

2.2 Heimlich Manoeuvre

Definition of Heimlich Manoeuvre

The is an emergency procedure that is carried out to save an individual who is . Choking is a situation that happens when the respiratory tract is because of food or a foreign object.

The Heimlich Manoeuvre must be performed if you find someone who is experiencing the following situations:

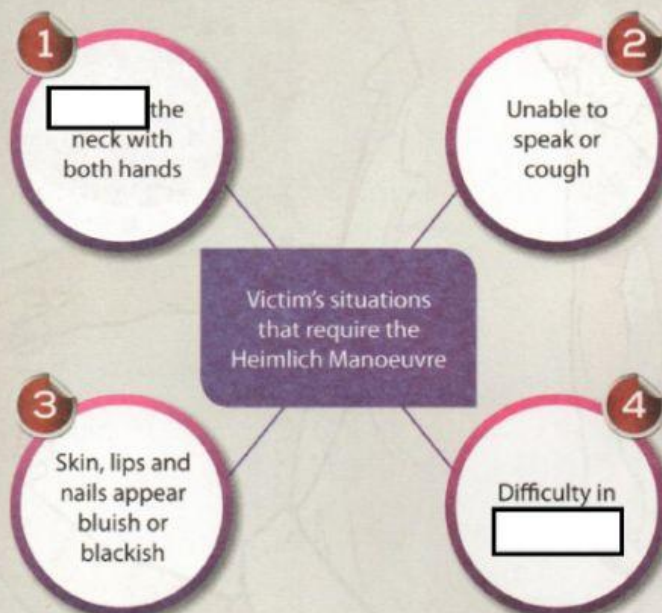


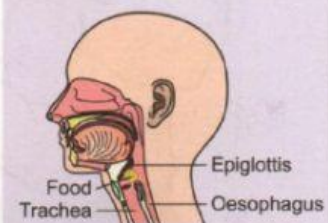
Figure 2.4 Victim's situations that require the Heimlich Manoeuvre

History Corner

In 1974, Dr. Henry Heimlich, a thoracic specialist surgeon, invented the Heimlich Manoeuvre.

Science Gallery

How does someone get choked?



When someone swallows food, the epiglottis folds and blocks the respiratory tract (trachea). Food continues to move into the oesophagus heading to the stomach. If food blocks the respiratory tract, the person will **choke**.

The Importance of the Heimlich Manoeuvre

As you already know, the and brain always need . Oxygen is obtained from the air and inhaled into the human lungs. It is then absorbed into all the cells of the human body, including the brain. However, when someone is choking, the is blocked and prevents oxygen from reaching the lungs. This will provide insufficient oxygen to the brain. If the emergency help is given too late, the victim can experience or worse, it will result in death.