

# Frankenstein

## Reading Guide



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

# Frankenstein Reading & Assignment Calendar

Pages	Assignment
<u>Finished by Friday the 7th</u> 9 to 24	
<u>Finished by Monday the 10th</u> 25 to 34	Questions: Letters 1-4, Chapters 1-2
<u>Finished by Tuesday the 11th</u> 35 to 46	
<u>Finished by Wednesday the 12th</u> 47 to 58	Questions: Chapters 3-6
<u>Finished by Thursday the 13th</u> 59 to 74	
<u>Finished by Friday the 14th</u> 75 to 86	Questions: Chapters 7-10
<u>Finished by Monday the 17th</u> 87 to 98	
<u>Finished by Tuesday the 18th</u> 99 to 116	Questions: Chapters 11-14
<u>Finished by Wednesday the 19th</u> 117 to 128	
<u>Finished by Thursday the 20th</u> 129 to 140	Questions: Chapters 15-18
<u>Finished by Friday the 21st</u> 141 to 156	
<u>Finished by January the 2nd</u> 157 to 170	Questions: Chapters 19-22
<u>Finished by January the 3rd</u> 171 to 186 (The End)	Questions: Chapters 23-24

# Frankenstein

## Pre-Reading Anticipation Guide

### Part I

For each of the statements below, determine whether you **agree** or **disagree**. You may only choose one! On the blank, write your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_ It would be awesome to be able to create life.

\_\_\_\_\_ There should be no boundaries on science.

\_\_\_\_\_ You should seek revenge when you have been wronged.

\_\_\_\_\_ It is easy to understand someone who is different from you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sometimes it is best to keep secrets.

\_\_\_\_\_ Monsters are scary and evil.

\_\_\_\_\_ People are kind by nature.

\_\_\_\_\_ There is some knowledge that is too dangerous to learn.

### Part II

Pick two of the statements above and expand on your answer. Why do you agree or disagree? Give examples and explanations that support your answer.

# Characters - Frankenstein

Victor Frankenstein –

The monster –

Robert Walton –

Alphonse Frankenstein –

Elizabeth –

Henry Clerval –

William Frankenstein –

Justine Moritz –

Caroline Beaufort –

Beaufort –

M. Krempe -

M. Waldman -

Ernest -

Mr. Kirwin -

Cornelius Agrippa -

Felix -

Safie -

Themes - Frankenstein

Dangerous Knowledge –



Monstrosity -

Nature -

Revenge -

# Frankenstein Powerpoint Notes

## *Prewriting*

In this box, write down what you already know (or think you know) about *Frankenstein*. Try to fill the whole box (but don't write really big!).

## *Key Facts*

Full Title: Frankenstein: The Modern Prometheus

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Genre: \_\_\_\_\_

Setting (Time): 1700's (Enlightenment)

Setting (Place): \_\_\_\_\_

Tone: \_\_\_\_\_

Protagonist: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Who Was Mary Shelley?***

- Born in 1797 to two leading intellectuals: Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin

Married Percy Shelley at the age of 16.

- At the \_\_\_\_\_ she wrote *Frankenstein: The Modern Prometheus*.
- *Frankenstein* is probably the greatest example of \_\_\_\_\_ in the novel form.

## ***Shelley's Tragedies***

- She gave birth to \_\_\_\_\_. 3 of them died in infancy
- Shelley lost her husband in a \_\_\_\_\_ after only 8 years of marriage
- Critics say that *Frankenstein* is greatly influenced by the ideas of \_\_\_\_\_

## ***What is Romanticism?***

- Romanticism is a reaction to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Science and Reason begin to replace \_\_\_\_\_.

## ***The Age of Reason (The Enlightenment)***

- Time Period: roughly 1700-1797
  - The Enlightenment, or the age of reason, is often closely linked with the \_\_\_\_\_,
- for both movements emphasized reason, science, and rationality





## ***What did the Romantics Believe?***

- Strong belief in many ideas, but we will focus on just 3.

### ***1) Natural World***

That the \_\_\_\_\_ should be studied.

That trying to control nature was dangerous.

That nature provides solace or \_\_\_\_\_.

In the novel, \_\_\_\_\_ attempt to conquer the sea and \_\_\_\_\_ scientific experiments reveal man's attempt to control or exploit the natural world

### ***2) The Individual***

Romanticism favored the idea of the Individual.

- The Romantics had a preoccupation with the genius, \_\_\_\_\_, and the exceptional figure.
- They focused on his passions and \_\_\_\_\_.
- They viewed the artist as a supremely individual creator, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and traditional procedures.
- They emphasized \_\_\_\_\_ as a gateway to the transcendental, leading to belief in...

