

to enter freeway traffic effortlessly. I also enjoy the **cruise control** out on the highway for my long drives from home to school. Last week, I discovered the benefits of the **anti-lock brakes** when I had to avoid a fender bender ahead. My old car's brakes would have locked up, and I would have skidded into that huge truck in my path. Instead, the van's brakes didn't grab, so I kept control and was able to maneuver around the crack-up. Probably the feature of my new van that I appreciate most often is the **fuel economy** because I'm not spending any more on fuel than I was on my old heap. The power and economy of my new minivan are an exceptional combination.

My son just informed me that he volunteered me to drive half his scout troop to its jamboree in our new van, which he has nicknamed Miss Betty, and he gave me a big hug. Outside sits the best gift I've ever received and one of the most important tools for a parent like me. My sleek new minivan is stylish and convenient outside, safe and comfortable inside, and powerful and economical on the road. Miss Betty is the best vehicle I could ever drive as a parent.

- A. Six cylinders for power
- B. Cruise control
- C. Anti-lock brakes
- D. Fuel economy

## The Conclusions in the Body Paragraphs

Body paragraphs may end with a strong supporting detail or may end with a conclusion that sums up the ideas presented in the paragraph. The necessity for a conclusion, or summary statement, depends on the length and complexity of the paragraph. If a paragraph is short or the main idea of the paragraph is simple, a conclusion may not be needed.

## Transitions Within and Between Body Paragraphs

Effective body paragraphs use **transitions within** paragraphs to create coherence.

“ Because I had three primary supporting details in this paragraph, I signaled the move to each major supporting idea with the transitions *first*, *second*, and *last but not least*. Within the first supporting idea, I showed the relationship between the sentences with *for example* and *in addition*. ”

Reading the daily news makes us better citizens by informing us about what is happening in the world around us. **First**, the international news alerts us to developments around the world that may have profound consequences. **For example**, when another country tests a nuclear weapon or a region erupts in violence, the news may not be pleasant, but our understanding is crucial because such events affect all of us and perhaps even the future of the planet. **In addition**, our awareness of current events can get us involved in causes such as stopping the spread of nuclear weapons or righting the wrongs that create regional hatreds. **Second**, the national news keeps us in touch with events closer to home. We learn of political developments in Washington that

### Peer Example

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