (C, mean = 3.4) (H(1) = 4.2, p < .05). Candidate "A" is identical to the ISO standard with the exception that it has been rotated 180 degrees. This orientation was also found in almost all suggestions from the production study which included light bulbs. Similarly, candidate "B" received a favorable ranking (mean = 3.0) while representing a more traditional view of a light bulb in the same orientation as candidate "A". Any further testing which involves a symbol similar to "B" may however consider reversing the contrast of the "light bulb". Yet a bimodal distribution was observed, with the ISO standard (C) receiving more #1 rankings than any of the other candidates. The significant level of difference between the mean rankings of the ISO standard (C) and candidate "A", along with the low levels of recognition for the current ISO symbol as found by Saunby et al. (Identification = 20.9%, Matching = 57.5%), would suggest that the current ISO standard should be replaced by candidate "A".

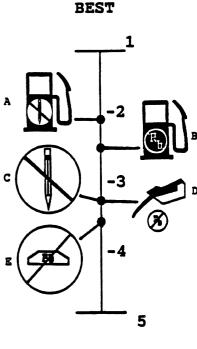


 $\underline{H}(5) = 57.5, p < .001$ $\underline{MEDIAN}(5) = 17.7, p < .0033$

BEST>WORST										
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	MISS	MEAN		
A	18	26	26	20	7	7	0	2.9		
В	24	19	23	15	17	6	0	3.0		
С	27	9	10	24	15	17	2	3.4		
D	9	26	23	19	19	8	0	3.4		
E	17	14	15	11	26	21	0	3.8		
F	9	10	7	14	20	43	1	4.5		

14. UNLEADED FUEL ONLY

A frequent comment made by participants while ranking the candidates for the unleaded fuel symbol was that none of them were very good. While candidate "A" received the lowest mean ranking (mean = 2.2), this mean was not found to be significantly different than that of the ISO standard (B) (H = 1.8, p = .17). However, as seen in the study by Saunby et al., how well drivers understood the symbol depended upon how the question was asked (Identification = 18.6%, Matching = 86.6%). The authors feel that further study of alternative symbol candidates is necessary for the unleaded fuel function. In addition, the authors would like to point out the unusual distribution of rankings for candidate "D".



WORST

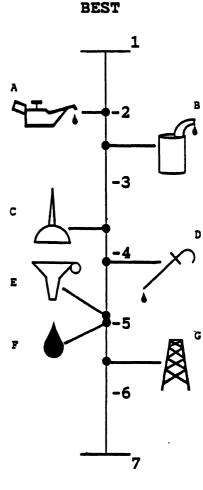
 $\underline{H}(4) = 73.6, p < .001$ MEDIAN(4) = 56.9, p < .001

BECT_	 	 	- >	MODET

	1	2	3	4	5	MISS	MEAN
A	38	29	12	19	3	3 '	2.2
В	33	16	31	10	10	4	2.5
С	9	19	23	30	19	4	3.3
D	16	22	10	16	36	4	3.3
E	5	14	24	25	32	4	3.6

15. OIL

For the oil display function seven candidates were ranked by participants. The candidate with the best mean ranking was the ISO standard symbol (A). This result was surprising to the authors as this type of oil can is no longer commonly seen, while a can of oil (B) is much more common. However, "A" received the best mean ranking (58 of 104 participants' ranked "A" #1) and the study by Saunby et al. found the current ISO standard to have a high degree of recognition (Identification = 76.8%, Matching = 85.7%). Yet in a previous study by Green and Burgess (1980) participants preferences for a very similar set of candidates was significantly different. Participants in the Green and Burgess experiment ranked candidates that were very similar to "B", "C", "D", and "G" as being more meaningful than the ISO standard. This may possibly be accounted for by the differences in the mean ages of the groups studied (21 versus 33 years of In addition, the span of time age). which exists between the two studies (seven years) would allow for greater exposure to the ISO standard.



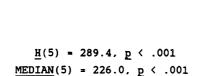
WORST

 $\underline{H}(6) = 26.4, p < .001$ <u>MEDIAN</u>(6) = 230.2, p < .001

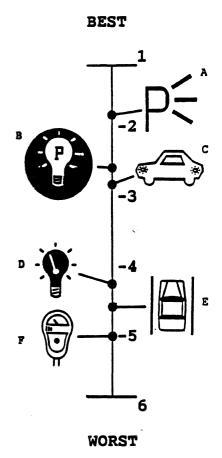
	BES	T			>WORST				
	1	2	3	4	5_	6	7	MISS	MEAN
A	58	15	15	7	4	3	2	0	2.0
В	23	37	24	13	2	2	2	1	2.5
С	7	22	20	19	19	13	4	0	3.7
D	11	11	19	20	10	14	18	1	4.2
E	2	3	13	19	33	18	15	1	4.9
F	1	12	9	13	20	24	24	1	5.0
G	2	4	4	13	14	29	37	1	5.6

16. PARKING LIGHTS

For the parking light symbol there were a wide variety of candidates as a result of participant suggestions made in the production survey. Yet, the ISO standard symbol "A" still received the best mean ranking (mean = 1.8) in the second experiment. The difficulty with the current ISO standard is that it requires that a driver understand that the "P" characteristic used in the symbol represents the word "park" or "parking". This is, however, contrary to the philosophy of developing language-free controls and displays for Similarly, the international market. candidate "B" also violates this philosophy. In addition, Saunby et al. found results which were dependent upon the method of testing (Identification = 48.5%, Matching = 77.3%). Therefore, the authors feel that further candidates need to be developed and studied for this function that do not incorporate characteristics which are bound to the knowledge of certain languages. The authors are uncertain as to whether "P" is recognized across languages.



	BE	ST			>W			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	MISS	MEAN
A	56	28	14	3	1	2	0	1.8
В	20	38	23	14	8	1	0	2.6
С	25	18	33	14	9	5	0	2.8
D	1	8	13	36	23	22	1	4.3
E	2	7	11	23	33	28	0	4.6
F	0	5	10	14	30	45	0	5.0

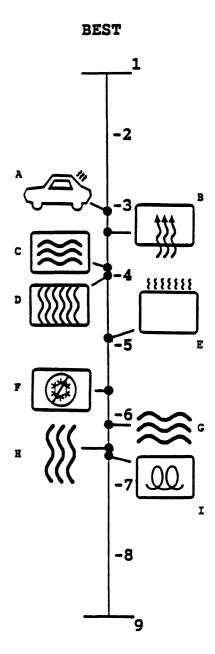


17. REAR DEFROST

Of the candidates to represent the rear defrost function, many were very similar in nature. As for the front windshield defrost candidates, an attempt was made to represent frost on the rear window or the defrosting mechanism used on the However, candidate "A", rear window. which showed the position of the window relative to the remainder of the automobile, received the best mean rank (mean = 3.1). The authors were surprised that candidate "F" did not receive a lower ranking from subjects (mean = 5.7). While "A" received a lower mean ranking than the ISO standard (B, mean = 3.4), this difference was not statistically significant. Saunby et al. found the level of recognition for the rear defrost ISO standard to be highly variable (Identification = 37.4%, Matching =75.2%). That, combined with the lack of a better candidate suggests that the search for alternative candidates for this function should continue. (Note that there may be legibility problems with candidate "A", as the lines over the rear window could be washed out.

 $\underline{H}(8) = 236.0, p < .001$ <u>MEDIAN(8)</u> = 186.6, p < .001

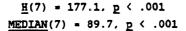
BEST>WORST											
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	MISS	MEAN
A	41	14	15	5	6	8	7	3	4	1	3.1
В	27	19	8	19	12	9	3	5	2	0	3.4
С	15	14	27	12	10	13	3	9	1	0	3.9
D	7	25	19	14	8	13	14	1	2	1	4.0
E	4	5	18	22	18	6	13	12	3	3	4.9
F	7	14	6	7	7	17	7	18	18	3	5.7
G	0	5	3	10	19	13	21	14	14	5	6.2
H	1	3	3	9	11	16	21	24	14	2	6.5
I	2	5	4	8	12	10	16	16	27	4	6.6



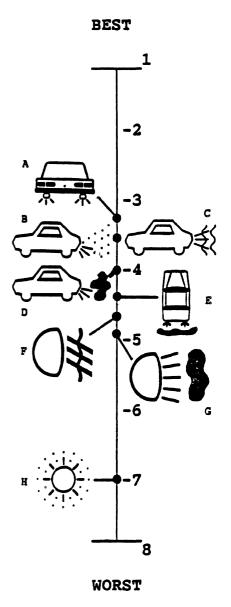
WORST

18. REAR FOG LIGHTS

As was the case in the design of the front fog light candidates, an important characteristic of the symbols was that they represent their location relative to the remainder of the automobile (i.e., the front vs. the rear). Participants ranked those candidates which best represented the location of the function they were to be controlling, as is offered in the five most favorably ranked candidates. Candidate "A" was significantly favored by participants over the ISO standard "F" (\underline{H} = 17.4, p < .001). Saunby et al. similarly found very poor levels of recognition for the ISO standard (Identification = 1.2%, Matching = 47.3%). These results suggest that a candidate such as "A" should replace the current ISO standard.

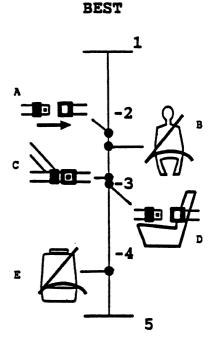


	1_	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 1	1ISS	MEAN
A	40	11	8	8	12	10	5 .	9	1	3.3
В	11	25	19	15	11	5	12	2	4	3.6
С	19	16	16	18	14	6	13	0	2	3.6
D	8	17	20	20	10	15	4	6	4	4.0
E	6	11	13	20	26	13	8	5	2	4.4
F	10	10	14	11	10	16	22	7	4	4.7
G	10	11	10	7	12	25	. 15	11	3	4.9
Н	0	2	2	3	6	12	22	50	7	7.0



19. SEAT BELT

Of the symbol candidates for the seat belt function, candidate "A" received the best mean ranking (mean = 2.3). While this ranking was lower than that of the ISO standard (B, mean = 2.5), it was not significantly different (\underline{H} = 0.17, p > .673). In fact, the ISO standard (B) received more #1 rankings than did candidate "A". While recognition of the ISO seat belt symbol was not studied by Saunby et al., there is no other symbol of the presented candidates which is significantly preferred by subjects. Therefore, the authors feel that the current ISO standard should not be changed.



WORST

 $\underline{H}(4) = 121.8, p < .001$ <u>MEDIAN(4)</u> = 63.5, p < .001

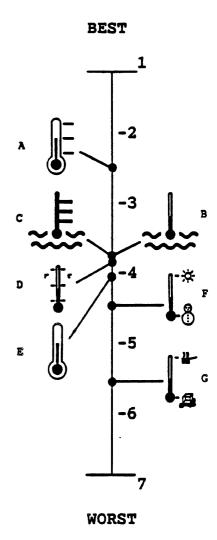
	BES'						
	1_	2	3	4	5	MISS	MEAN
A	32	28	28	10	6	0	2.3
В	40	17	14	25	8	0	2.5
C	18	25	25	24	12	0	2.9
D	12	26	27	24 .	15	0	3.0
E	2	8	10	21	63	0	4.3

20. TEMPERATURE

All the symbol candidates for the temperature function were similar in that they show a thermometer in one form or another. This reflects the suggestions received from participants in the production study. Frequently, participants commented that the ISO standard more closely resembled a buoy floating in water than it did a thermometer, and had also been called a periscope. Therefore, it was not the actual characteristic of the symbol, but the manner in which it was presented that resulted in the moderate levels of recognition observed by Saunby et al. (Identification = 62.0%, Matching = 75.2%). Of the candidates presented, "A" received the lowest mean ranking (mean = 2.5) and was significantly preferred over the ISO standard symbol "C" (mean = 3.7) (H = 15.92, p > .001). The authors, however, were surprised that candidate "E" was not ranked more favorably considering that it is almost identical to "A", with the exception of the gradation marks. In addition, a symbol similar to "E" received favorable ranking by participants in a study by Green and Burgess (1980). This would suggest that the gradation marks are an important characteristic of the thermometer symbol. Based on these results, the authors believe that the ISO standard symbol should be replaced by candidate "A".

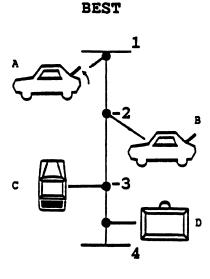
> $\underline{H}(6) = 132.7, p < .001$ $\underline{MEDIAN}(6) = 105.5, p < .001$

	BES	T				>W(
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MISS	MEAN
A	37	19	22	12	4	5	3	2	2.5
В	20	15	13	15	15	8	14	4	3.7
С	9	20	17	23	14	17	1	3	3.7
D	9	17	21	19	14	10	10	4	3.8
E	9	14	20	12	19	9	17	4	4.1
F	15	8	8	9	19	25	17	3	4.5
G	2	6	0	12	16	26	39	3	5.6



21. TRUNK

As was the case with the hood release symbol candidates, the production study did not produce many alternative suggestions to represent the trunk release function. However, once again the addition of an arrow to indicate the motion of the trunk resulted in a significant difference in the mean ranking by participants. significantly preferred candidate "A" (mean = 1.1) over the ISO standard symbol "B" (mean = 2.0) (\underline{H} = 96.40, p > .001). However, Saunby et al. found a high level of recognition for the current ISO trunk symbol (Identification = 84.4%, Matching = 96.6%). Yet the distribution of #1 rankings by participants overwhelmingly prefer candidate "A" (92 of 104 participants ranked "A" as #1). This would suggest that the current ISO standard for the trunk symbol could be changed, though the authors differ as to whether including an arrow should be optional.



WORST

 $\underline{H}(3) = 310.7, p < .001$ MEDIAN(3) = 296.7, p < .001

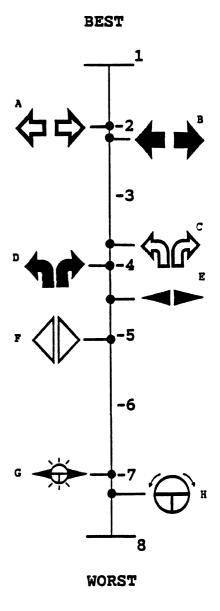
	BEST>WORST										
	1	2	3	4	MISS	MEAN					
A	92	9	3	0	0	1.1					
В	8	90	5	1	0	2.0					
C	2	3	77	21	1	3.1					
D	2	2	18	81	1	3.7					

22. TURN SIGNAL

Of the candidates presented to participants in the rating study, there was little variation in the characteristics used to construct these symbols. This was due primarily to the limited number of alternative suggestions produced by both participants in the production experiment and the authors. Of the candidates presented, the ISO standard received the lowest mean ranking (mean = 2.0). This in combination with the high level of recognition observed by Saunby et al. (Identification = 91.3%, Matching = 85.7%) would suggest that the current ISO standard for the turn signal function should not be changed.

