

the cylinder head is made of aluminum, which is soft and easily damaged, insert the plugs into the head by hand.

**Since the plugs are quite recessed, slip a short length of hose over the end of the plug to use as a tool to push it into place. The hose will grip the plug well enough to turn it, but will slip if the plug begins to cross-thread in the hole - this will prevent damaged threads and the accompanying repair costs.**

When the plugs are finger tight, the job can be finished with a socket. Refer to this chapter's Specifications for the correct torque. Do not over-tighten them. Reconnect the spark plug caps.

## Valve clearances - check and adjustment

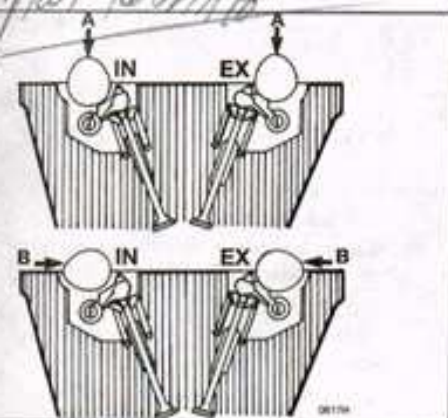
The engine must be completely cool for this procedure, so let the machine sit overnight before beginning.

Remove the spark plugs (see Section 4). Remove the valve cover (see Chapter 2). Remove the cover from the signal generator (see Chapter 2).

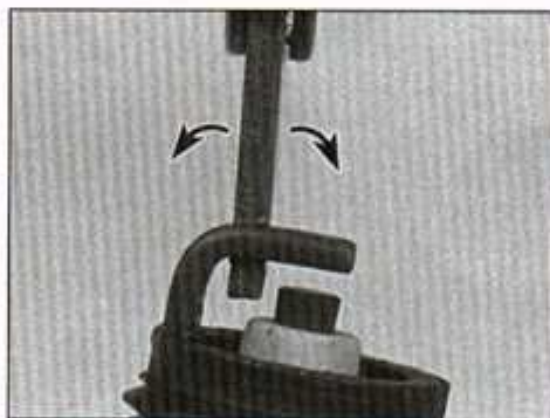
Turn the crankshaft with a box wrench or on the large hex of the signal generator until a T mark on the rotor is aligned with the T mark on the pickup coil (see illustration).

**Warning: DO NOT use the signal generator bolt to turn the crankshaft - it may strip out. Also be sure to turn the engine in its normal direction of rotation.**

The notches in the ends of the camshafts should now be pointing away from each other and aligned with the gasket mating surface on the cylinder head (see illustration). Also check the position of the no. 1 cylinder cam - they should be in one of the



Acceptable cam lobe positions for valve adjustment (screw-type valve adjusters)



4.7b To change the gap, bend the side electrode only, as indicated by the arrows, and be very careful not to crack or chip the ceramic insulator surrounding the center electrode

acceptable positions for valve adjustment (see illustrations). If the camshafts aren't positioned correctly, rotate the engine one full turn more, so the signal generator T mark and timing mark again line up. The camshafts should now be positioned correctly.

7 With the engine in this position, the following valves can be checked:

- a) No. 1, intake and exhaust
- b) No. 2, exhaust
- c) No. 3, intake

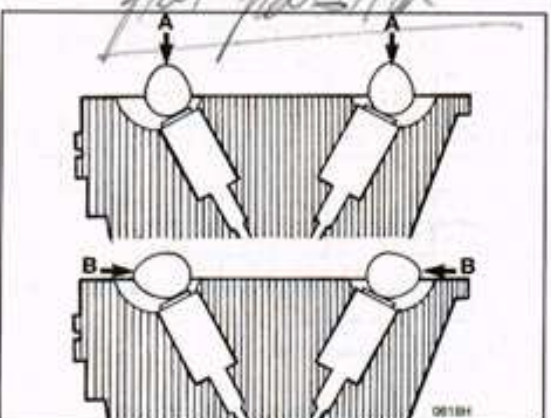
## Screw-type valve adjusters

8 Start with the no. 1 intake valve clearance. Insert a feeler gauge of the thickness listed in this Chapter's Specifications between each valve stem and cam lobe adjuster screw (see illustration). Pull the feeler gauge out slowly - you should feel a slight drag. If there's no drag, the clearance is too loose. If there's a heavy drag, the clearance is too tight.

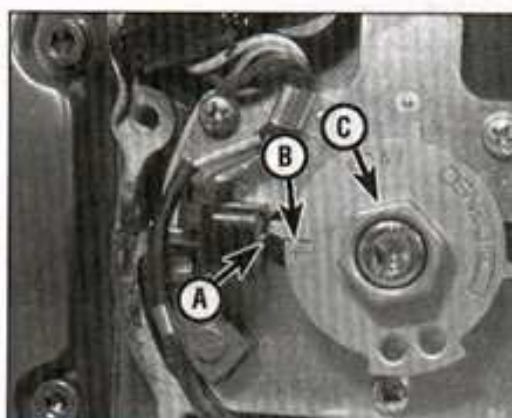
9 If the clearance is incorrect, loosen the adjuster screw locknut with a box wrench (see illustration 5.8) and turn the adjuster screw in or out as needed.

10 Hold the adjuster screw with the box wrench (to keep it from turning) and tighten the locknut. Recheck the clearance to make sure it hasn't changed.

