# UNIT OF STUDY

**Title:** Discovering Voice Through Detail  
**Subject/Course:** Pre AP English  
**Length:** 1 week  
**Grade:** 10  
**Designer:** Megan Harness  

### UNIT GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

**IMPORTANT CONCEPTS/UNDERSTANDINGS:**
- Detail is key in writing an interesting paper
- Great writers use detail to express voice and to make their stories interesting
- Detail includes specific facts, observations, reasons, examples, and incidents

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:**
- What does it mean to elaborate?
- What are sensory details?
- How do I add detail in my writing?
- How much detail should I add (how much is too much; how much is too little)?
- In which parts of my story should I go into more detail? How do I know?

**STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:**

- **W.4.10.4** Elaborate ideas clearly and accurately through word choice, vivid description, and selected information
- **W.7.10.8** Demonstrate voice in informal and formal writing
- **W.5.10.2** Write short stories that:
  - communicate the significance of the events and characters
  - specify scenes and incidents in specific places
  - describe using sensory details
  - pace time and mood
  - maintain consistency in point of view

**SPECIFIC DECLARATIVE KNOWLEDGE – What I know**
- Recognize vivid description in writing
- Analyze the way details impact a passage of literature
- Understand how to add detail in a way that is effective

**SPECIFIC PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE – What I need to do**
- Identify details that convey specific meaning within a passage of literature
- Decide on a focus for each writing topic; write details that help the reader better understand that topic.
- Create specific scenes and incidents using detail
- Describe using sensory details

### UNIT ASSESSMENTS

(include tasks related to Dimensions 3 and 4 and Bloom’s Taxonomy)

- A piece of writing that effectively uses sensory details to express voice and convey specific meaning
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Assessments:</th>
<th>Other Evidence of Learning:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Several detail lessons from voice books</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Short writing pieces that incorporate detail to vividly describe an item, event, person, or place</td>
<td>- Write a narrative essay that encompasses each aspect of voice taught thus far (half way through book)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITIES AND LEARNING EXPERIENCES</th>
<th>Resources</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Bell Ringer: What makes a story interesting to you? What keeps you interested?</td>
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<td>- Discuss detail—why it is necessary, what it is, how to identify it, how to incorporate it</td>
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<td>- Write a paragraph that speaks broadly of a place, person, event, etc., then follow steps to add more detail for a complete, vividly descriptive paragraph</td>
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<td>- Detail exercise from <em>The Chocolate War</em></td>
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<td>- Detail exercise from <em>My Name is Aram</em></td>
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<td>- During Lit Lab on Friday, write a short passage from your Lit Lab book that uses great detail and write about its effectiveness.</td>
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**Career Connections**

Writer, story teller, comedian, journalist, radio or television show host