

1 Print Your Vignette ~5 min

Come up to the printer and choose a vignette length: **Short** (under 200 words), **Medium** (200–300), or **Long** (over 300 words). Your printout includes: a content warning (where applicable), the vignette text, a full citation, a reflection question, and a QR code linking to a short lesson on place-writing.

2 Read & Reflect ~10 min

First: Read without a task

Read your vignette once without trying to analyze it. *Let the place arrive.* Notice what feels vivid, strange, or unsettling.

Then: Work on your reflection question

We won't collect your answer, but start thinking on the page. Annotate: underline, circle, question mark, highlight, write on the back of the receipt. *Make the receipt a working document.*

3 Analyze the Writing ~8 min

How does the writer make this place come alive? Use the **writing technique vocabulary** on the right as a starting point, and go beyond it if you find something it doesn't name.

4 Pair Up ~8 min

Find a partner. Discuss a couple of these:

1. Read aloud a sentence that struck you. What drew you to it?
2. Name one or two writing techniques you identified. Point to the exact moment in the text.
3. Is there anything your vignette does that the technique list doesn't capture? Try to describe what it's doing.

5 To the Board ~10 min

Refer to the **pattern cards** (a summary can be found on the right). Choose the pattern (or two) most relevant to your vignette, take a corresponding sticker, and tape your receipt to the board.

Then hang around and read a couple of vignettes your classmates have posted.

→ **After the Workshop**

Take an infographic (arguments place-writing makes available; summary on the right). Review it alongside the lesson on place-writing (QR-linked on your receipt). Is there anything you can apply to your first assignment?

ethnography.ca/vignetteprinter/lessons/lesson9

WRITING TECHNIQUE VOCABULARY

Sensory Detail

Smell, sound, texture, temperature, integrated into the scene's argument, not merely decorative atmosphere.

Temporal Layering

The present holds traces of the past through memory, objects, material decay, or embedded history.

Pacing & Movement

Sentence rhythm and sequencing enact the experience of moving through a place, not just describing it.

Juxtaposition

Two descriptions of the same place placed in proximity reveal it as contested, changed, or divided.

Object Ethnography

A specific object anchors the social meaning of a place.

7 PLACE-WRITING PATTERNS

- 01 The Perception Shift
- 02 Layered Temporality
- 03 Objects as Social Stories
- 04 Movement as Narrative Structure
- 05 Infrastructure as Argument
- 06 Place as Multiple
- 07 Differential Access

7 PLACE-BASED ARGUMENTS

- 01 Surface appearance doesn't exhaust meaning
- 02 Place is an accumulation of still-active histories
- 03 The objects that belong to a place serve as material evidence of structural forces, intimate histories, and contested claims
- 04 Places are felt through movement; their meanings unfold, shift, and accumulate as bodies move through them
- 05 Infrastructure materializes histories of power, belonging, and exclusion
- 06 Place is not a fixed entity with a single stable identity or meaning
- 07 Place is not experienced uniformly; it is differentially encountered through bodies