11 Now adjust the remaining valves listed in



5.6c Acceptable cam lobe positions for valve adjustment (shim-type valve adjusters)

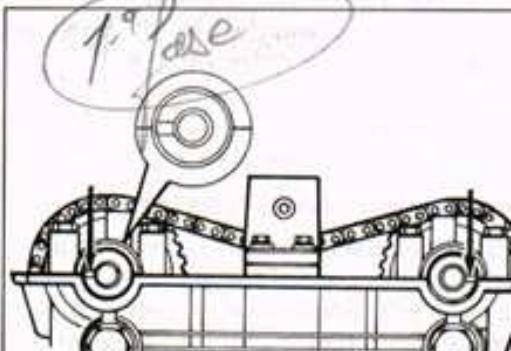


5.5 Turn the engine in its normal direction of rotation until the T mark and pickup coil protrusion align

A Pickup coil protrusion

B T mark

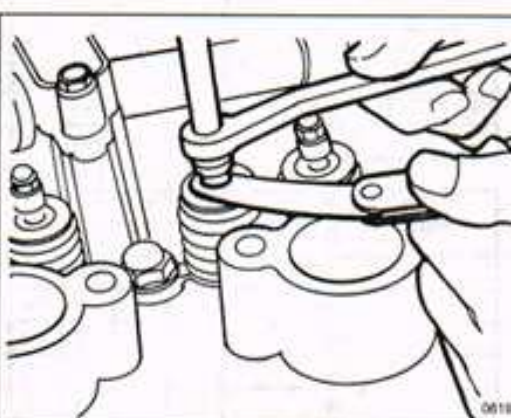
C Use this hex to turn the engine - DO NOT use the Allen bolt in the center of the head



5.5a When correctly positioned for the first stage of valve adjustment, the camshaft notches should point away from each other - if they don't, turn the engine another full turn

Step 7, following the same procedure used for the No. 1 cylinder valves. Make sure to use a feeler gauge of the specified thickness.

12 Rotate the crankshaft one full turn and again align the T mark on the rotor with the protrusion on the pickup coil (see illustration).



5.8 Loosen the locknut with a box wrench and turn the adjusting screw with a screwdriver to change the clearance (screw-type valve adjusters)

Start with the no. 1 intake valve clearance. Insert a feeler gauge of the thickness listed in Chapter's Specifications between each stem and rocker arm (**see illustration**). Turn the feeler gauge out slowly - you should feel a slight drag. If there's no drag, the



**17** Rotate the crankshaft one full turn and again align the T mark on the rotor with the protrusion on the pickup coil (see illustration 5.5). The notches in the ends of the camshafts should now point toward each other (see illustration 5.12).



**20** Select new valve shims to correct clearances on any valves not within Specifications. To do this, compare clearance you've measured with the fit shim thickness using the selection charts for intake and exhaust valves (**see illustration**).

### 5.20a Intake valve shim selection chart

		Optional shims				These shims are available as a set.																									
MEASURED CLEARANCE (mm)	SUFFIX NO.	230	235	240	245	250	255	260	265	270	275	280	285	290	295	300	305	310	315	320	325	330	335	340	345	350					
	PRESENT SHIM SIZE (mm)	2.30	2.35	2.40	2.45	2.50	2.550	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5					
0.00 - 0.04					2.30	2.35	2.40	2.45	2.50	2.550	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5		
0.05 - 0.09				2.30	2.35	2.40	2.45	2.50	2.550	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5			
0.10 - 0.14			2.30	2.35	2.40	2.45	2.50	2.550	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5				
0.15 - 0.25		SPECIFIED CLEARANCE/NO ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED																													
0.26 - 0.30		2.40	2.45	2.50	2.55	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5	3.5						
0.31 - 0.35		2.45	2.50	2.55	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5								
0.36 - 0.40		2.50	2.55	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5									
0.41 - 0.45		2.55	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5										
0.46 - 0.50		2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5											
0.51 - 0.55		2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5												
0.56 - 0.60		2.70	2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5													
0.61 - 0.65		2.75	2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5														
0.66 - 0.70		2.80	2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5															
0.71 - 0.75		2.85	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																
0.76 - 0.80		2.90	2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																	
0.81 - 0.85		2.95	3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																		
0.86 - 0.90		3.00	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																			
0.91 - 0.95		3.05	3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																				
0.96 - 1.00		3.10	3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																					
1.01 - 1.05		3.15	3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																						
1.06 - 1.10		3.2	3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																							
1.11 - 1.15		3.25	3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																								
1.16 - 1.20		3.3	3.35	3.4	3.45	3.5																									

HOW TO USE THIS CHART:

- Measure tappet clearance with engine cold.
- Measure present shim size.
- Match clearance in vertical column with present shim size in horizontal column.

EXAMPLE

Valve clearance is      0.27 mm  
Present shim size      2.90 mm  
Shim size to be used   3.00 mm

### 5.20b Exhaust valve shim selection chart

and take it to a Suzuki dealer to purchase new shims.

**It is worthwhile noting down all the valve shim thicknesses to save time and expense when the valve clearances are next adjusted; provided they are not worn or damaged, the shims can be moved to other locations.**

Install the new shim in the valve spring  
ner, then pry the rocker arm back into  
ion.



A compression gauge with a threaded end for the spark plug hole is preferred to the type that requires hand pressure to maintain the seal.

