**Book of Vignettes**

A vignette is a short, descriptive passage that evokes meaning through imagery instead of plot. You communicate your experience through little glimpses into your life. Think of it this way: you control the lens of a camera. By choosing what the camera focuses on, you get to create a sense of meaning.

Your book of vignettes will contain **six vignettes joined together by common thread**. Together, they should paint a picture of some aspect of your experience. Each vignette should be fairly short—probably less than a page. However, these vignettes should be rich in meaning. Work to choose words and details that convey a lot of information about your perspective and feelings. Figurative language (such as metaphors and similes) can help you communicate ideas in a creative and memorable way. Use *The House on Mango Street* as an example.

Your book of vignettes **should include a title page and a table of contents.** The book should be appealing in its presentation.

Due Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2015

Possible Topics

my identity

the house where I grew up

my junior high experience

my relationship with a sibling

my most important hobby

my childhood best friendship

lessons I learned from Grandma

overcoming a fear

discovering the truth about something

developing a talent

overcoming a challenge

etc., etc., etc.

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| Category | Superior: 10 | Good: 9-8 | Developing: 7-6 | Not Yet: 5 |
| Ideas  / 10 | Shows a superior level of creative insight into personal experience through careful selection and focus of descriptive images and memories. | Conveys personal experience through descriptive images and memories. Centers on a specific focus (is not about your entire life). | Describes personal experience, but does not have a clear central focus. | Does not meet the assignment. |
| Organization  / 10 | Presents a logical arrangement of events and creates unity among the events (recurring characters, phrases, images, etc.). | Presents a logical arrangement of events. | The events have been ordered, but a clear guiding principle of organization is not clear. | Lacks a clear sense of organization. |
| Style  (x2) =  / 20 | Uses well-chosen words that create a carefully-crafted mood.  Skillfully ues figurative language, such as metaphor and simile.  Succinct. Economic. Says a lot in a few words.  Is easy to read out loud. | Uses words that fit the mood of the story.  Uses occasional figurative language, such as metaphor and simile.  Is easy to read out loud. | Uses language clearly, but not always with style appropriate to the mood. | Uses language clumsily and awkwardly. |
| Conventions  / 10 | Overall appearance is impressive with a thoughtfully designed layout.  Use language that is polished and eloquent. If there are mistakes (spelling, punctuation, fragments) they have a purpose. | Polished layout (typed, cover page)  Has been proofread. If there are mistakes (spelling, punctuation, fragments) they have a purpose. | Occasional problems with layout or conventions cause distractions. | Sloppy or error-ridden work. |