### ***3) The Supernatural!!!***

Which leads us to: \_\_\_\_\_!

Devoted primarily to stories of horror, the fantastic, and the "darker" supernatural forces.

## ***The Gothic Novel***

- The Gothic novel took shape mostly in England from 1790 to 1830 and falls within the category of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Gothic novel is far from limited to this set time period, as it takes its roots from former \_\_\_\_\_ writing that dates back to the Middle Ages, and can still be found written today by writers such as \_\_\_\_\_.
- Gothic novel could be seen as a description of a \_\_\_\_\_.
- We experience this fallen world through all aspects of the novel: plot, \_\_\_\_\_, characterization, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- This leads us to the Gothic Hero...

## ***Gothic Archetypes***

- Gothic Hero: \_\_\_\_\_ either voluntarily or involuntarily
- Villain: epitome of evil, either by his (usually a man) own fall from grace, or by some implicit \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_, found in many Gothic tales, is the epitome of isolation as he wanders the earth in perpetual exile, usually a form of divine punishment

## ***Themes in the book***

### ***Dangerous Knowledge***

- Should we fool around with Nature?
- Are there laws (“God’s Laws”) that are \_\_\_\_\_?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Myth: He stole fire from the Gods for humans. He was punished for eternity by being tied to a rock and having a vulture \_\_\_\_\_.

### ***Monstrosity***

- \_\_\_\_\_ itself – Created through unnatural science
- \_\_\_\_\_ – Driven to monstrosity by his ambition

### ***Nature***

- Throughout the novel, pay attention to how the \_\_\_\_\_ are influenced by the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Also note Shelley’s long descriptions of the natural world. This is classic \_\_\_\_\_!

### ***Revenge***

Both Victor and the monster seek \_\_\_\_\_ against the other.

It becomes the driving force of their lives.

# Chapter Summaries

Chapter	Characters Involved	Summary of Main Events
Letters 1-4		
Chapter 1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		

<b>15</b>		
<b>16</b>		
<b>17</b>		
<b>18</b>		
<b>19</b>		
<b>20</b>		
<b>21</b>		
<b>22</b>		
<b>23</b>		
<b>24</b>		

# *Frankenstein Questions*

Complete these reading comprehension questions for each chapter as you are reading the novel. Answers must be in complete sentences unless instructed differently by a specific question.

## **Letters 1-4**

1. Who is writing **Letter 1** (and all the letters)? To whom is he writing and what is their relationship?
2. Where is **Robert Walton** when he writes Letter 1? Why is he there?
3. What does Walton want to do?
4. Why does the **man** picked up by the ship say he is there? What sort of person does he seem to be?
5. How much time has passed when Walton begins writing again? Why does the man agree to tell his story?



## Chapter 1

1. What is the man's background? Where is he from?
2. What is the story of the man's mother, **Caroline Beaufort**? How does he feel towards his parents?
3. Who is **Elizabeth Lavenza** and what is her story?

## Chapter 2

1. Who is **Henry Clerval** and what is his relation to **Victor**?
2. Who is **Cornelius Agrippa** and how does Victor find out about him? How does Victor's father respond, and how does Victor comment on that response?
3. What sort of science ("Natural Philosophy") is Victor learning from Agrippa, Paracelsus, and Albertus Magnus?

### Chapter 3

1. What happens to Victor's mother as a result of Elizabeth's scarlet fever?
2. Why does Victor's father send him to the university of Ingolstadt? How old is Victor then?
3. What does Victor learn from **M. Krempe**?
4. What does Victor learn from **M. Waldman**? How does Victor think of his older science as opposed to modern science?

### Chapter 4

1. How well does Victor progress during the next two years? What does he then become interested in, and what ultimately does he discover ?
2. Will Victor share his knowledge with Walton? Why or why not?
3. How does he go about creating a human being, and what does he expect as a result of this creation? How long does the task take and how does Victor change in the process?

## Chapter 5

1. Given all the mad doctor and monster movies we've seen, including perhaps versions of *Frankenstein*, what is unexpected about the description of the actual creation of life here? How much do we learn of the actual procedure?
2. How does Victor respond to the actual creation of life? What surprises him about the way the **creature** he has brought to life looks?
3. What does the creature do? How does Victor respond?
4. Whom does Victor meet arriving in a coach the next morning? What does Victor discover when they go to Victor's apartment?

## Chapter 6

1. What is waiting for Victor when he finally recovers? Who has nursed him during his illness?
2. Who is **Justine Moritz** and what is her story?
3. Who is **William** and how old is he?