**22** Recheck the valve clearance as described in Steps 14 and 15.

**23** Replace shims as needed for the remaining valves.

**24** Rotate the engine to the position described in Step 17.

**25** Replace shims as needed and recheck clearance on the valves listed in Step 18.

### All models

**26** Install the valve cover and all of the components that had to be removed to get it off.

## 6 Cylinder compression - check

**1** Among other things, poor engine performance may be caused by leaking valves, incorrect valve clearances, a leaking head gasket, or worn pistons, rings and/or cylinder walls. A cylinder compression check will help pinpoint these conditions and can also indicate the presence of excessive carbon deposits in the cylinder heads.

**2** The only tools required are a compression gauge and a spark plug wrench. Depending on the outcome of the initial test, a squirt-type oil can may also be needed.

**3** Start the engine and allow it to reach normal operating temperature. Place the motorcycle on the centerstand or sidestand.

remove the fuel tank, then remove the plugs (see Section 4, if necessary). carefully - don't strip the spark plug threads and don't burn your hands.

**4** Disable the ignition by unplugging primary wires from the coils (see Chap. 4). Be sure to mark the locations of the wires before detaching them.

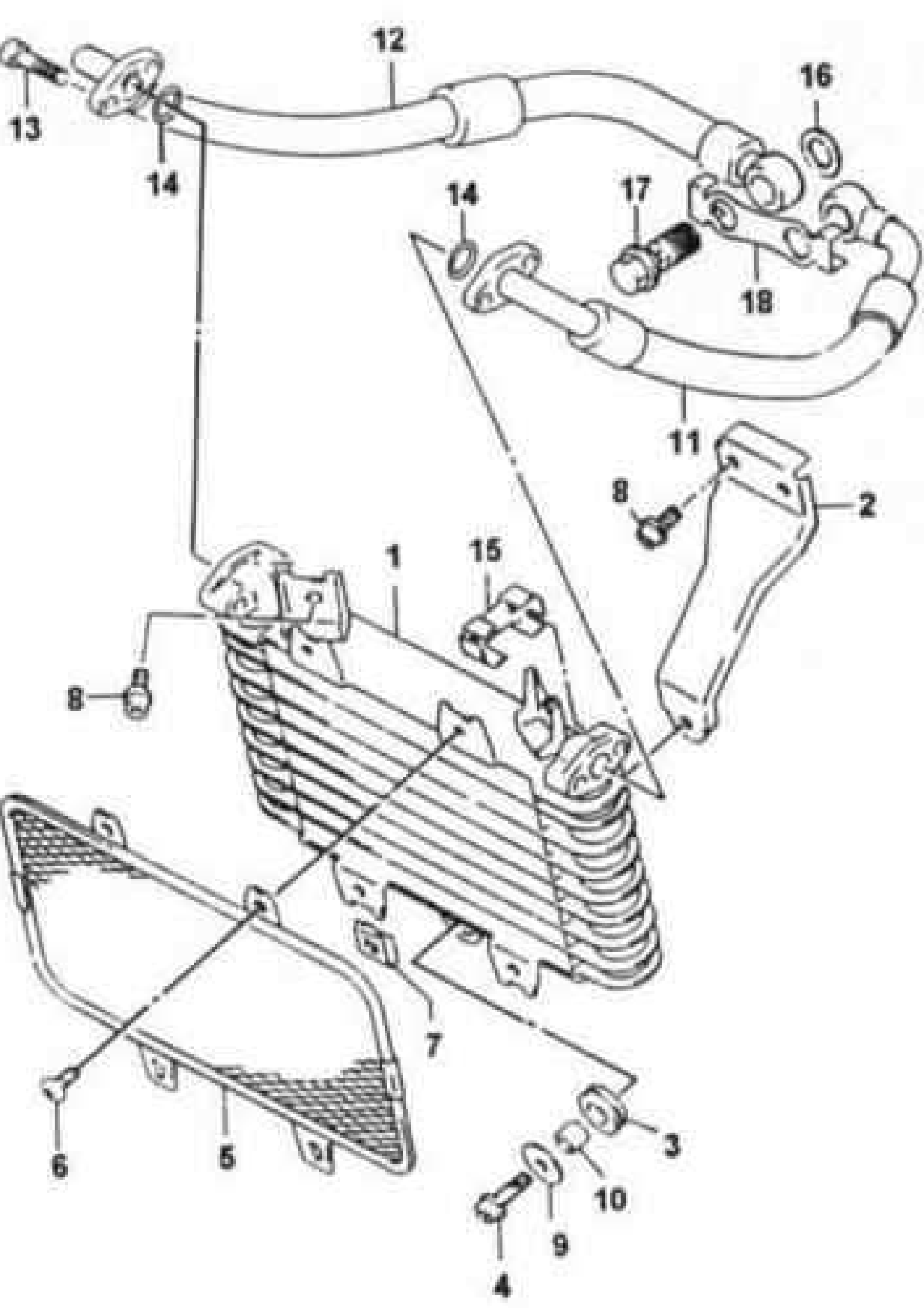
**5** Install the compression gauge in one spark plug holes (**see illustration**). Hold block the throttle wide open.