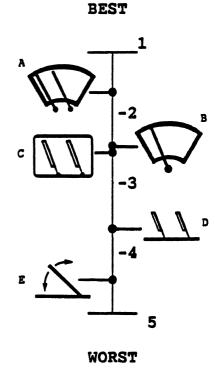
 $\underline{H}(7) = 512.7, p < .001$ <u>MEDIAN(7)</u> = 330.5, p < .001

	BES	T				>WORST				
	1_	2	3	4	5	6_	7	8	MISS	MEAN
A	46	31	13	7			1	0	2	2.0
В	35	33	17	11	5	0	0	1	2	2.2
C	12	14	20	22	21	10	1	2	2	3.7
D	4	10	19	36	16	13	3	0	. 3	4.0
E	3	8	16	13	32	24	5	0	3	4.5
F	0	2	16	10	21	38	8	4	2	5.1
G	2	0	0	1	3	7	55	31	5	7.0
н	0	1	1	2	3	6	29	59	3	73



23. WINDSHIELD WIPER

The suggestions received in the production study for the windshield wiper symbol frequently included two wiper blades as a characteristic rather than only one. This preference was evident in that participants significantly preferred candidate "A" (mean = 1.7) over the ISO standard symbol "B" (mean = 2.5) (\underline{H} = 12.13, \underline{p} > .001). Saunby et al. found moderate levels of recognition for the current ISO standard wiper symbol (Identification = 62.0%, Matching = 74.8%). However, it is debatable as to whether the addition of one more wiper blade, without the changing of any other characteristics, is likely to raise the overall level of recognition as observed in the Saunby et al. study. The authors therefore feel that the current ISO standard symbol for the windshield wiper should not be changed. Yet if changes take place in either the windshield washer standard or the windshield washer/wiper standard, the symbol for this function should remain consistant with the features of other similar functions.

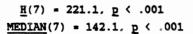


 $\underline{H}(4) = 239.9, p < .001$ **MEDIAN**(4) = 205.2, p < .001

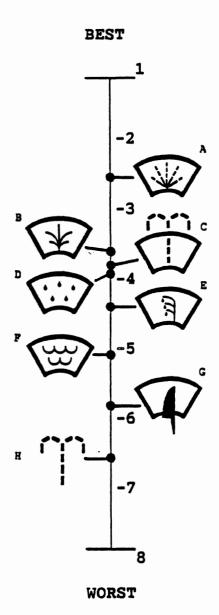
	BES						
	1	2	3	4	5	MISS	MEAN
A	46	44	9	2	2	1	1.7
В	34	26	14	18	11	1	2.5
С	15	27	52	6	3	1	2.6
D	4	5	25	54	15	1	3.7
E	4	1	4	22	72	1	4 5

24. WINDSHIELD WASHER

Of the windshield washer candidates offered to participants in the preference study, all but one (H) used the same outline to represent the front windshield. How the fluid spray was represented resulted in a significant difference between "A" (mean = 2.6) and the current ISO standard "C" (mean = 3.8) ($\underline{H} = 8.85$, p > .005), despite that "C" received a considerable number of #1 rankings. In testing the level of recognition for the current ISO windshield washer symbol, the Saunby et al. study produced results which were dependent upon the method of testing (Identification = 58.2%, Matching = 87.0%). The authors feel that this would suggest further investigation into the changing of the current ISO standard, possibly replacing it with the symbol candidate "A". However, "A" may create a legibility problem under conditions of suboptimal lighting, with drivers possibly confusing this symbol with the wiper control.

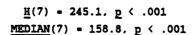


	BES'	r				>WORST				
	1	2	3	4	5_	6	7	8	MISS	MEAN
A	30	27	22	8	8	6	2	0	1	2.6
В	5	24	23	22	16	5	4	2	3	3.6
С	28	12	13	7	11	15	9	7	2	3.8
D	18	12	10	23	14	8	13	3	3	3.9
E	10	11	11	17	25	11	13	4	2	4.4
F	4	5	10	18	14	27	14	10	2	5.1
G	7	9	8	2	6	16	23	31	2	5.8
Ħ	1	2	7	3	8	14	24	41	4	6.6

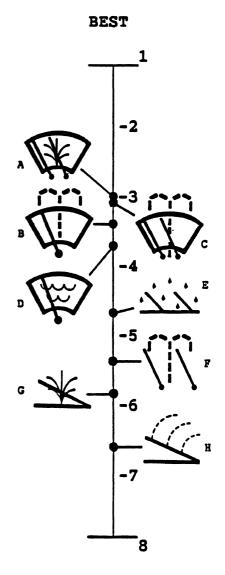


25. WINDSHIELD WASHER/WIPER

Of the candidates for the windshield washer/wiper symbol, "A" received the best mean ranking (mean 3.0). However, this was not a significantly different from the mean ranking of the current ISO It is not standard (mean = 3.4). surprising that candidate "A" incorporated both characteristics found to be preferable in the windshield wiper and windshield washer symbol candidates (symbols 23 and 24). These characteristics are two wiper blades rather than just one, and a fluid spray rather than a stream. While candidate "A" is not preferred significantly over the ISO standard, the moderate levels of recognition observed by Saunby et al. for the standard (Identification = 50.9%, Matching = 79.5%) would suggest that an alternative symbol can and should be developed. However, any considered changes in the washer/wiper standard symbol must also take the independent washer and wiper functions into consideration.



	BEST>WORST									
	1_	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	MISS	MEAN
A	21	22	21	21	9	8	1	0	1	3.0
В	19	29	20	16	7	3	7	2	1	3.1
С	27	17	13	13	12	12	5	4	1	3.4
D	18	14	16	19	14	12	6	3	2	3.7
E	12	11	11	6	20	15	14	13	2	4.7
F	1	7	10	16	21	12	15	20	2	5.4
G	1	3	8	10	15	27	20	18	2	5.8
H	4	1	4	3	3	15	33	34	7	6.6



WORST

CONCLUSIONS

Soliciting drivers for ideas for symbols provided the authors with many ideas for candidate symbols. While this step did take some time, it is believed to have led to a superior set of candidates. Because many good symbols were identified in the first round, the number of symbols requiring retesting (and the associated time and cost) were all reduced.

With regard to the specific symbols tested, significant differences were observed between preferences for the ISO standard and a candidate participants preferred for 15 of the 25 functions. Of these 15, the authors suggest a replacement for 6 ISO standard symbols (cigarette lighter, front fog lights, hood release, master lighting switch, rear fog lights, and temperature). For an additional nine symbols, the authors believe that further investigation of alternative symbols is necessary in order to arrive at a standard symbol which has a greater degree of understandability than the current ISO symbol (front defrost, hazard warning, headlamp cleaner, high beam headlamps, unleaded fuel, parking lights, rear defrost, windshield washer, and windshield washer/wiper).

Readers should bear in mind that these recommendations are based on a single group of people, American drivers. If symbols are to be recognized worldwide, then cross-cultural investigations of understandability must be conducted. That has rarely been true in the past.

Considering that the ISO symbols have been in use for several years, the poor recognition of them, along with driver preferences for alternatives reported here, should be of concern to automotive designers and engineers. Those problems have occurred because:

- (1) limited sets of candidates were examined in previous studies,
- (2) candidates were often not based on suggestions from drivers (unlike the candidates tested here),
- (3) and in some cases, no testing was conducted.

Designers are therefore urged to obtain suggestions for symbols from drivers and to rigorously test candidates before proposing they be included in future international standards. If the manufacturers want satisfied customers, they must listen to them.

- CONCLUSIONS -

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APPENDIX A

- APPENDIX A -



The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute 2501 Baxter Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2150

AUTOMOTIVE INSTRUMENTATION SYMBOL PRODUCTION TASK

SUBJECT CONSENT FORM

The purpose of this experiment is to create possible alternatives to existing automotive instrument symbols. It is hoped that this data will provide car manufacturers with alternative ideas to some symbols which are not well understood by drivers.

You will be asked to draw pictures that might be used as symbols to label automotive controls and displays. This

experiment will take about 20 minute to complete a biographical data shee can withdraw from this experiment at think of any hazards this experiment	et (name, age, etc.). You any time. We can not
I have read and understand the infor	mation above.
print your name	date
sign your name	Jim Sayer experimenter(witness)



The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute 2901 Beauter Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2150

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET SYMBOL PRODUCTION TASK

1.	Name:
2.	Sex: male female (circle one)
3.	Age:
4.	In what country were you born? (USA, Can., etc.)
5.	Current citizenship? (USA, Canada, etc.)
6.	How long have you lived in the U.S.A.?
7.	What is your native language? (English, Spanish, etc.)
8.	What is your occupation? (student, engineer, etc.)
9.	Are you a licensed driver? Yes No (circle one) If yes, for how long?
10.	What type of car do you drive most often? Make:(Ford, Dodge, etc.)
	Model:(Escort, Omni, etc.) Year:
This	s portion will be filled out by the experimenter.
	Date & Time Subject #

AUTOMOTIVE INSTRUMENTATION SYMBOLS PRODUCTION TASK

INSTRUCTIONS

In this study you will be asked to draw pictures which might be used to identify automotive controls and displays. There are no right or wrong drawings, and artistic talent is not important. Make sure that the pictures you draw are meaningful to you relative to the control or display they are supposed to represent.

- 1. Do not use letters or words as we would like these symbols to be language independent.
- Assume that these symbols are in black and white only.
- 3. Use as much of the space provided as possible (without going outside of the square).
- 4. Draw only one symbol per space.

Hint: An ideal symbol will be simple yet meaningful.

Following are descriptions of different situations in which displays or controls might be used. Some you may have not seen before, and others may only be found on luxury cars.

WINDSHIELD WASHER/WIPER	REAR FOG LIGHTS
Suppose you are driving on a dusty road and want to	Imagine your driving on the highway in a dense fog and
clean the windshield of your	want to turn on your rear fog lights to avoid being struck
car. Draw a symbol that	
might be used to label the windshield washer/wiper	from behind. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the rear
control.	fog light control.
	·
HORN	HEADLAMP CLEANER
Suppose you are stopped at	Suppose your headlamps have
a red light when the light turns green. The car in front of you	become partially obstructed with dirt and mud. Draw a symbol that
does not move, so you want to	might be used to label a head-
honk your horn. Draw a symbol	lamp cleaner.
that might be used to label the horn.	

Suppose you want to raise the hood of your car from inside the car. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the hood release control.	Suppose its a cold morning and there is a build-up of frost on the rear windshield. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the rear defrost control.
FRONT FOG LIGHTS	TRUNK
As you are driving, you drive into an area covered with dense fog and can hardly see the road. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the <u>front fog light</u> control.	Supose you want to open your car trunk from inside of the car. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the trunk control.

Suppose your car is approaching a corner at which you would like to turn (left or right). Draw a symbol that might be used to label a turn signal control.	PARKING LIGHTS Suppose you want to turn on your parking lights. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the parking light control.
FRONT WINDSHIELD DEFROST Suppose that your front windshield has frost on it one cold morning. Draw a symbol that might be used to label a front	WINDSHIELD WIPER As you are driving, it begins to rain. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the windshield wiper control.
windshield defrost control.	

Draw a symbol that might be used to label the cigarette lighter.	As you are driving, you want to turn on your car's low beam headlights(normal driving lights). Draw a symbol that might be used to label the low beam headlight control.	
Suppose you would like to blow warm air from the heater inside your car. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the <u>fan</u> .	WINDSHIELD WASHER Suppose that you are driving in a light rain and your windshield is becoming smeared with dirt and oil from the roadway. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the windshield washer control.	

HIGH BEAMS HEADLIGHTS Suppose you are driving down a dark country road late	HAZARD WARNING Suppose your car is broken down on the side of the road,	
at night and you want to turn on your car's high beam head-lights. Draw a symbol that might used to label the high beam headlight control.	and you need to turn on the hazard warning lights(flashers). Draw a symbol that might be used to label the hazard warning control.	
MASTER LIGHTING SWITCH Suppose that all of the controls for your car's head-lights and instrument lights were located on one switch with various different positions. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the master lighting switch.		

DISPLAYS

BATTERY	FUEL
Suppose you have left your car's headlights on, and the battery display on the dash is lit to tell you the battery is dead. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the battery display.	As you are driving, you look at your fuel gage and notice that you need fuel. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the <u>fuel</u> gage display.
OIL Suppose that when you are driving the oil light on your dash comes on. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the oil display.	TEMPERATURE As you are driving, you glance at your tem- perature gage to make certain your engine is not overheating. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the temperature display.

