**Argumentative Writing Prompt #1-**

**Novel: Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird**

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

**Writing Situation:**

According to *Merriam-Webster’s School Dictionary*, prejudice is “a judgment or opinion formed before considering or without knowing the facts,” or, “*a favoring* or a *dislike* of something without grounds or before sufficient knowledge.” Prejudice occurs everyday in our homes, schools, and communities. Many argue that prejudice, or pre-judgment, is a negative characteristic of our society. However, others would argue that prejudice is a natural instinct, to either like or dislike.

**Writing Assignment:**

Before you begin to write, think about your position on prejudice. Write a letter to your local newspaper defending your opinion. Be sure to include your position, specific details, and a counter-argument to support your claim.