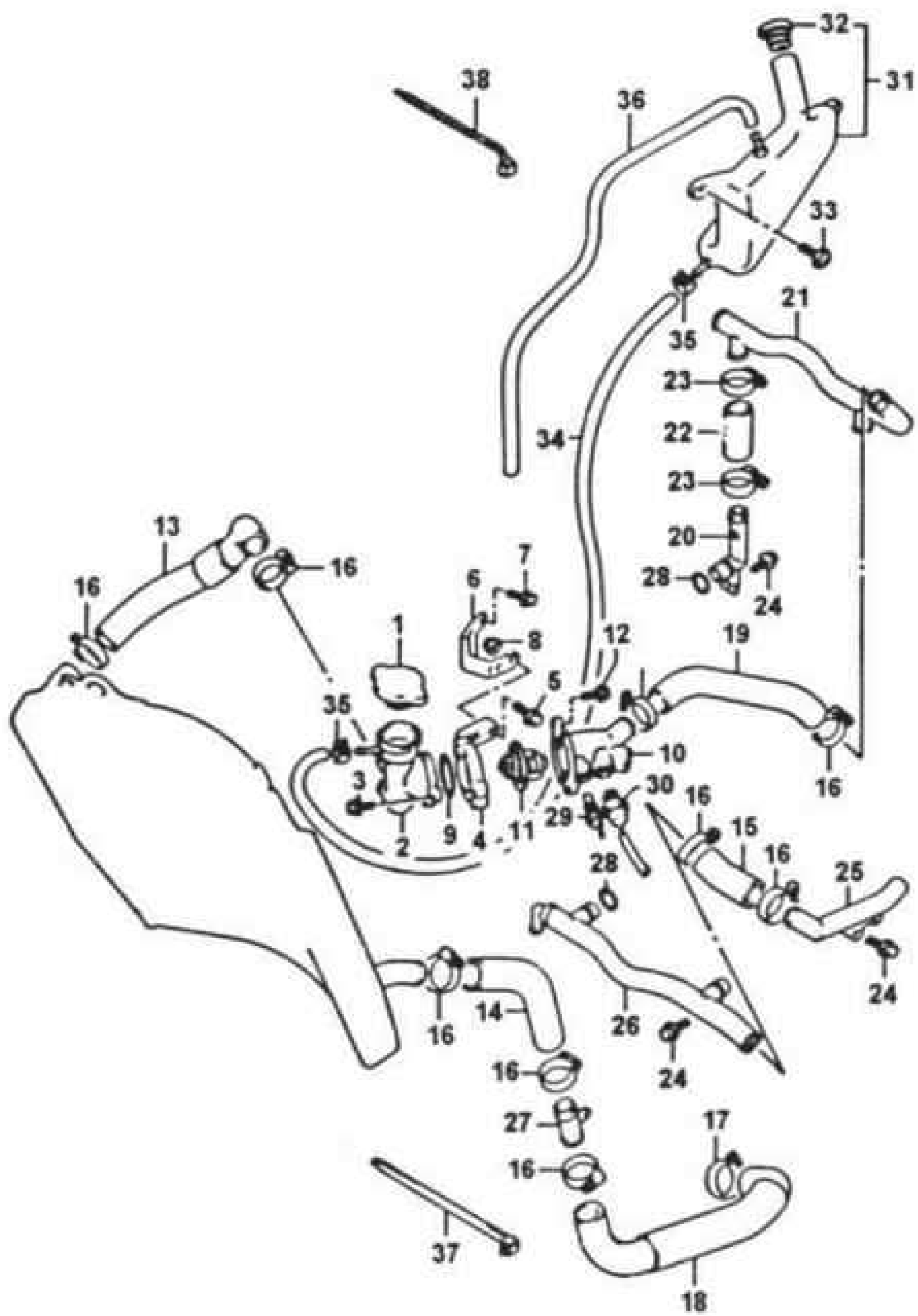
6 Crank the engine over a minimum of five revolutions (or until the gauge stops increasing) and observe the movement of the compression gauge as well as the final total gauge reading. Repeat the procedure for the other cylinders and compare the results to the value listed in this Chapter's Specifications.