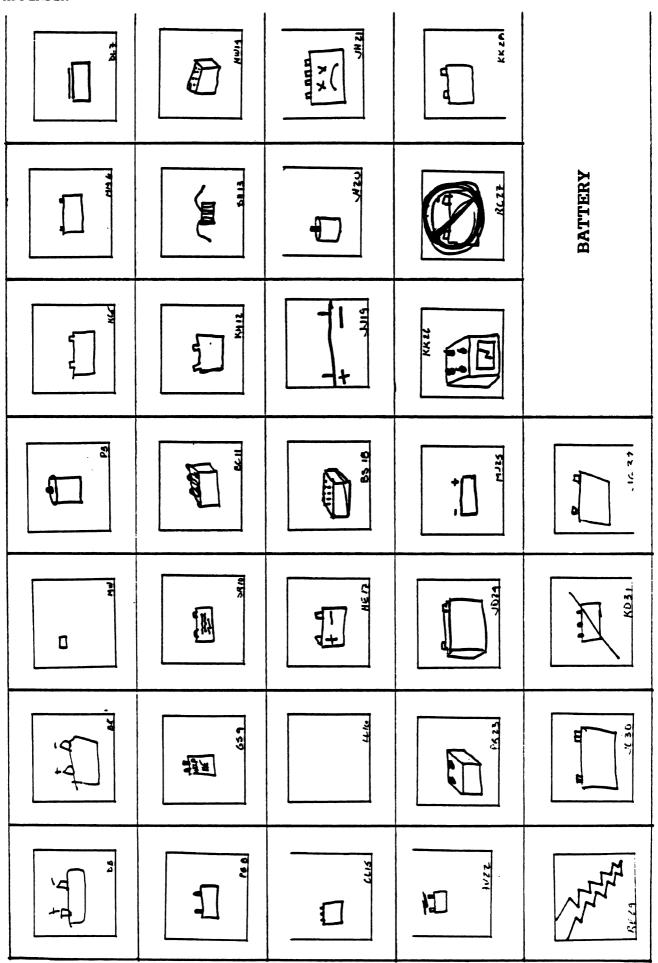
DISPLAYS

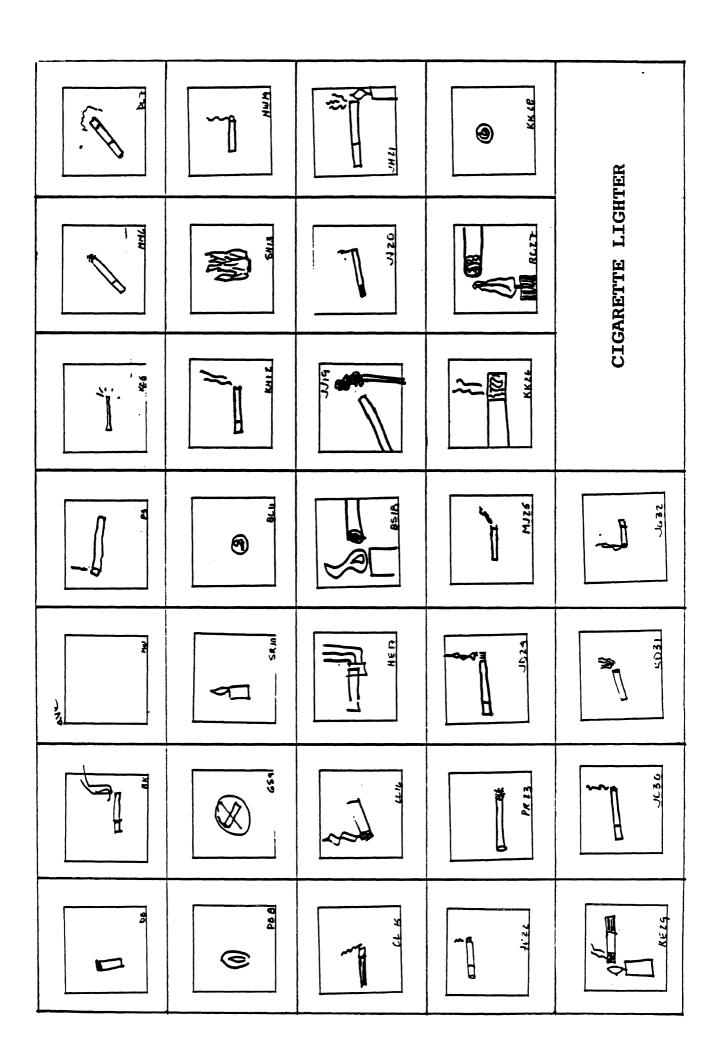
UNLEADED FUEL ONLY

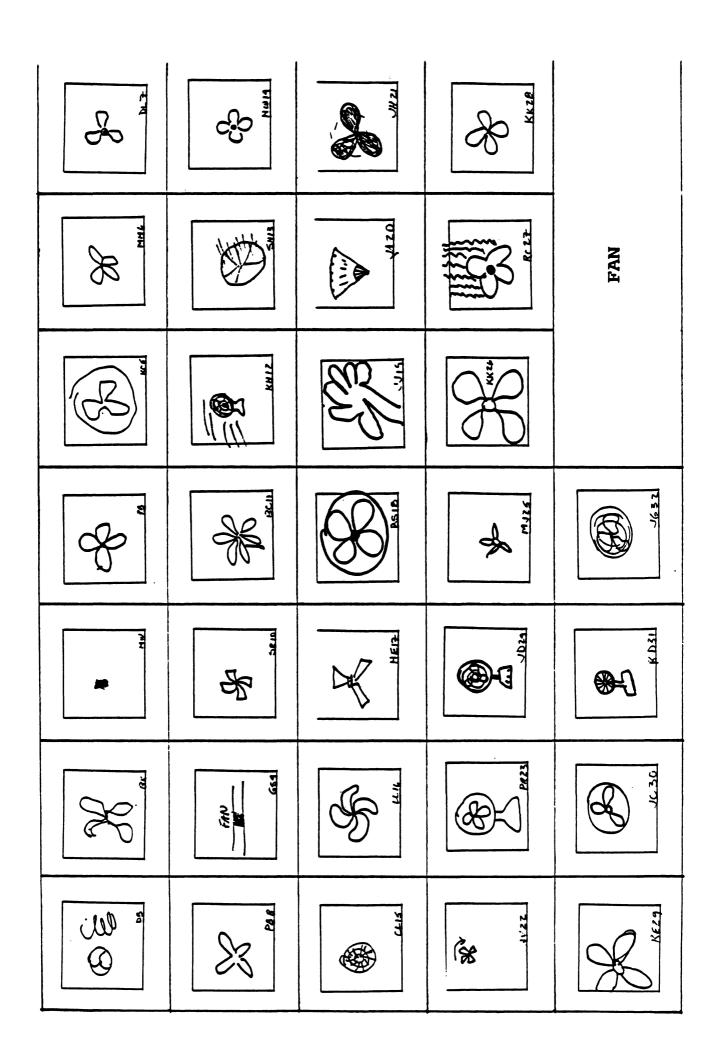
As you are about to fill your cars fuel tank, you find it will take only unleaded fuel. Draw a symbol that might be used to label the unleaded fuel only display.

