**8th Grade Argument Essay (NJSLS W.1, W.4, W.5, W.6)**

***Dear Martin,* Nic Stone**

**MP4**

*Dear Martin* has been banned from several school districts across several states. It has been banned both from the classroom (as a book taught to students) and from libraries to ensure students do not read it.

**Do you believe that *Dear Martin* should be banned from classrooms and libraries?**

**Task:**  Write an essay, in the form of a letter to the school board, library president and government officials, expressing your opinion on this issue using your experience with the text, peer opinions and your understanding of the civil rights movement and censorship to Explain why or why not the book should or should not be banned.

* Write an argument to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. Introduce claim, acknowledge and distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
* Support claim with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
* Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence. Establish and maintain a formal style.
* Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
* With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying
* Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.