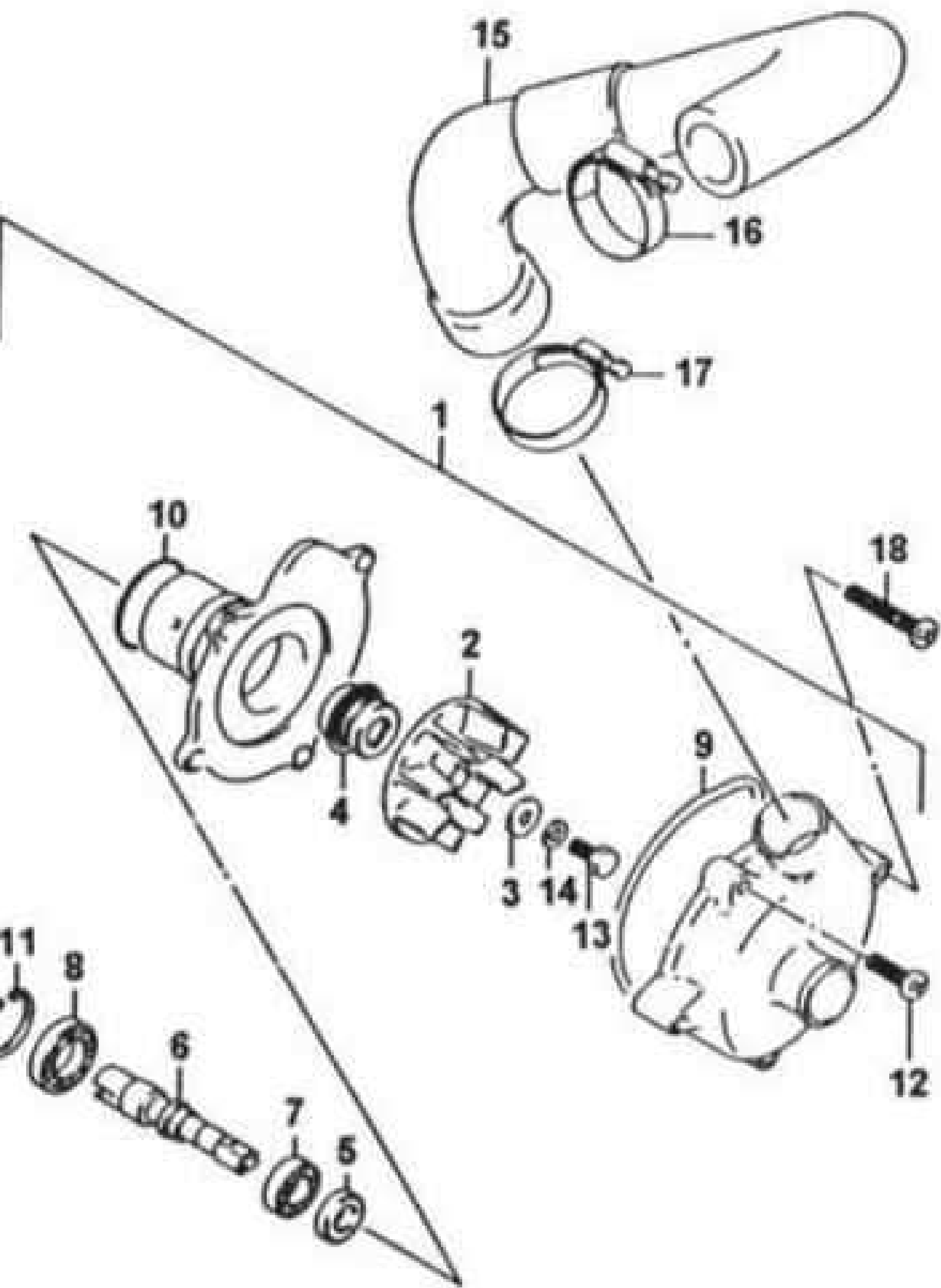
7 If the compression in both cylinders builds up quickly and evenly to the specified amount, you can assume the engine upper end is in reasonably good mechanical condition.

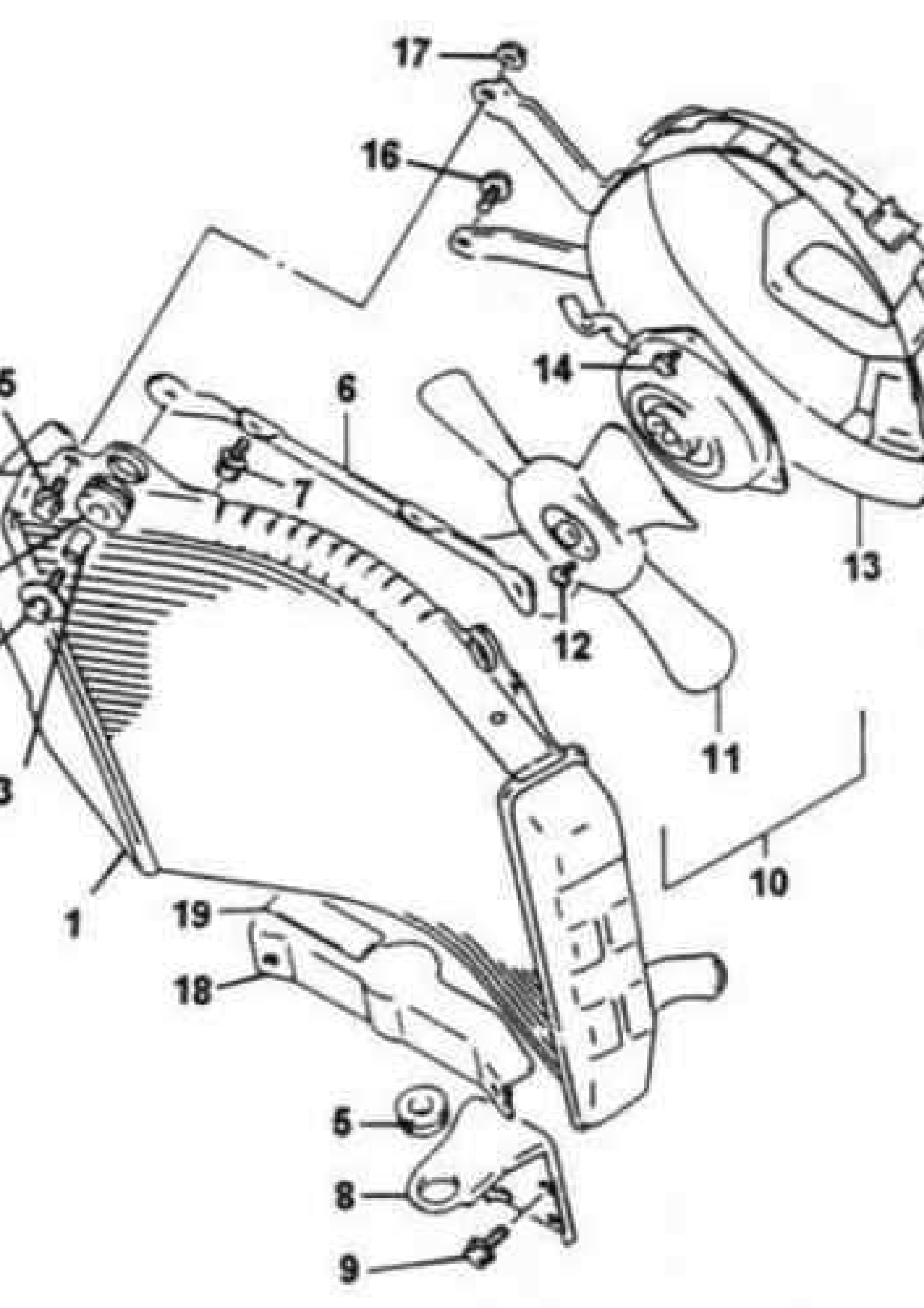
or sticking piston rings and worn cylinders produce very little initial movement of the gauge needle, but compression will tend to build up gradually as the engine spins. Valve and valve seat leakage, or head gasket leakage, is indicated by low compression which does not tend to build up.