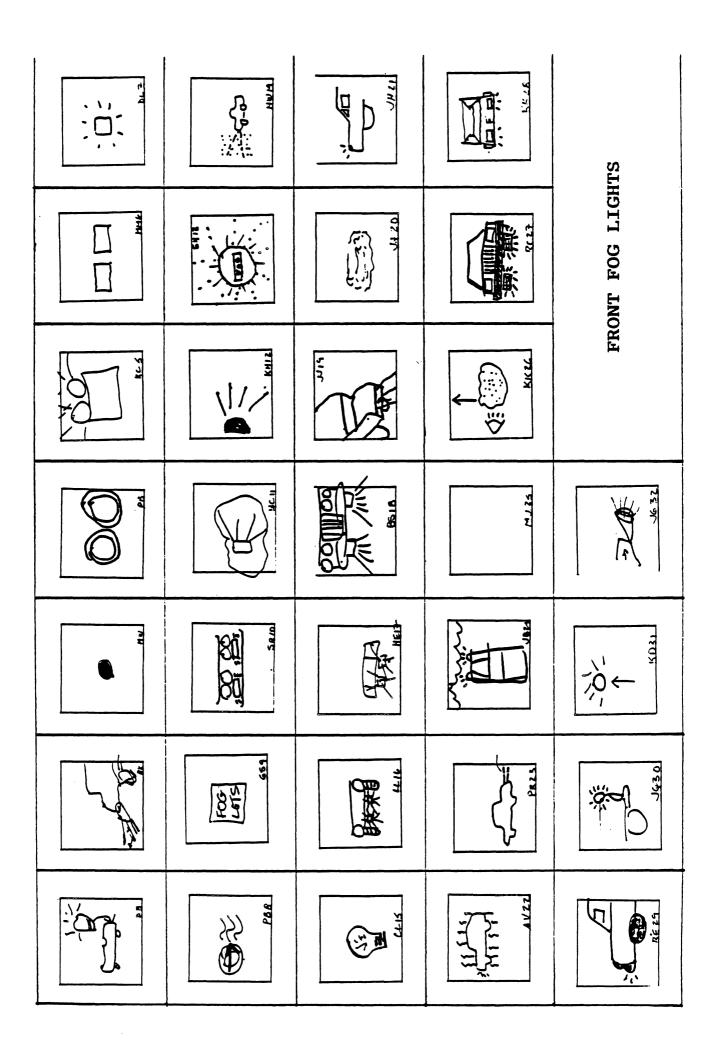
APPENDIX B

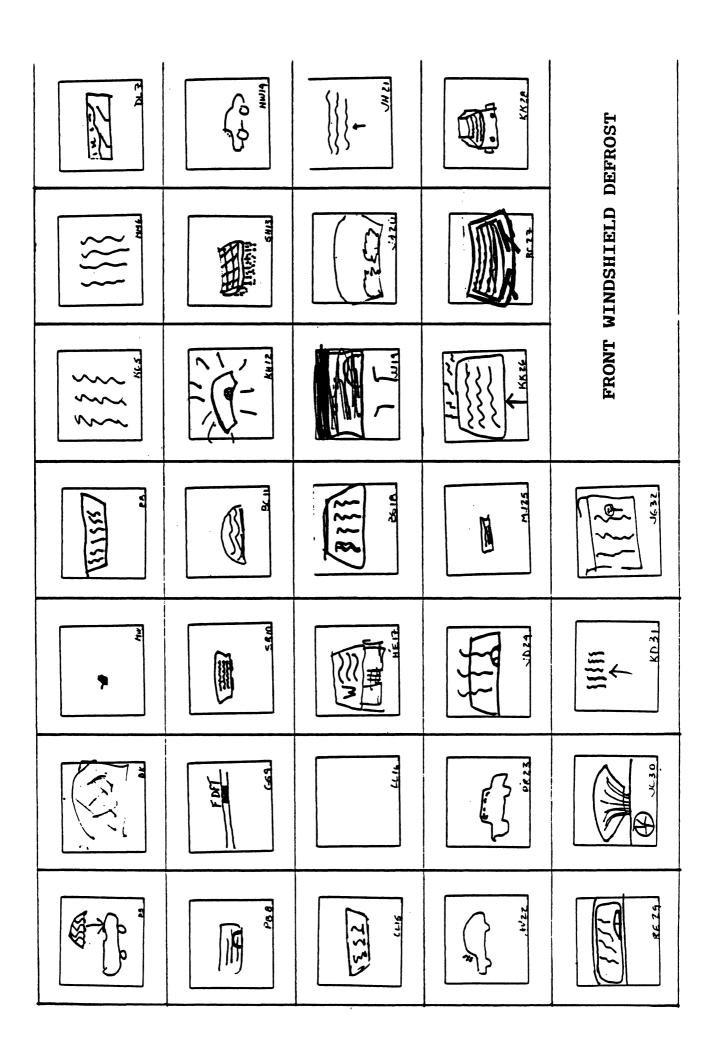
- APPENDIX B -

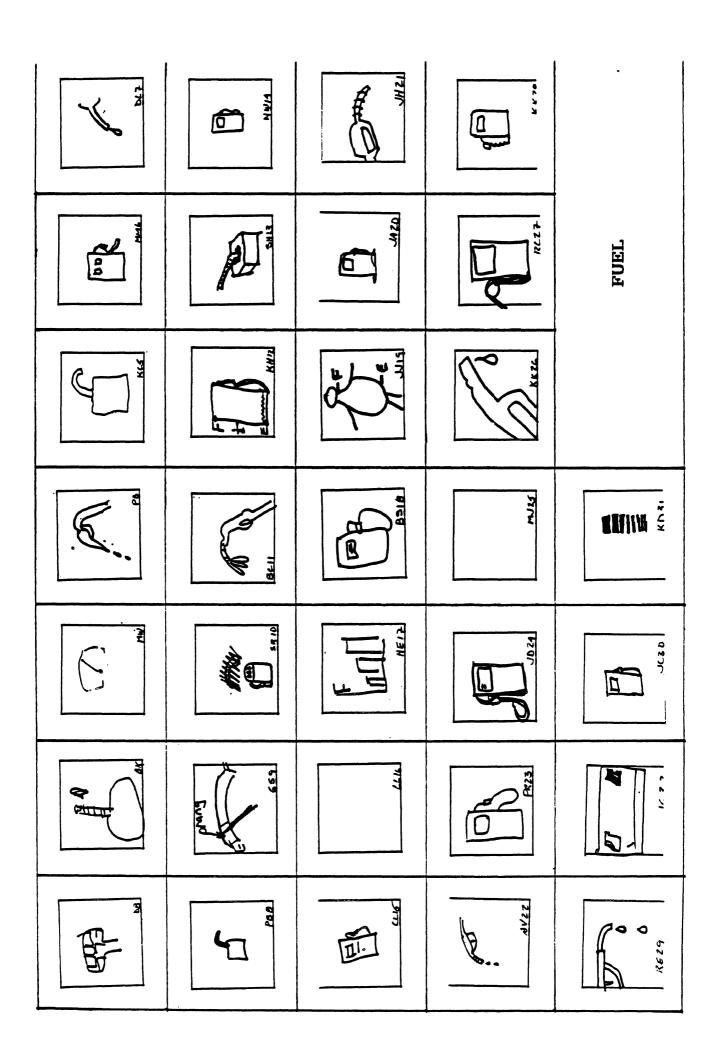


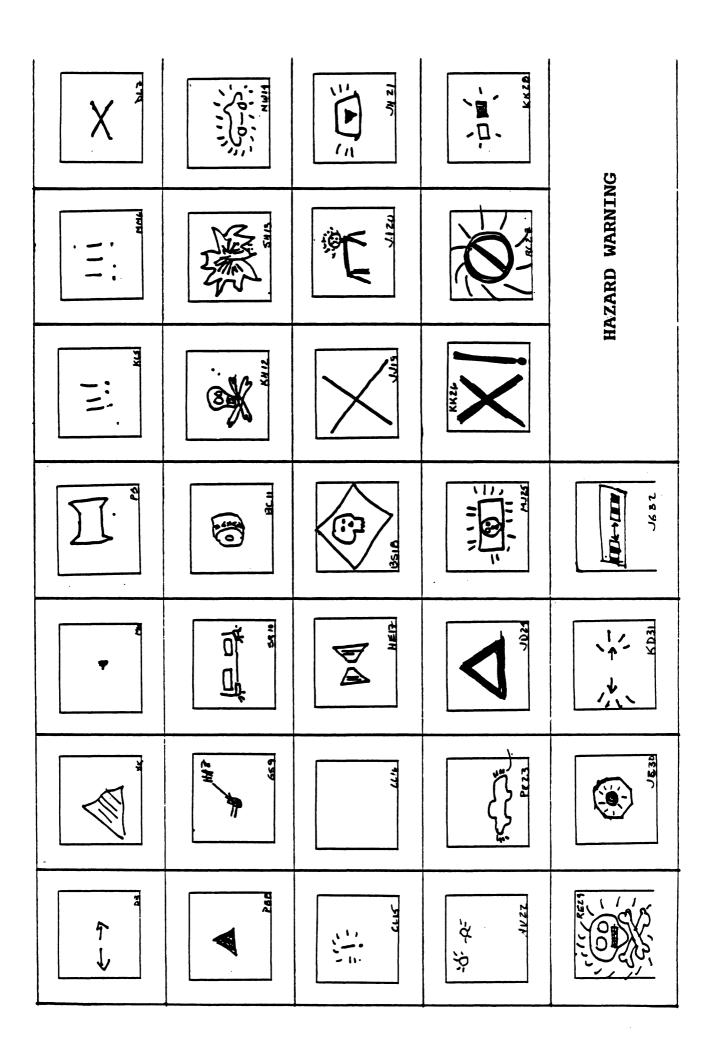


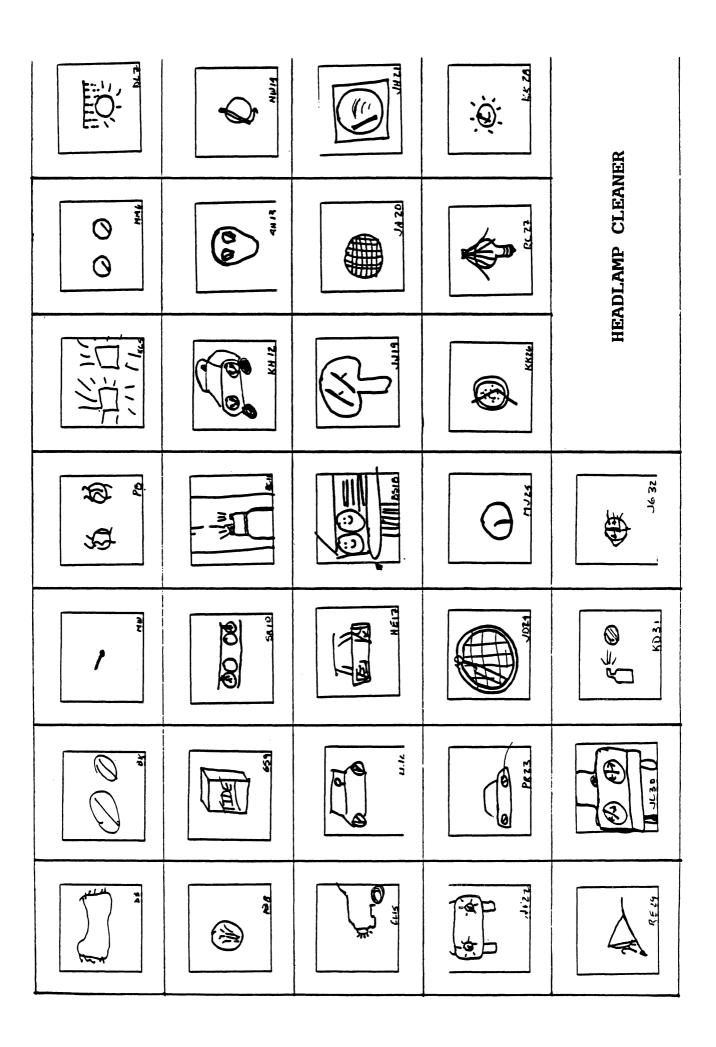


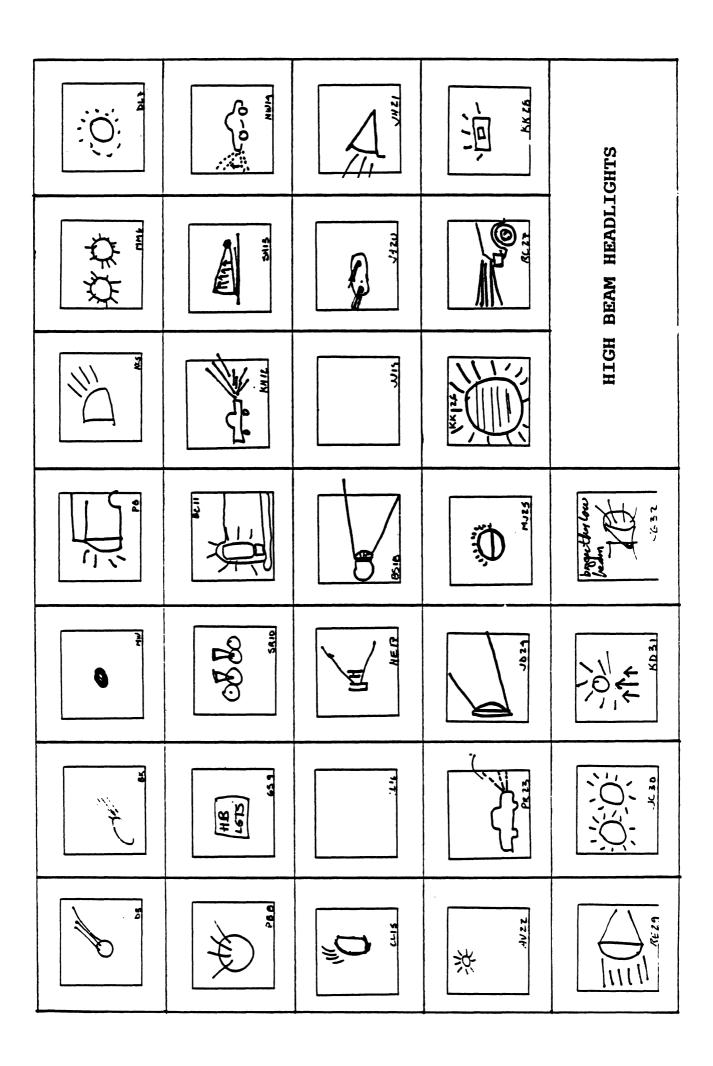


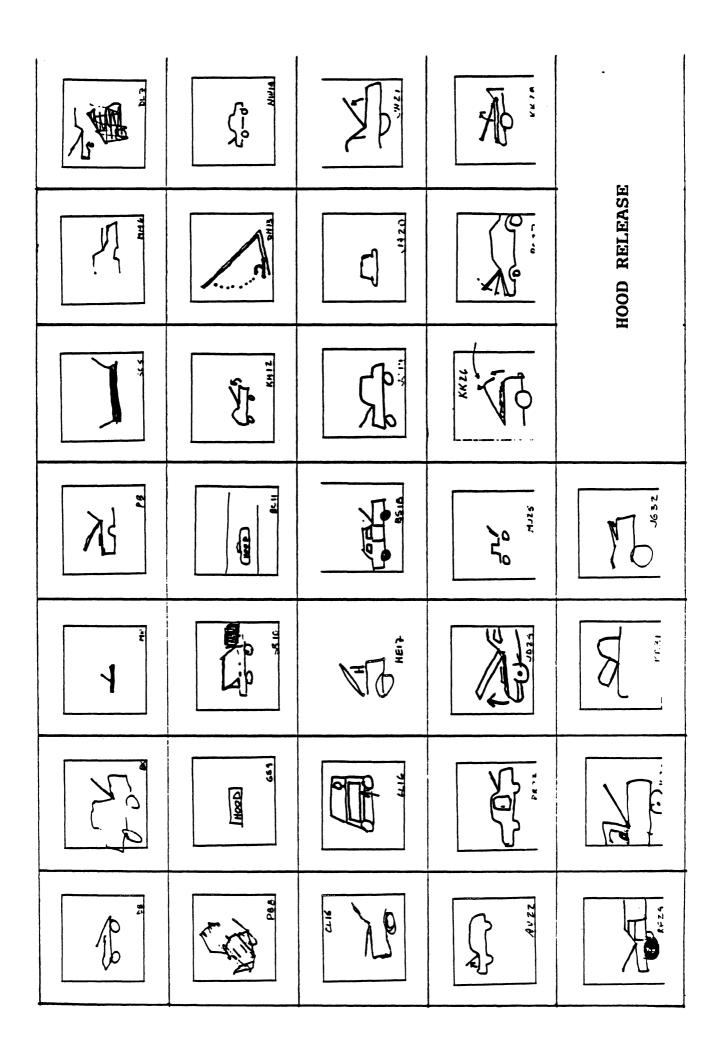


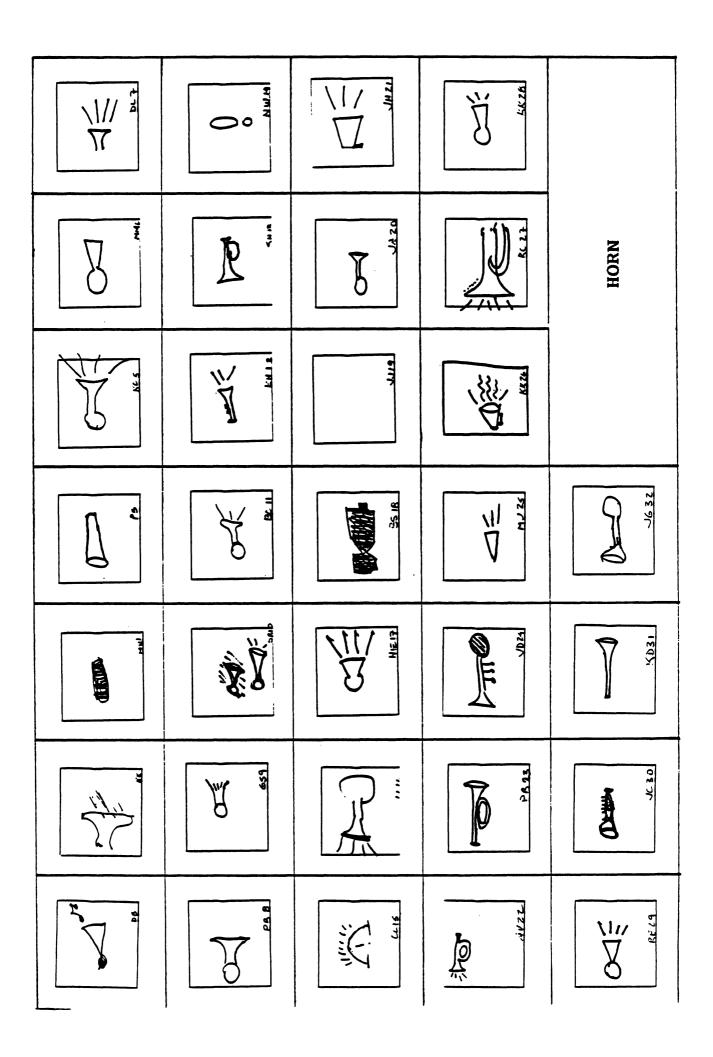


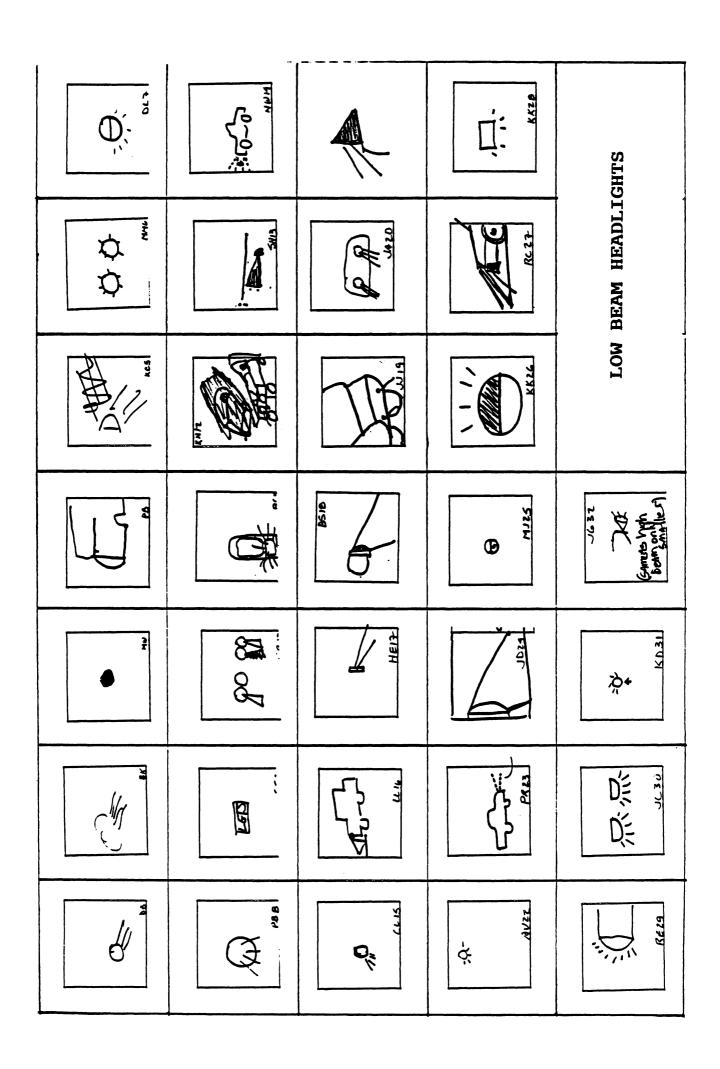


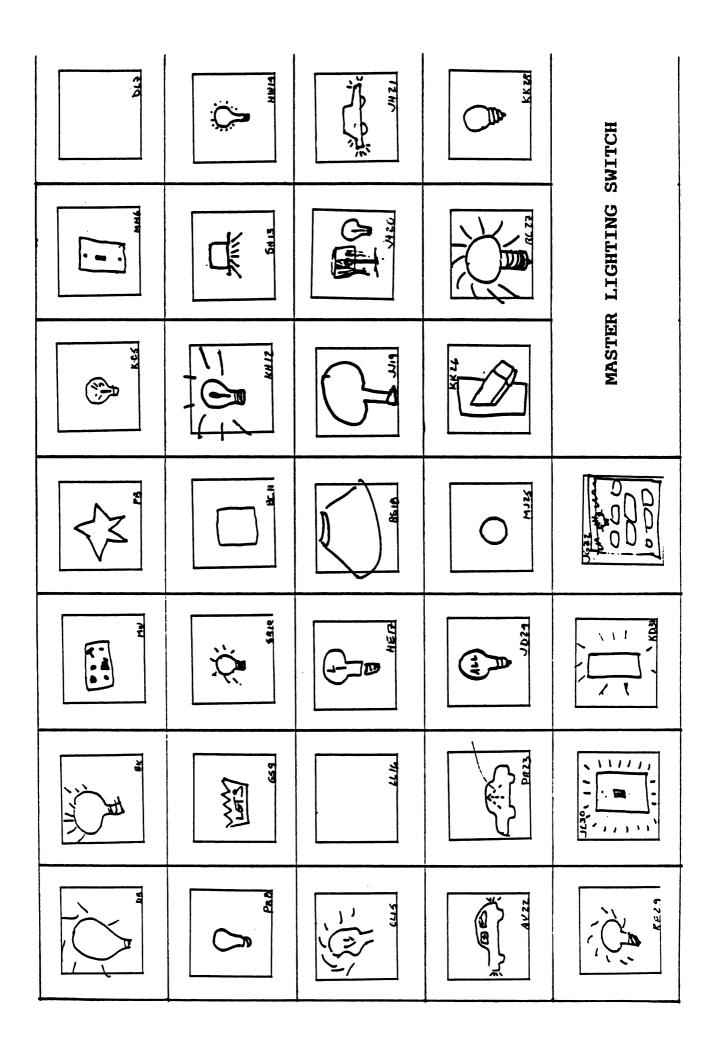


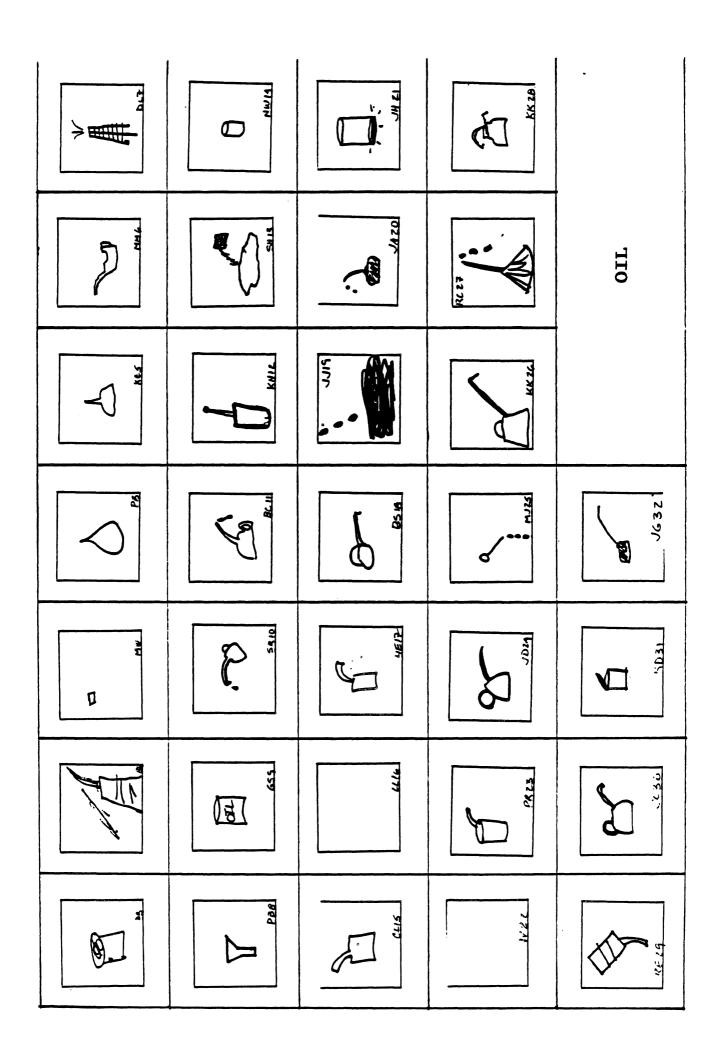


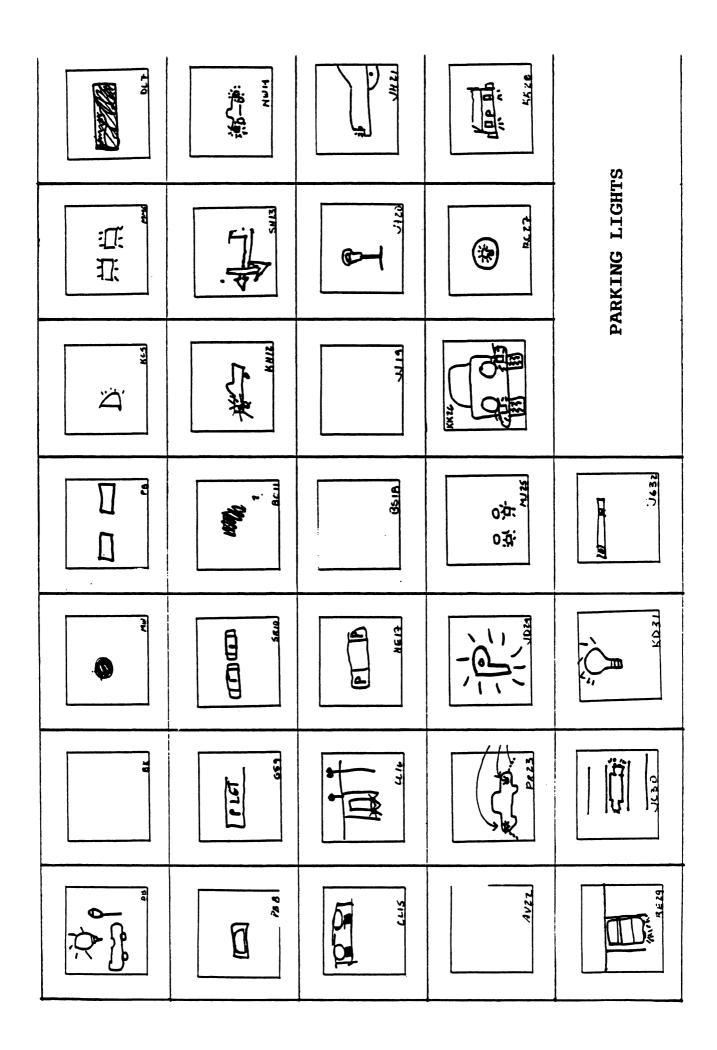


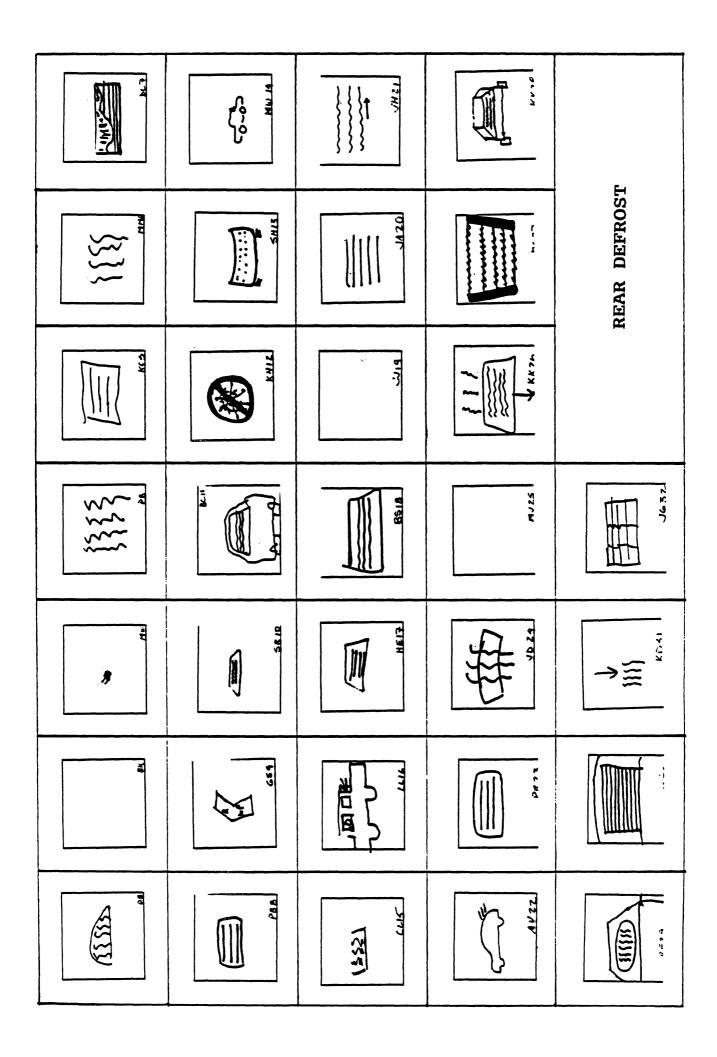


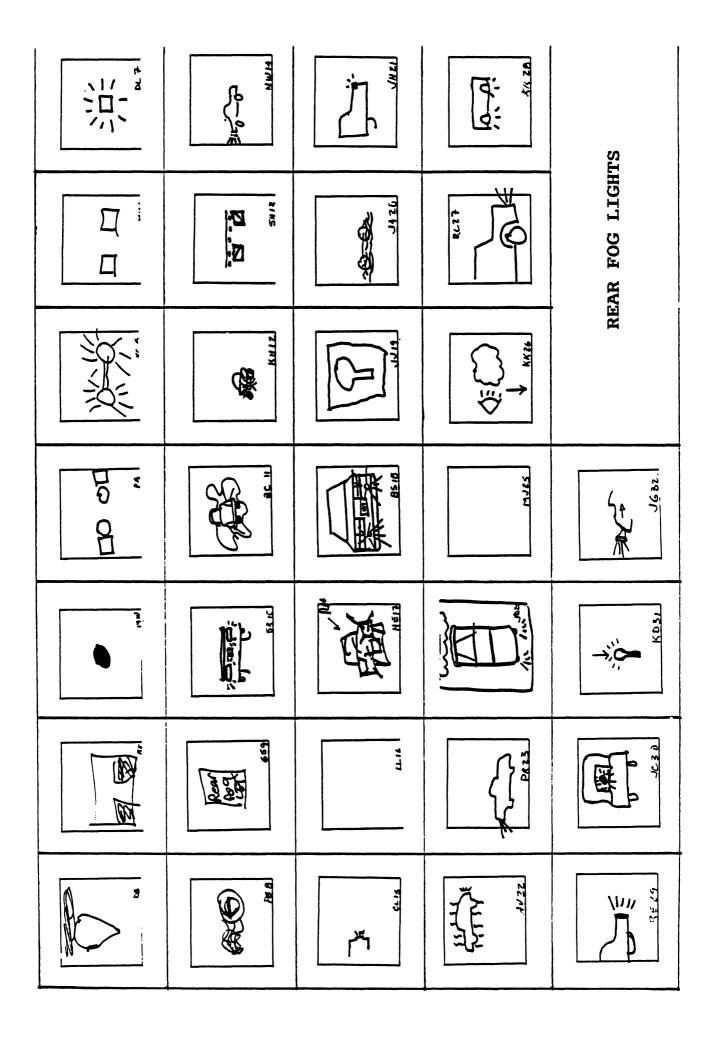


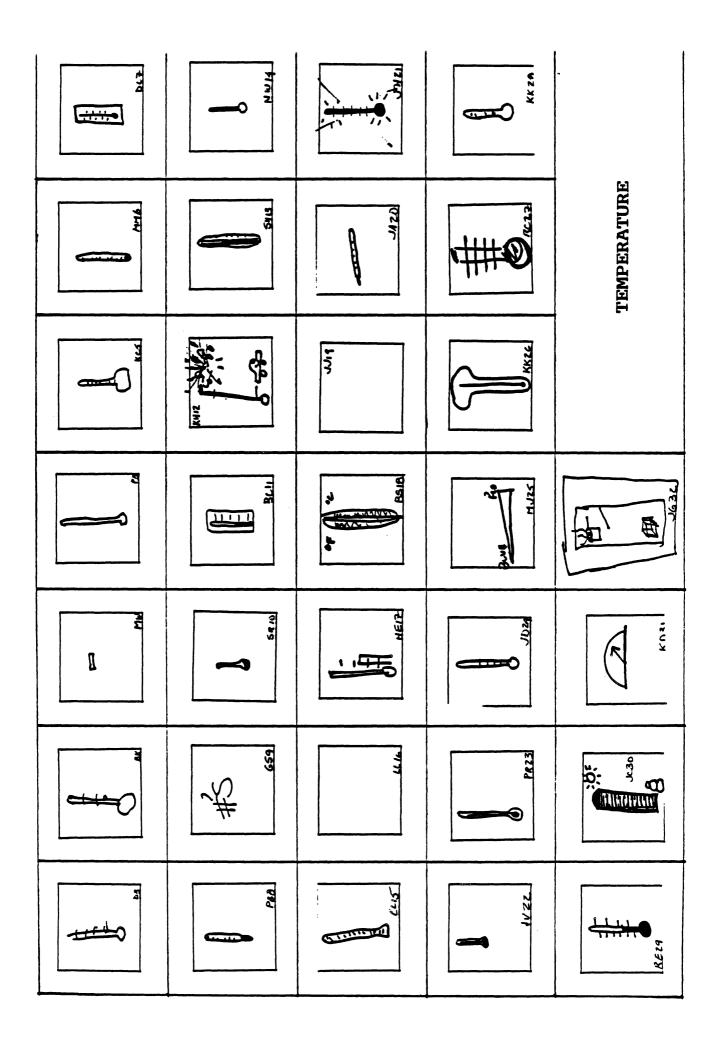


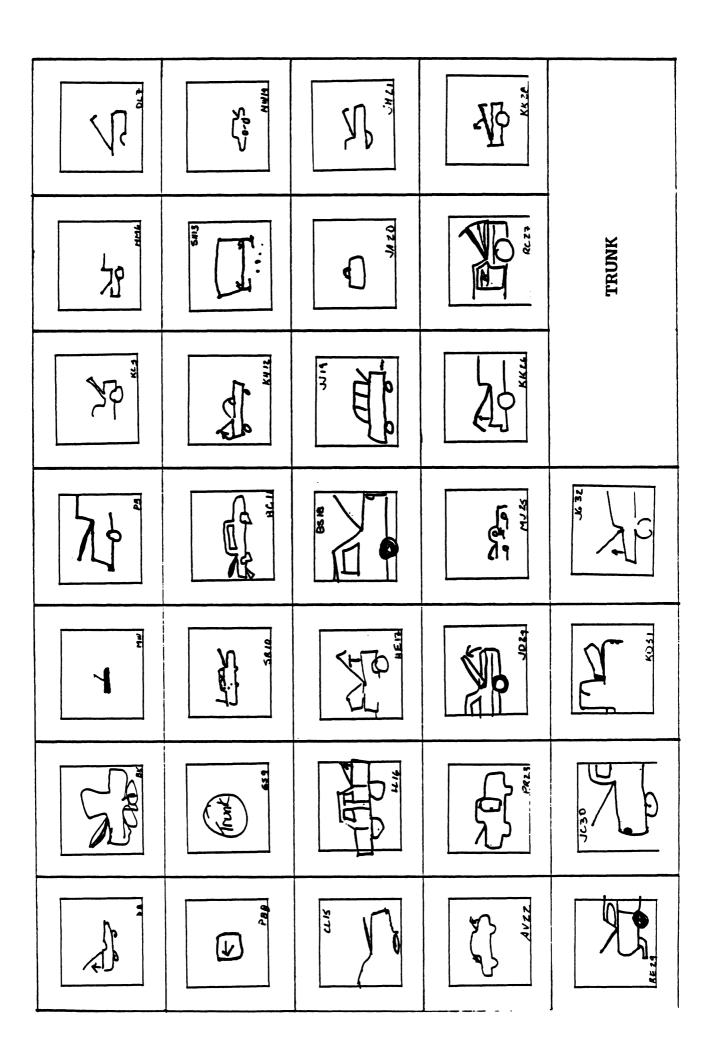


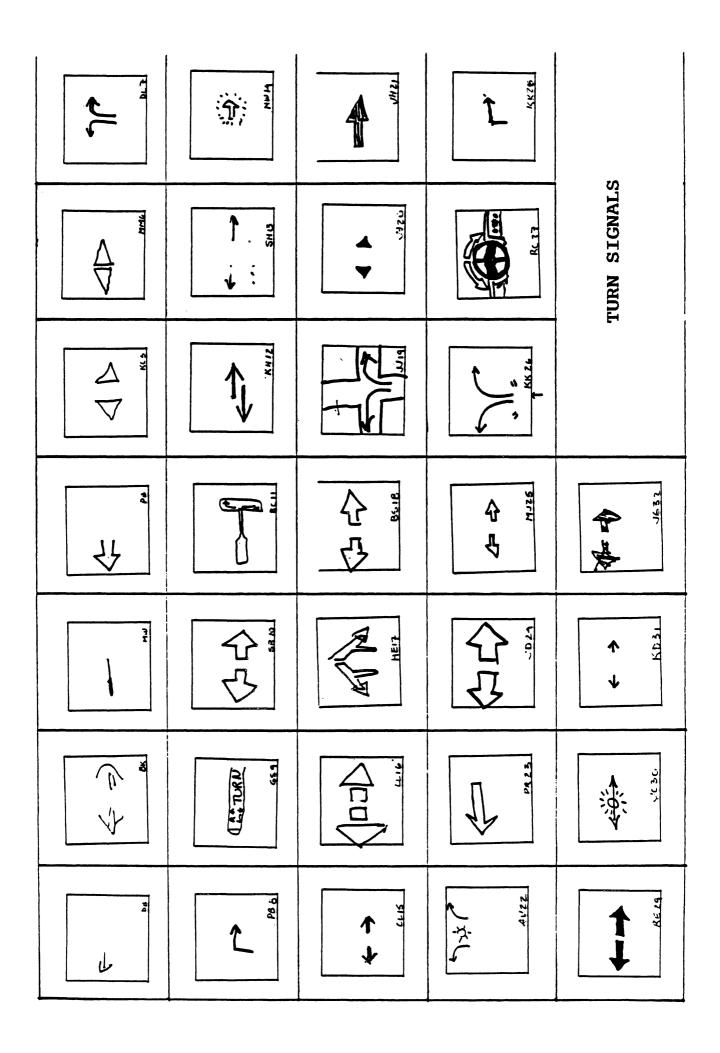


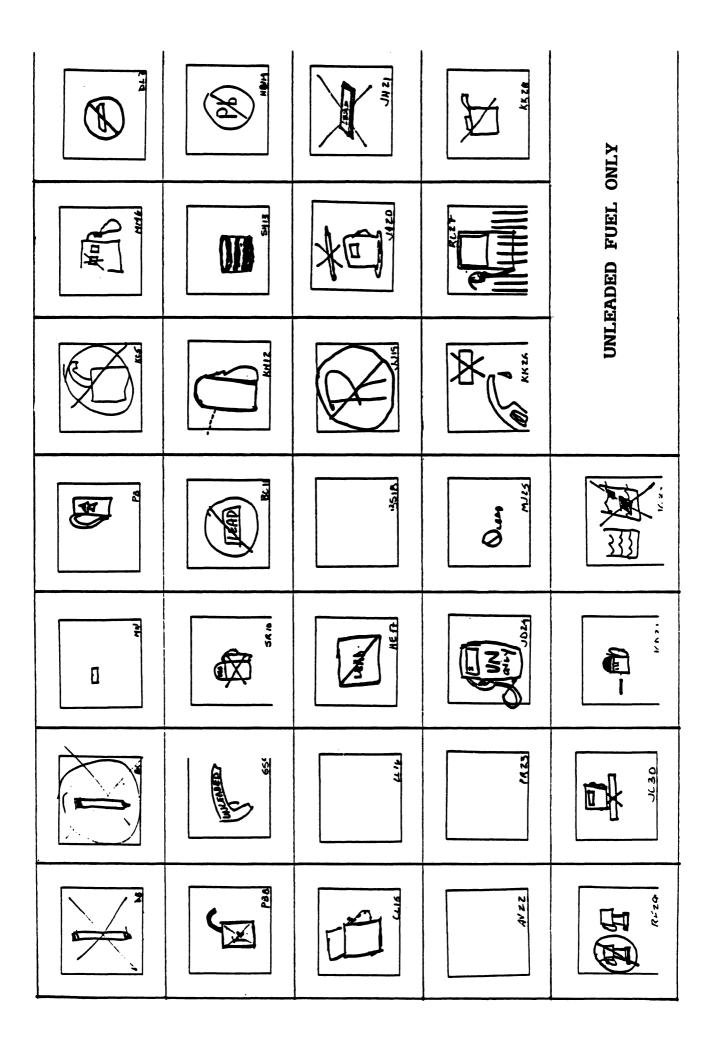


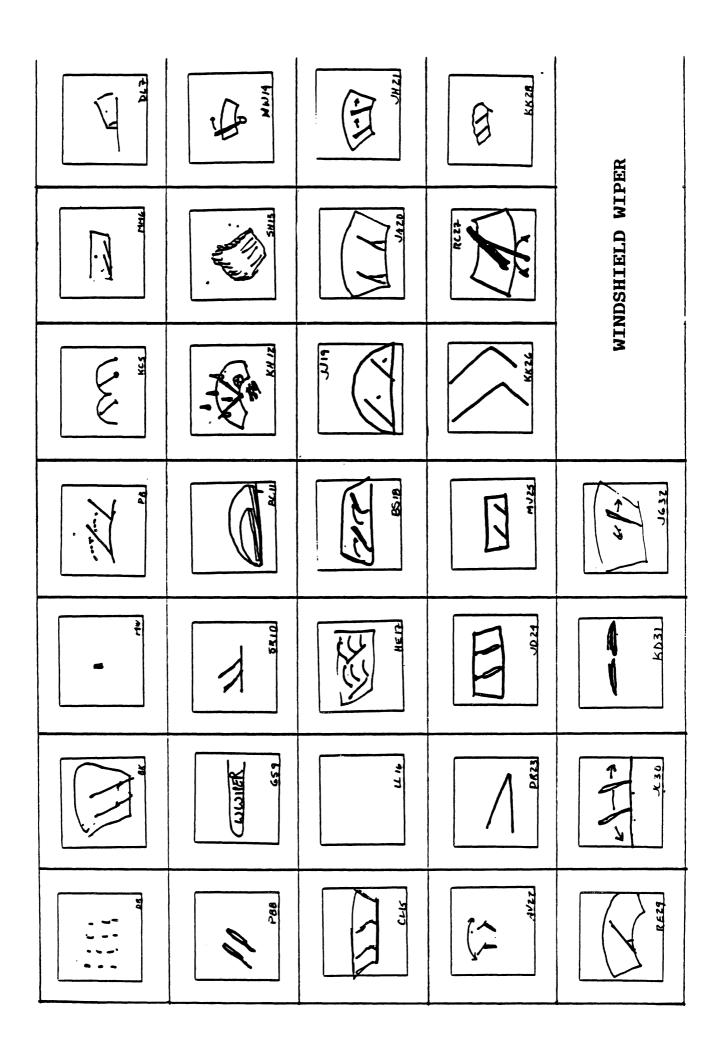


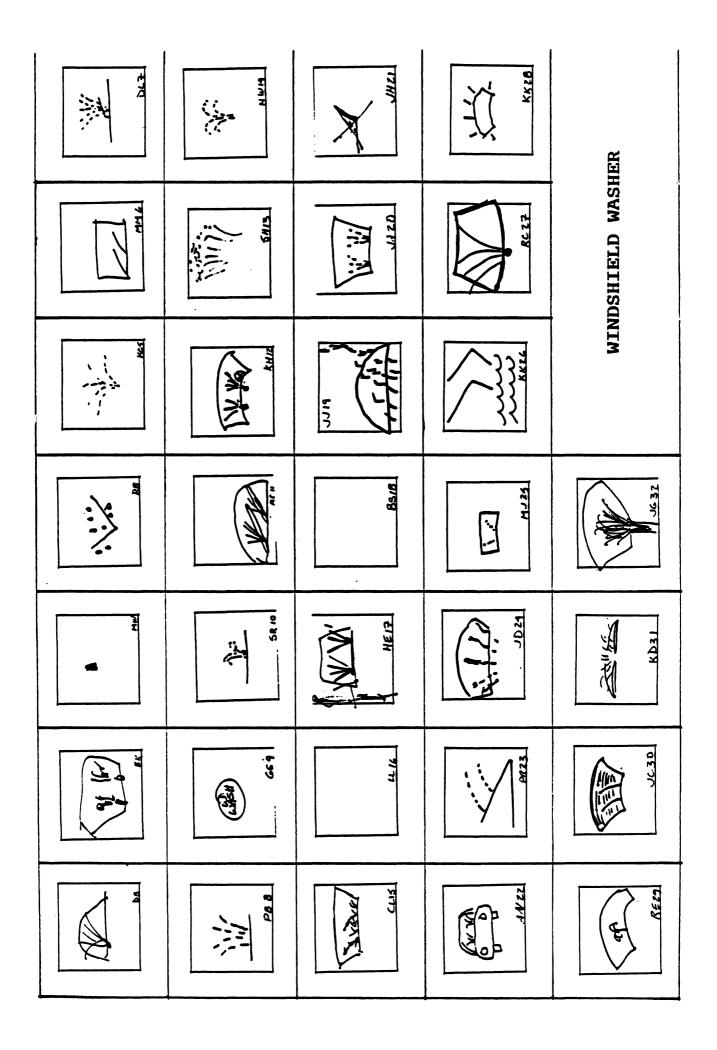


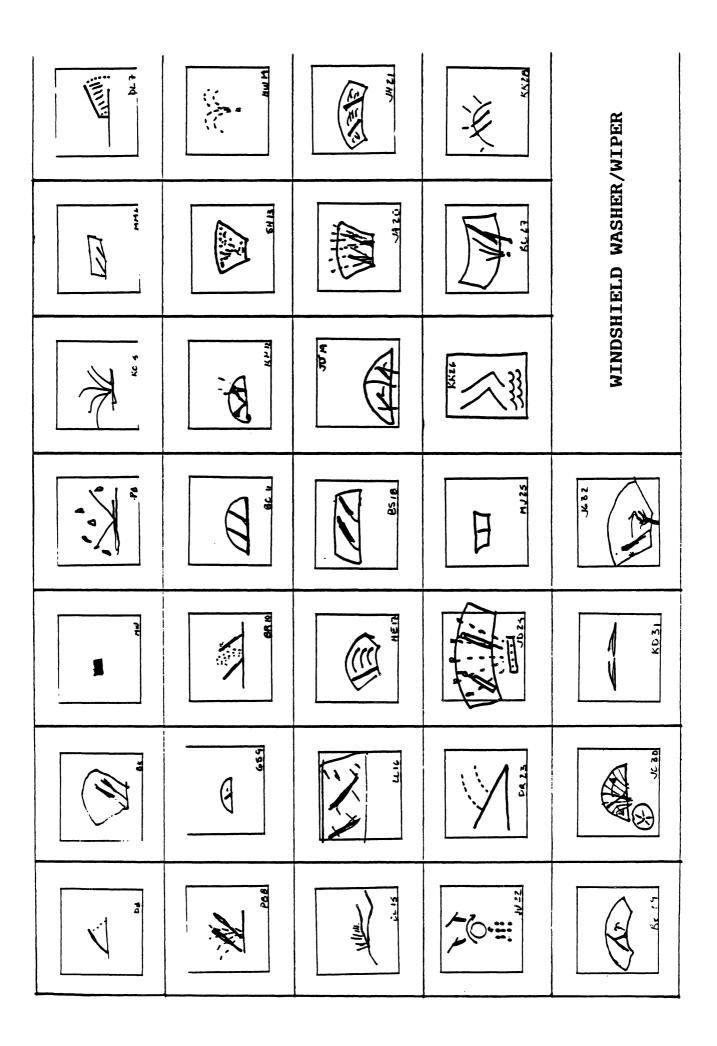












APPENDIX C

- APPENDIX C -



AUTOMOTIVE INSTRUMENTATION SYMBOLS RATING TASK

SUBJECT CONSENT FORM

The purpose of this experiment is to determine how well the symbols presently used for automotive instruments are understood by drivers, and if there are symbols that might be better understood than those already in use. It is hoped this data will provide car manufactures with alternative ideas to some symbols which are not well understood by drivers.

