**VIGNETTE NOTES**

**A vignette** is sketch or essay or brief narrative characterized by great precision and delicate accuracy of composition.  The term is borrowed from that used for unbordered but delicate decorative designs for a book, and it implies writing with comparable grace and economy.  It may be a separate whole or a portion of a larger work.   (551)   
--From A Handbook to Literature.  3rd. ed.  C. Hugh Holman

**A vignette** is a snapshot in words. It's different from flash fiction because you're not aiming to tell a story. The vignette focuses on one aspect, mood, character, setting or object. Use it as a descriptive exercise, for character exploration, wordplay or just to get something off your mind. ---By eHow Careers & Work Editor

**Vignettes** are short, impressionistic scenes that focus on one moment or give a trenchant impression about a character, an idea, or a setting. The vignette is not strictly linked in with a sequential plot development but establishes meaning through loose symbolic or linguistic connection to other vignettes or scenes. Vignettes are the literary equivalent of a snapshot, often incomplete or fragmentary. The use of vignettes is suited to writing in which theme, image, emotion and character are more important than narrative. --From Wikipedia (modified)

**Elements of a Vignette**

**☐**Lots of figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification, hyperbole, etc.)

**☐**Lots of details (concrete **and** sensory)

**☐**Repetition

**☐**Run-ons, Fragments, Lists

**☐**Lots of Conjunctions

**☐**Dialogue (narrator & other characters)

**☐**No Quotes

**☐**Profound/Thought-Provoking Ending

**☐**Humor

**☐**Grammatical Errors (her/she)

**☐**Present Tense and 1st Person

**☐**Stream of Conscience

**☐**Differentiated Characters (They have their own characteristics)

**☐**Shares Internal Thoughts

**☐**Short in Length

**☐**Theme Evident (Message About Life)

**☐**Author’s Voice is Evident (Tone Evident)