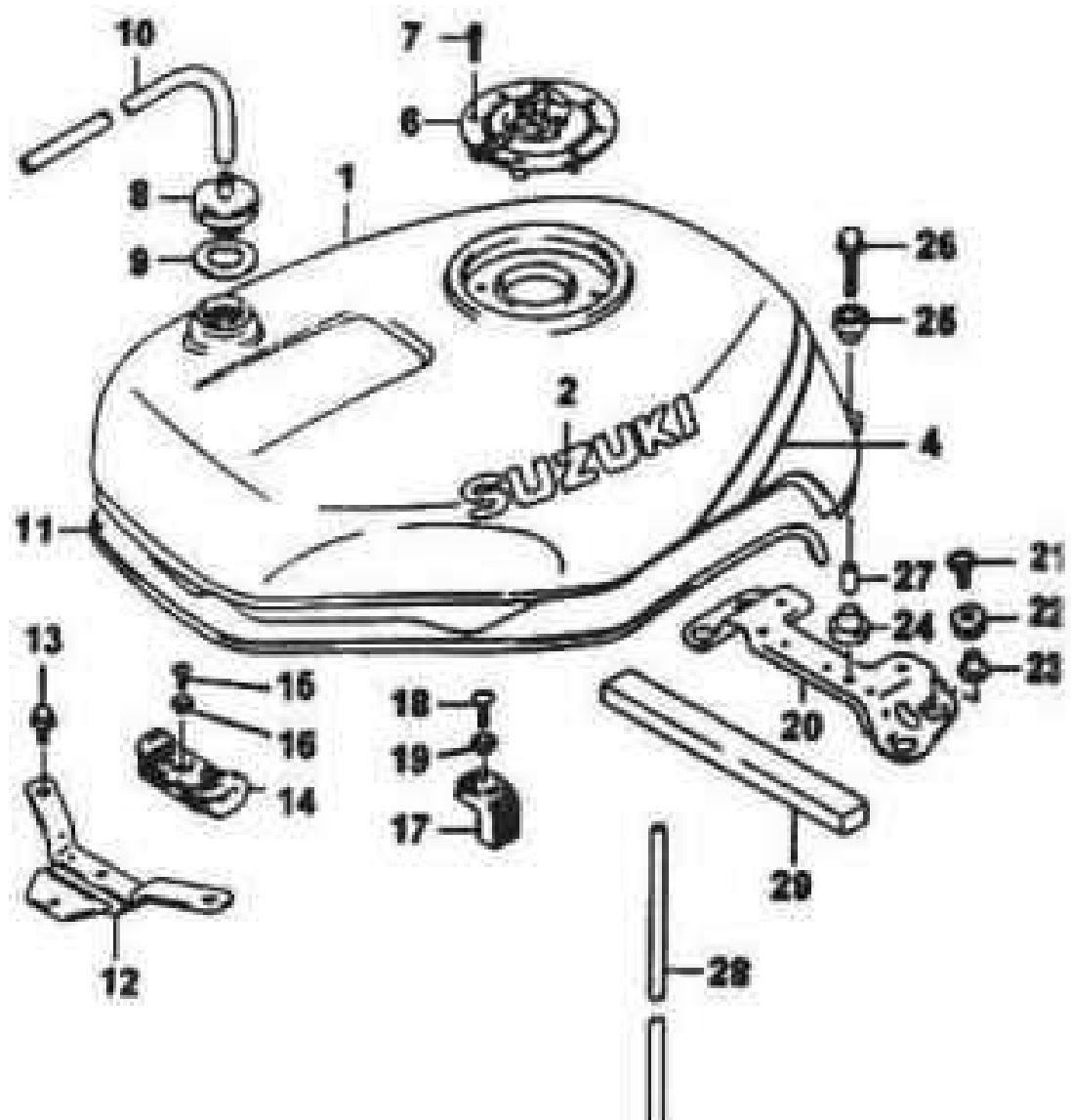
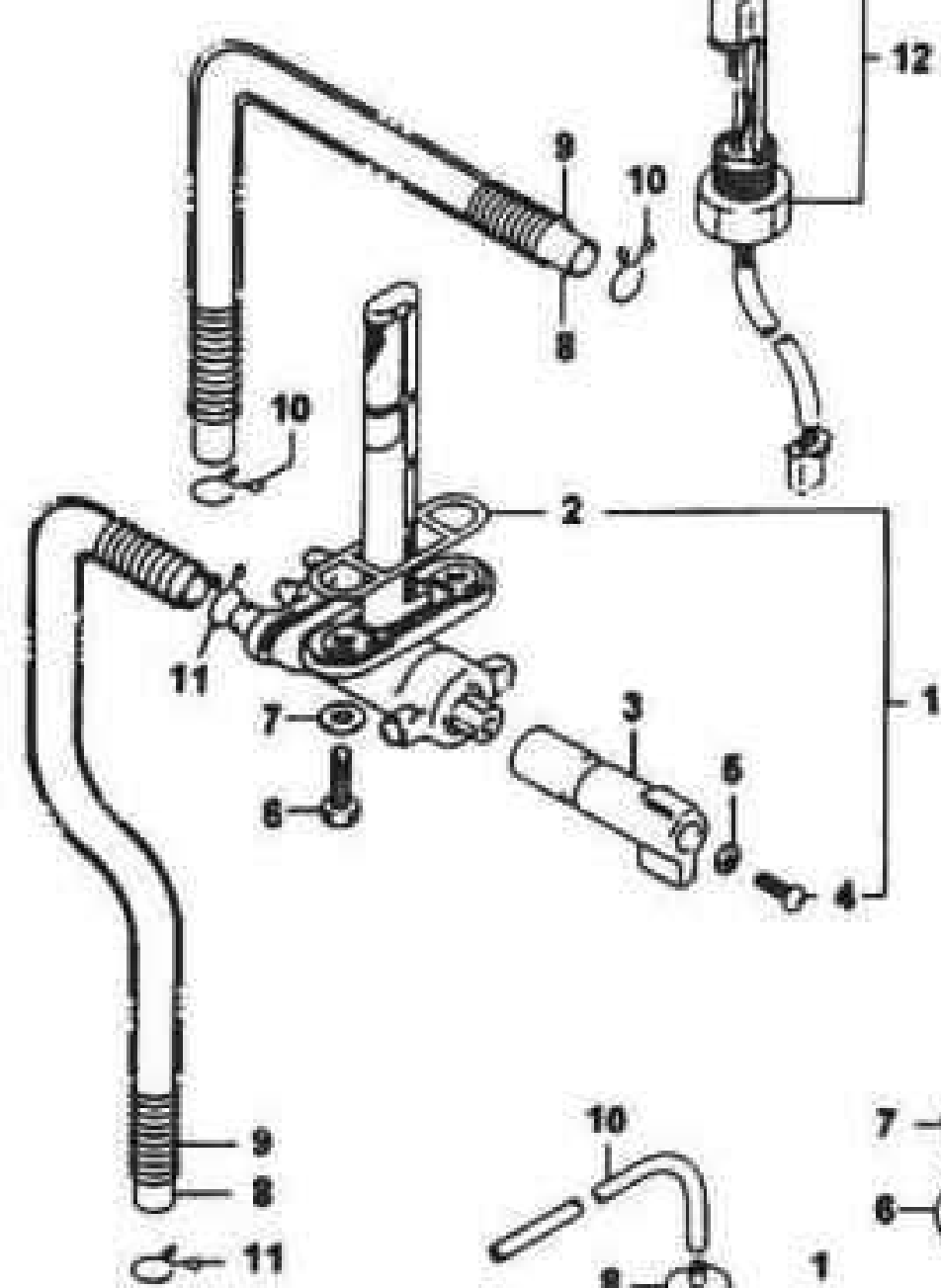
**8** To further confirm your findings, add a small amount of engine oil to each cylinder by inserting the nozzle of a squirt-type oil can through the spark plug holes. The oil will