You will be shown a collection of symbols that could be used to label a control or display on a car's dash. Then you are asked to choose the symbol that is the most meaningful to you relative to the instrument panel control or display it is intended to represent.

This experiment will take about 20 minutes to complete, and you will be asked to fill out a biographical data sheet (name, age, etc.). You can withdraw from this experiment at any time. We can not think of any hazards this experiment might expose you to.

I have read and understand the information above.

print your name

date

Jim Sayer
experimenter(witness)

AUTOMOTIVE INSTRUMENTATION SYMBOLS RATING TASK

INSTRUCTIONS

This study is concerned with evaluating symbols (pictures) that are used to identify automobile instrument panel controls (i.e. horn) and displays (i.e. fuel). Clearly if you do not understand a warning light or can not find a control, because you do not recognize it's symbol, this could result in a dangerous situation. Since you will be driving the cars of the future, your opinion of these symbols is important.

On the following pages you will be asked to rank the symbols shown by numbering them in the order of their meaningfulness to you. Label the most meaningful with the number 1, and the second most meaningful with the number 2 (etc.) until all possible choices have been ranked.



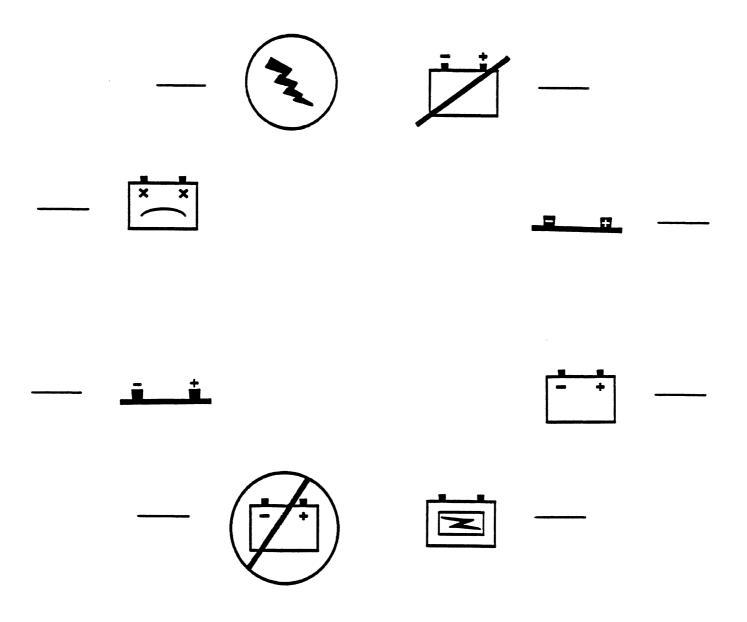
