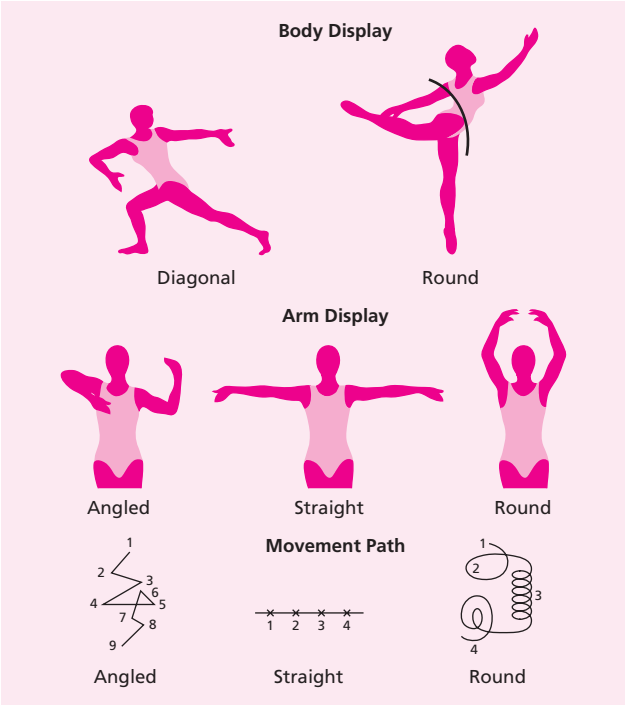
FIGURE 3.8

Ballet Movements and Poses That Vary According to Their Angularity and Roundness

A content analysis of 20 ballets revealed that circular poses and movements were used more by heroes than villains, but angular poses and movements were used more by villains than heroes. These findings are consistent with evidence that circular shapes communicate warmth and safety, but diagonal shapes communicate fear and danger.

Source: Aronoff, Woike, and Hyman (1992).