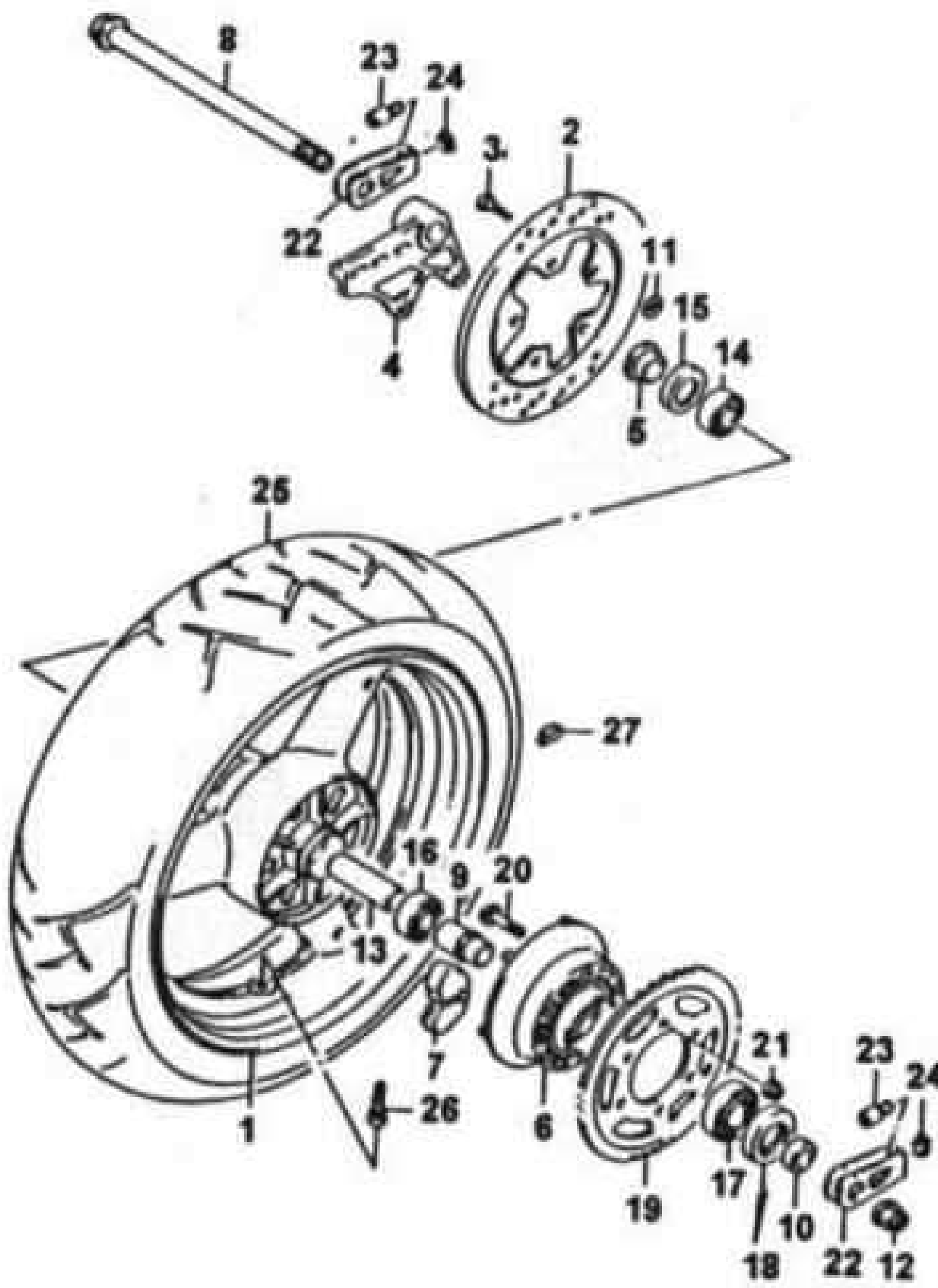


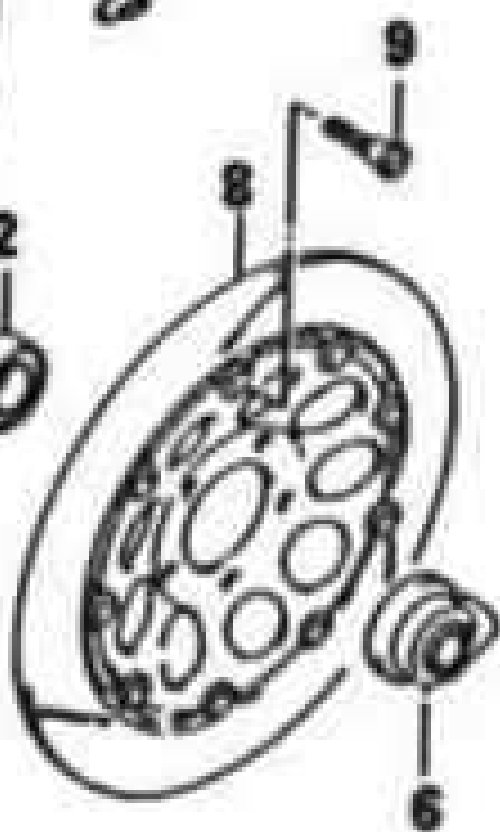
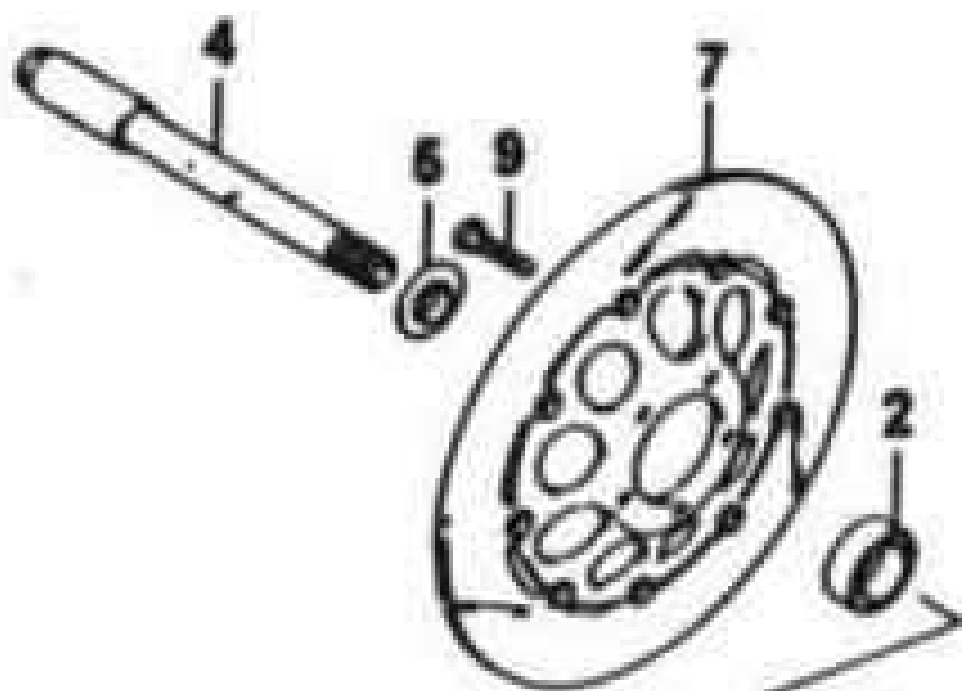












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