

# Unit 9: Danger

## The Body

In a three-paragraph text, the second paragraph is the body paragraph.

**A** Read the following body paragraph from a student's text and then answer the questions below.

The man my grandmother had warned me about appeared to be homeless. He was thin and looked like he needed a bath. He was usually sitting quietly somewhere along the route between my grandmother's house and the store, and I understood the problem—if he was, in fact, a madman, there was no way to get very far from him; the fences and walls on one side and the canal on the other formed only a narrow walkway. The highway, however, seemed more dangerous to me, so I walked by the man without making eye contact. A few days before I left Thailand, I decided to look at the man. He smiled and nodded, so I smiled and nodded back. The next day, I said, “good morning,” as I walked by. He said, “good morning,” back. On my last day in Thailand, I brought “the madman” a gift. It was a colorful cloth that Thai men use in several ways—as a towel, as a kind of skirt, and maybe even as a pillow if they sleep outside. He gave me a smile and said, “thank you.” He continued sitting, like the holy men in the Thai monasteries, and I continued on my way, never once attacked by any madmen.

1. What is the topic of the first sentence in the body paragraph? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What details does the writer give about the man, the place, and the events? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Does the last sentence in the body paragraph seem like the end of the story? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What do you think the next paragraph will be about? Talk with a partner about what might be in the third paragraph of this text.

**B** Read the information about what a body paragraph usually contains. Then find examples of the information in the text in **A**.

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|--------------------|---|
| A topic sentence   | This reminds readers about the topic or main idea of the text.  |
| Supporting details | These details are the important information in the text.  |
| An ending          | A body paragraph often ends with a mini-conclusion, which makes the paragraph seem finished and complete. |

**C** Look again at the introduction you wrote for Unit 8. Write a body paragraph for your text in your notebook.