

# More About

## Writer:

What do you want to hear more about?

## Responder:

I want to know more about ...

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Doing MORE ABOUT for a draft lets the writer know what questions you have and what you're curious about. It's good for writers to know what readers want to know because often what we want to know are the things that will help us be convinced and satisfied. But just because you want to know more about something doesn't mean the writer has to put it in their draft. They still have to make decisions about which things are most important.

When you give a writer MORE ABOUT read the whole draft first. Afterwards, just write down whatever you want to know more about. It's okay if you also write a sentence or two to explain *why* you want to hear more about those things.

## It's Like:

More about is a lot like when your friend is telling you about a fender bender they saw on the way to school. You might ask "*What color was the car?*" because you're curious. The color of the car might not matter at all as far as your friend is concerned, but it's okay for you to be curious about it.

## Example:

"I want to know more about how the foster system works; when do kids enter, just as infants?"

I want to know more about where kids that age out live, do they have to get their own apartment? How do they make money? Are they on their own or still assisted in some way?

I want to know more about how you think we might help the young people aging out.

I want to know more about if there are different challenges in aging out in different areas. I mean, do young people have it easier aging out in, say, Ventura than Oakland?"

# Tutor Notes on More About

## The Writer Can:

I could write more about ...

## Watch out for:

*“I want to know more about your thesis.”* What the responder is getting at here (not knowing the purpose of the text overall) would probably be better served by giving a Sayback. MORE ABOUT should be about things you are interested in as a reader, not veiled advice based on some criterion you have in mind (i.e. *all essays need a thesis*).

## Background & Theory

Amplification, adding to a text, is the easiest kind of change for learning writers to make, probably because it's the simplest of all revision—once you decide where, just add a few sentences answering the reader's questions. Because of this, when asked what kind of response they would like, student writers will often *only* ask for More About and we, as readers, may need to reserve the right to respond with a different lens; if we are more puzzled about what an essay is even about, giving a More About response might help, but a Sayback would be a more straightforward way to start a conversation about that.