The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute 2901 Baxter Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2150

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET SYMBOL RATING TASK

1.	Name:
2.	Sex: male female (circle one)
3.	Age:
4.	In what country were you born? (USA, Can., etc.)
5.	Current citizenship? (USA, Canada, etc.)
6.	How long have you lived in the U.S.A.?
7.	What is your native language? (English, Spanish, etc.)
8.	What is your occupation? (student, engineer, etc.)
9.	Are you a licensed driver? Yes No (circle one) If yes, for how long?
10.	What type of car do you drive most often?
	Make:(Ford, Dodge, etc.)
	Model:(Escort, Omni, etc.)
	Year:
This	s portion will be filled out by the experimenter.
	Date & Time Subject #

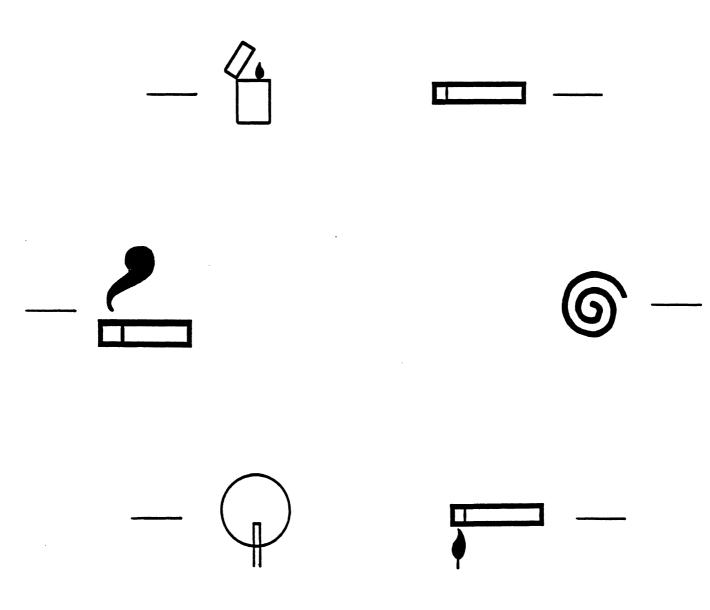
BATTERY CHARGING CONDITION

Suppose that there is a malfunctioning of your car's electrical system. The symbols shown below might be used to label the battery charging condition display. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



CIGARETTE LIGHTER

The symbols shown below might be used to label the cigarette lighter. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



FAN

Suppose you would like to blow warm air from your car's heater inside your car. The symbols shown below might be used to label the <u>fan</u> control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.







