

# Detail

## Consider:

How fine it is to enter some old town, walled and turreted, just at approach of nightfall, or to come to some straggling village, with the lights streaming through the surrounding gloom; and then, after inquiring for the best entertainment that the place affords, to “take one’s ease at one’s inn”!

— William Hazlitt, “On Going a Journey”

## Discuss:

1. What details support the generalization, *how fine it is*?
2. What feelings are evoked by the details of the town (*old, walled, turreted*)? How does this selection of detail communicate Hazlitt’s attitude toward the town?

## Apply:

Imagine going to a motel after a long day on the road. The motel is the only place to sleep in town, and the next town is 200 miles away. The motel is old and dirty; your room is shabby and dark. Plan a brief monologue which expresses your attitude toward this room. Include specific references to the details that both produce and reveal your attitude. Perform your monologue for the class.