

## How the RooWriter design itself supports student motivation to put forth a best effort

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Recent science-based studies have newly identified three essential elements of true motivation:

- **Autonomy**     The desire to direct our own lives
- **Mastery**     The urge to get better at something that matters
- **Purpose**       The yearning to work in service of something larger than ourselves

The RooWriter Writing Assessment design reflects all three:

- **Autonomy**
  - Take online at any time, from anywhere, on any connected computer.
  - Provided with a large 72 hour window in which to complete an essay.
- **Mastery**
  - Receive two evaluations of each essay, with measurable indicators, and advice for improvement.
  - Receive a copy of each essay, with comments attached.
  - Provided with assistance as desired from the Writing Studio and other UMKC entities.
  - Can take the RooWriter repeatedly throughout a UMKC career.
- **Purpose**
  - Some Reading Packets will consist of documents addressing current social, political, or cultural problems or challenges of the local community and of an urban university like UMKC. So, a student's essay could contribute fresh ideas toward solutions of those problems or challenges.
  - If a student chooses any one of these Reading Packets, he or she will be given the opportunity to authorize that his or her essay be forwarded to an appropriate entity (such as the producer of the Reading Packet, the UMKC Office of Community and Public Affairs, etc.). If ideas from the essay are then used, the student will be informed, and his or her name and essay will be referenced.

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### Reference:

Pink, Daniel H, [Drive, The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us](#), Riverhead Books, NY, 2009.

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