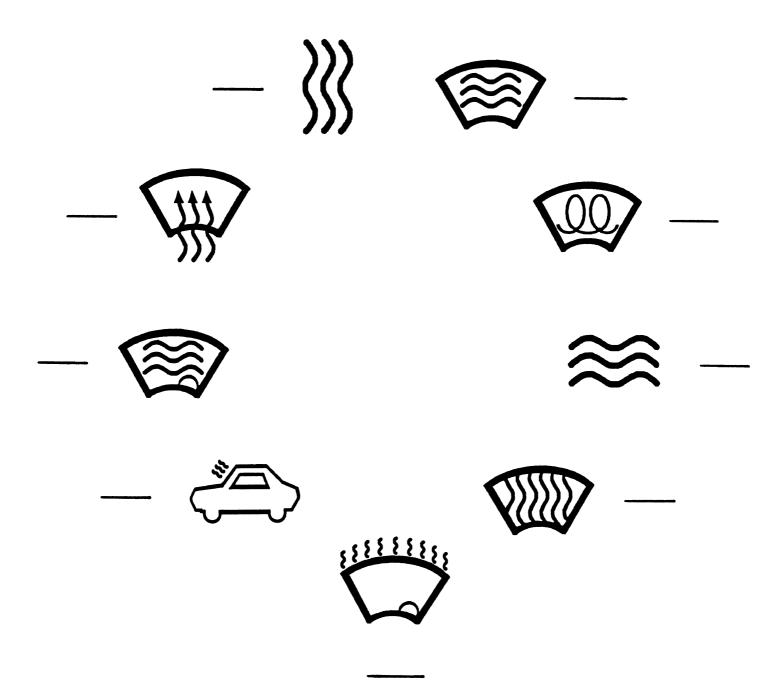






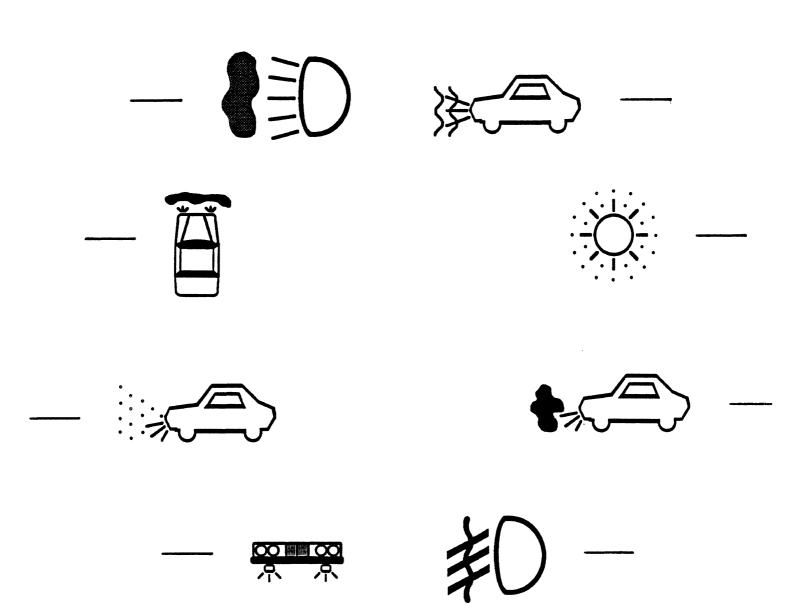
FRONT WINDSHIELD DEFROST

Suppose that your front windshield has frost on it one cold morning. The symbols shown below might be used to label the <u>front windshield defrost</u> control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 9 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



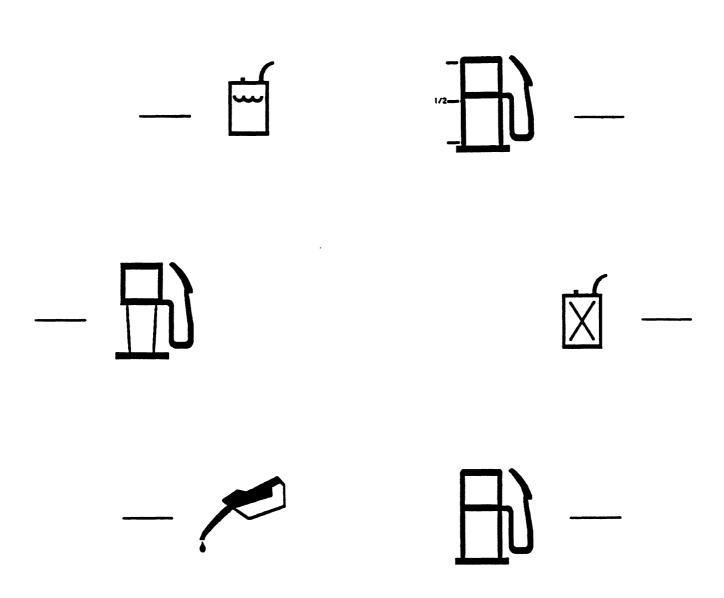
FRONT FOG LIGHTS

As you are driving, you drive into an area covered with dense fog and can hardly see the road. The symbols below might be used to label the <u>front fog lights</u> control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you. You may not have seen front fog lights before, but they are currently available on some european cars.



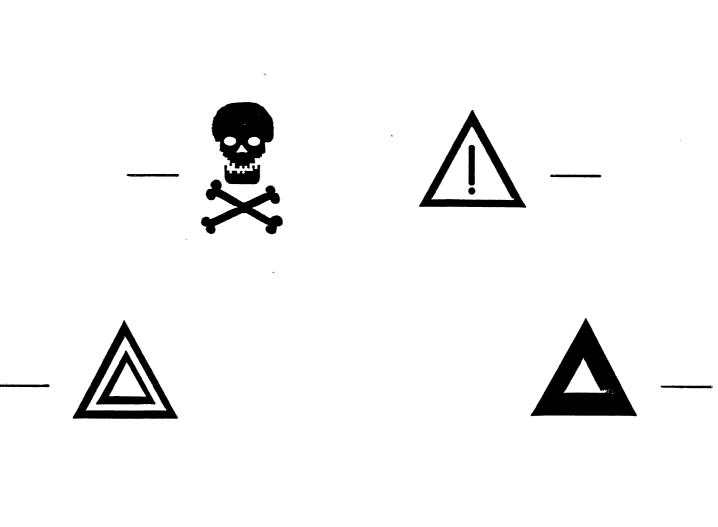
FUEL

As you are driving, you look at your fuel gauge and notice that you need fuel. The symbols below might be used to label the <u>fuel</u> display. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



HAZARD WARNING

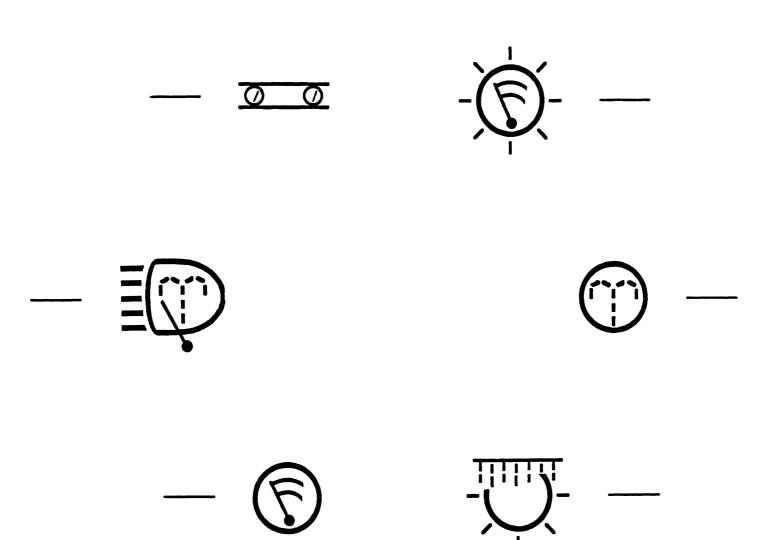
Suppose yor car is broken down on the side of the road, and you need to turn on the hazard warning lights (flashers). The symbols shown below might be used to label the hazard warning lights control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.





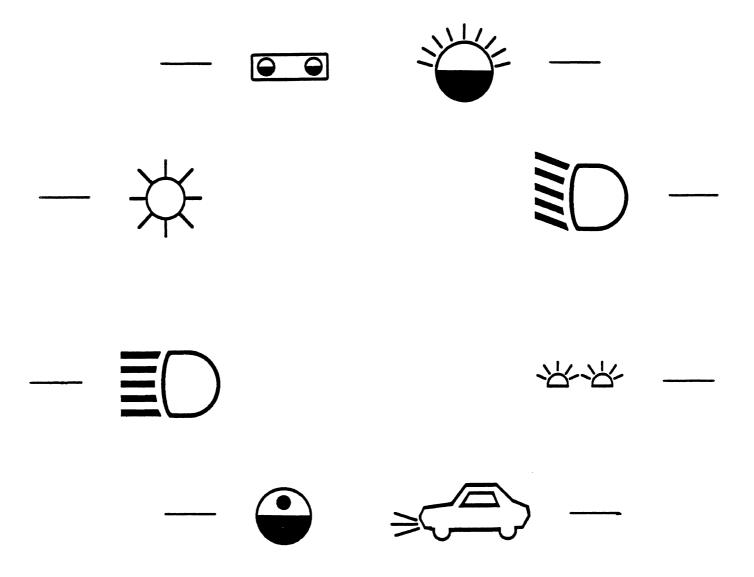
HEADLAMP CLEANER

Suppose your headlights have become partially covered with dirt and mud. The symbols shown below might be used to label the <u>headlamp cleaner</u>. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you. You may not have seen headlamp cleaners before, but they are available on some european cars.



HIGH BEAM HEADLIGHTS

Suppose you are driving down a dark country road late at night and want to turn on your car's high beam headlights. The symbols shown below might be used to label the high beam headlight control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



HOOD RELEASE

Suppose you want to raise the hood of the car from inside of the car. The symbols shown below might be used to label the hood release control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 4 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



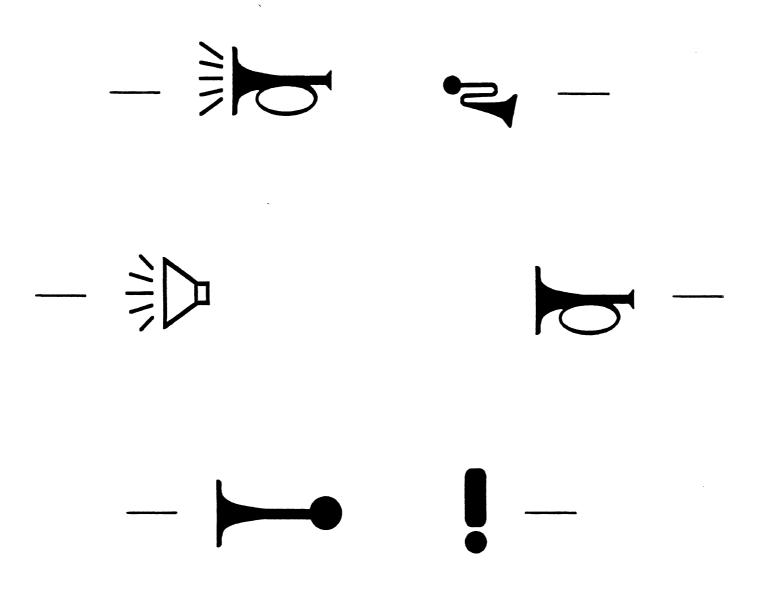






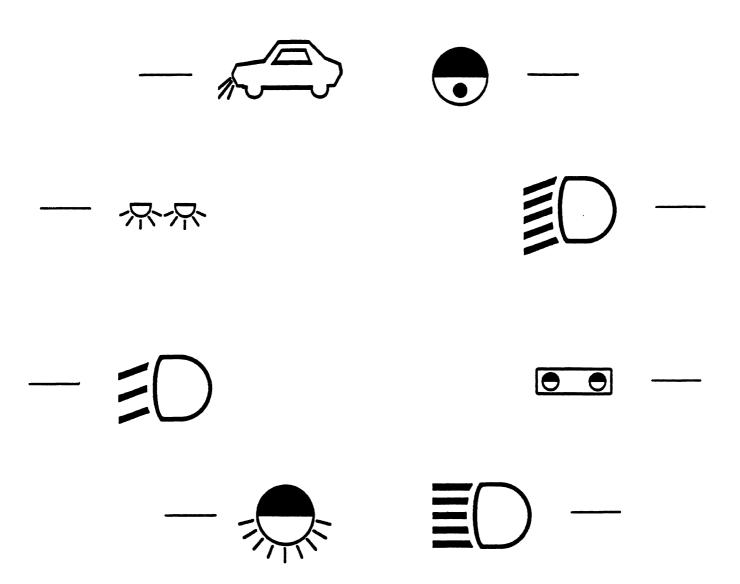
HORN

Suppose you are stopped at a red traffic light and the light has just turned green. The car in front of you does not move, so you want to honk your horn. The symbols shown below might be used to label the <u>horn</u> control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



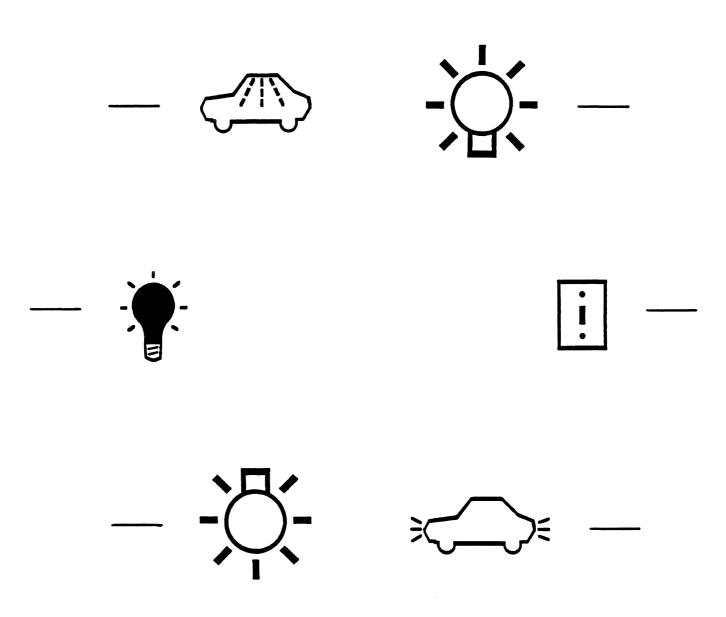
LOW BEAM HEADLIGHTS

As you are driving, you want to turn on your car's low beam headlights (normal driving lights). The symbols shown below might be used to label the <u>low beam headlight</u> control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



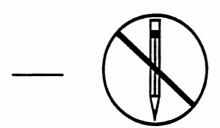
MASTER LIGHTING SWITCH

Suppose that all of the controls for your car's headlights and instrument lights were located on one switch with various different positions. The symbols shown below might be used to label the <u>master lighting switch</u>. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



UNLEADED FUEL ONLY

As you are about to fill your car's fuel tank, you find it will only take unleaded fuel. The symbols below might be used to label the <u>unleaded fuel only</u> display. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 5 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.





