**Argumentative Writing Prompt #1-**

**Novel: Walter Dean Myers’s Bad Boy**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Writing Situation:**

Stereotypes are notions about a person’s intentions or personality type prior to actually knowing that person. Stereotypes are also considered a type of prejudice. Walter Dean Myers, an African-American author, encounters racial struggles that influenced his life. Some common **stereotypes** include the saying that all Mexicans are illegal immigrants, Jews are all greedy, Asians are smart, and most African American men are affiliated with gangs. Many argue that this is unfair and a form of prejudice.

**Writing Assignment:**

Before you begin to write think about what your position is on stereotype. The impressions gained when one stereotypes are based on ideas about the person that generally have nothing to do with who they are. Write a letter to Walter’s friends stating your position with specific details, examples, and a counter argument to support your claim about this issue.