## **Chapter 7**

1. What is waiting for Victor when he returns to his apartment? What news does his father have for him?
2. How long has Victor been away from home? What happens the night he returns to Geneva?
3. Whom does Victor see that night? What does Victor now believe happened to William?
4. Who has been identified as the murderer, and on what evidence ? Why doesn't Victor say anything about the real murderer?

## **Chapter 8**

1. What happens at Justine's trial?
2. The next day, why does Justine say she has confessed to the murder of William? How does Victor respond to Justine's situation and to Elizabeth's anguish?

## **Chapter 9**

1. How does Victor respond in the days after Justine's death? How have Elizabeth's views changed?
2. What journey does Victor undertake, and when? Where does he stay on the journey?

## **Chapter 10**

1. Whom does Victor see? How does he respond?
2. In this chapter we hear the creature speak for the first time. What does he say? Is this what we expect from the creature?
3. What does the creature ask of Victor?
4. Why has the creature caused the deaths of William and Justine? Is he as inherently evil and bloodthirsty as Victor has assumed?

## **Chapter 11**

1. What does the creature remember of his earliest days? How does he seem to be learning things? How well can the creature speak at this point of his existence?
2. How does the creature respond to his discovery of the fire? Why does he move?
3. What happens during his first encounters with people?
4. What does he learn about the people who live in the cottage? How does he feel toward them?

## **Chapter 12**

1. What is the condition of the family that the monster is watching? How does the creature manage to help them?
2. How does the creature learn language? Why might he have trouble learning words such as "good, dearest, unhappy"?
3. What things bother the creature when he thinks of discovering himself to the family? How does he respond to his own appearance when he sees it?

## Chapter 13

1. What is **Safie's** background? How does her language problem help the creature?
2. What does the creature learn from the book that **Felix** reads? How much of a monster can someone be who can say "but when I heard details of vice and bloodshed, my wonder ceased, and I turned away with disgust and loathing"?
3. What happens when the creature begins to think about himself ? How does he compare with the humans described in the book?

## Chapter 14

1. How did the De Lacey family come to be living in the cottage?
2. How did Safie come to find and join them?

## **Chapter 15**

1. What does the creature find in the woods?
2. What are the three books that the creature reads, and what does he learn from each?
3. What does the creature hope will happen when he talks to De Lacey? What actually happens?

## **Chapter 16**

1. What happens to the De Lacey family after the events of chapter 15? How does the creature respond, and what does he do to the cottage?
2. What event during the creature's travels confirms his hatred of humans?
3. What event happens when the creature is near Geneva? Who is the boy? Who is the woman?
4. When Victor visits the site of William's death in chapter 7, he says "I had turned loose into the world a depraved wretch, whose delight was in carnage and misery". After reading the creature's version of events, do you agree?



## **Chapter 17**

1. How does Victor at first respond to the creature's demand? What approach does the creature say he will take?
2. What does the creature say will happen if Victor creates a female for him?
3. What does Victor decide? What does the creature say he will do while Victor is at work?

## **Chapter 18**

1. Why does Victor's father think Victor might not want to marry Elizabeth?
2. Why does Victor want to visit England?

## **Chapter 19**

1. What are Clerval's plans for his career?
2. Where does Victor's journey end, and what does he plan to do there? Why is he afraid?

## **Chapter 20**

1. Why does Victor change his mind about creating the female? Who watches him as he destroys the female?
2. What does the Creature promise to do when it visits Victor? What does Victor understand that promise to mean?
3. What happens when Victor goes out in a boat to dispose of the female creature's remains? What happens when he lands?

## **Chapter 21**

1. Who is Mr. Kirwin and how does he treat Victor? What has happened to cause Victor's arrest?
2. Who has come to visit Victor when he wakes up?
3. What happens at Victor's trial?

## **Chapter 22**

1. What does Elizabeth say in her letter? How does Victor respond to her?
2. What are the marriage plans? How does Victor prepare for what he fears will happen?

## **Chapter 23**

1. Has Victor understood the Creature's promise correctly? What happens on Victor's wedding night?
2. What happens when Victor returns to Geneva? What happens to Victor's father?
3. What happens when Victor tries to get the authorities to help him hunt for the Creature?

## **Chapter 24**

1. What happens during Victor's pursuit of the Creature? Where to they go?
2. What does Victor ask Walton to do? What does he warn Walton about the Creature?
3. Why wouldn't Victor tell Walton the details about the creation?

4. How does Walton avoid the threat of a mutiny?

5. Why is Walton returning to England? What will Victor do?

6. Why has the Creature come to see Victor on the boat? How does the Creature explain what he has done? How does Walton respond to the Creature?

7. What will the Creature do next? How does he feel about it?

8. What happens to both Victor and the Creature at the end of the novel?