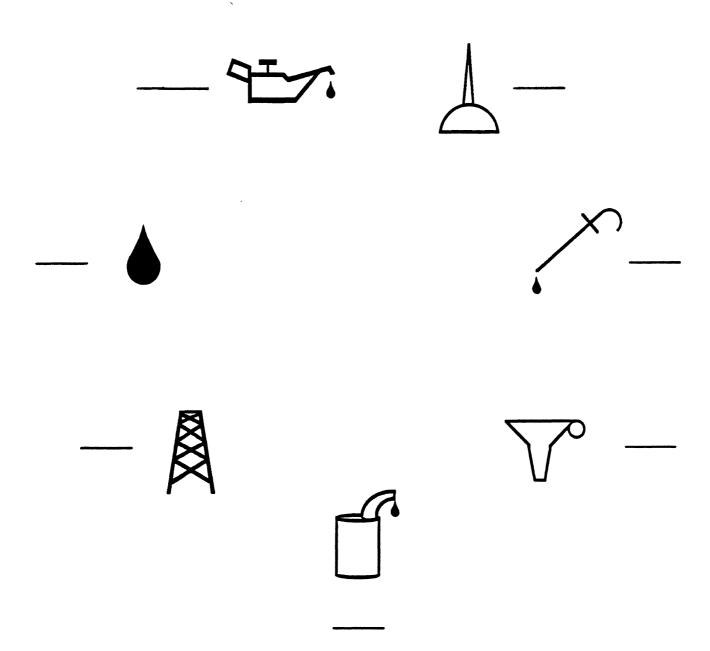






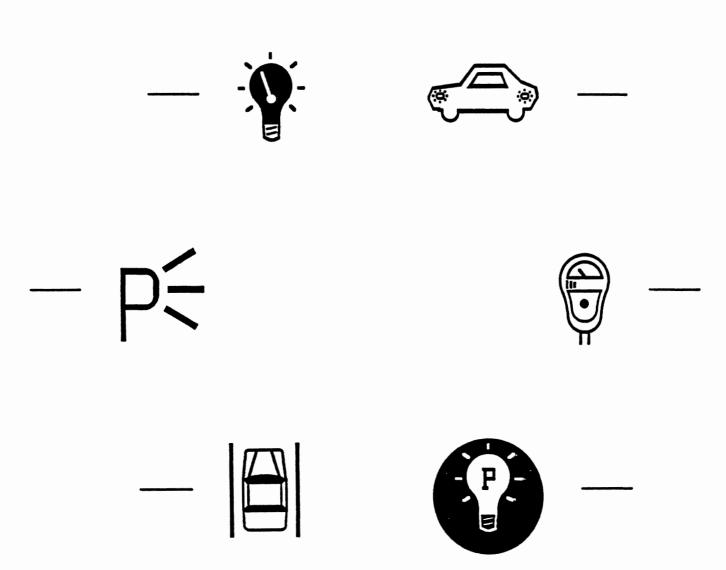
OIL

Suppose that when you are driving the oil light on your dash comes on. The symbols below might be used to label the oil display. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 7 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



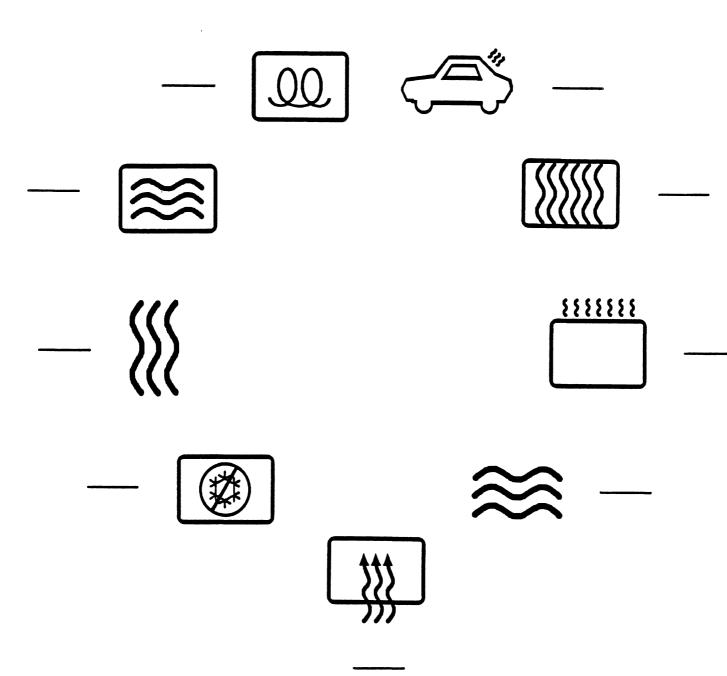
PARKING LIGHTS

Suppose you want to turn on your parking lights. The symbols shown below might be used to label the parking light control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 6 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



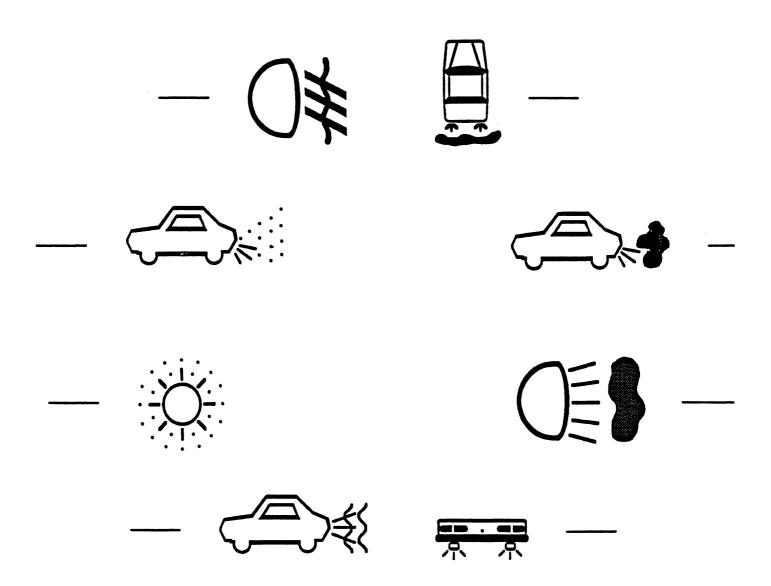
REAR DEFROST

Suppose it's a cold morning and there is a build-up of frost on the rear windshield. The symbols shown below might be used to label the rear defrost control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 9 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



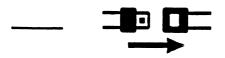
REAR FOG LIGHTS

Imagine you are driving on the highway in a dense fog and want to turn on your rear fog lights to avoid being struck from behind. The symbols shown below might be used to label the rear fog light control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you. You may not have seen rear fog lights before, but they are currently available on some european cars.



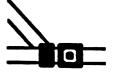
SEATBELT

As you turn on the ignition of your car, you notice the seatbelt symbol lit on the car's dashboard. The symbols below might be used to label the seatbelt display. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 5 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.





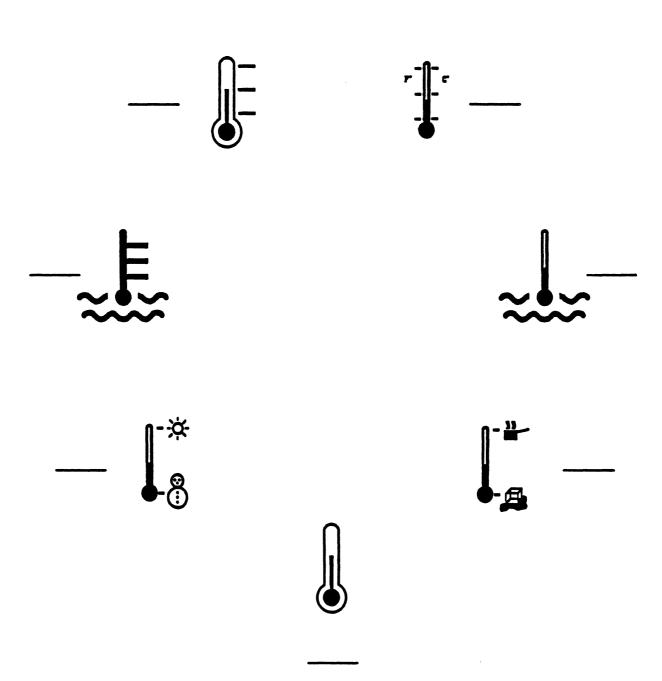






TEMPERATURE

As you are driving, you glance at the temperature gauge to see if your car's engine is overheating. The symbols below might be used to label the temperature display. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 7 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.

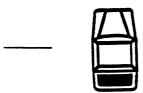


TRUNK

Suppose you want to open your car trunk from inside of the car. The symbols below might be used to label the trunk release control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 4 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



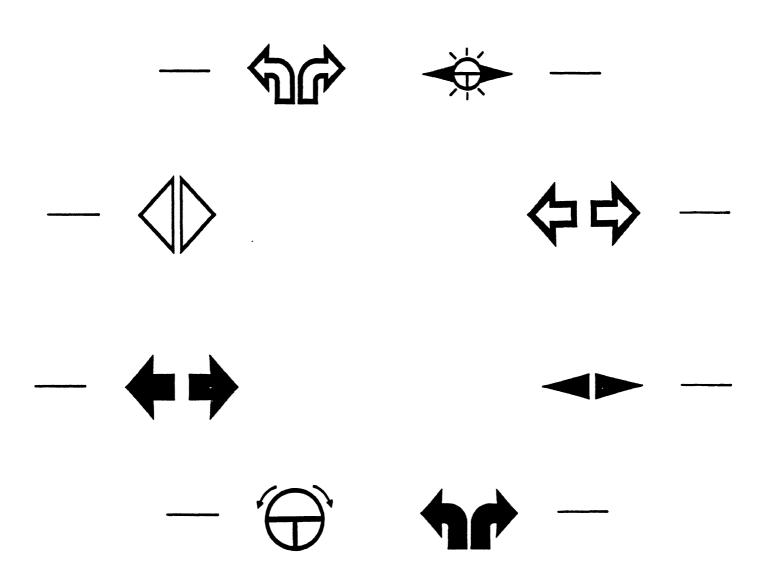






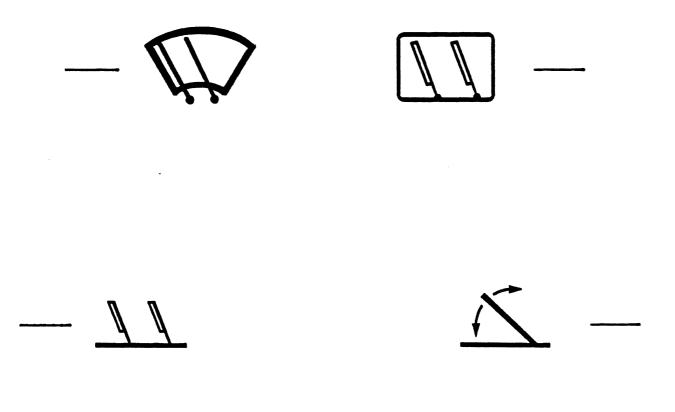
TURN SIGNALS

Suppose your car is approaching a corner at which you would like to turn (left or right). The symbols shown below might be used to label the turn signal control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



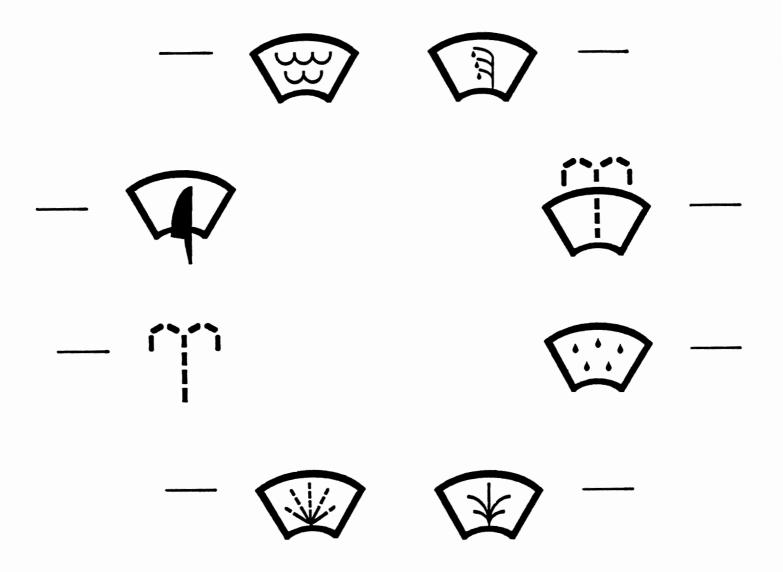
WINDSHIELD WIPER

As you are driving, it begins to rain. The symbols shown below might be used to label the windshield wiper control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 5 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



WINDSHIELD WASHER

Suppose that you are driving in a light rain and your windshield is becoming smeared with dirt and oil from the road. The symbols shown below might be used to label the windshield washer control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.



WINDSHIELD WASHER/WIPER

Suppose you are driving on a dusty road and want to clean the windshield of your car. The symbols shown below might be used to label the windshield washer/wiper control. Rank these symbols from 1 (best) to 8 (worst) in the order of their meaningfulness to you.

