



All CMA incoming sophomores need to complete the following assignment prior to the start of the 2023-2024 school year. If possible, please obtain the pictured version of the Frankenstein novel. (All chapter and page #s correspond to this edition.) All questions are to be answered in complete sentences. Be sure to edit your work for grammar, spelling, and punctuation mistakes before turning it in. **Answers are to be hand-written, neatly on notebook paper.** When finished, please place them in a pocket folder with your first and last name on the front cover as well as on the pages. All students will be turning this in on the first full day of school. **If you have ENG II second semester, take your assignment to the front office on the first full day of school (Wednesday, August 9, 2023).**

### Letters 1-4

1. How did you feel reading it? What do you think was the mood of the novel? (look at the first sentence!)
2. The setting is not limited to just the geography or location of the novel, but it can also include the occupations of the main characters, the period in which the story takes place, and the mental and emotional conditions of the characters. Based on all of that, what is the setting of Frankenstein?
  - a.--geographical—
  - b.--occupational—
  - c.--time period—
  - d.--mental and emotional conditions—
  - e.--How do you feel the setting affects the tone?
3. Who is telling this story? Does it make a difference? It made a difference to Shelley—could she have started the novel with chapter 1?
4. Be on the lookout for similarities between Victor and Walton. What did you find?

5. Why is having a friend so important to Walton? What did he say about friendship before Victor arrived?
6. How does Walton, who is at the beginning of his quest, view the quest for knowledge/technology?
7. How does Victor view his quest for knowledge/technology at the beginning of his quest?
8. Are they similar?
9. How does Victor view his quest at the end?

### **Chapters 1-3**

Even though Victor is narrating the story, keep in mind that this entire story is being told in letters by Walton to his sister.

10. Think about the "Telephone Game". What does the telephone game tell us about trusting someone else to accurately convey another person's words? (This ambiguity is raised by the insertion of a frame narrative into the novel.)
11. How does Walton view Victor? How might Walton's view of Victor influence his "remembering" of what Victor says?
12. How do you view Victor? Why?
13. How does Victor describe his family?
14. What is the effect of his mother's death?
15. How does Victor view learning and education?
16. How does Walton, who is at the beginning of his quest, view the quest for knowledge/technology?
17. How does Victor view his quest for knowledge/technology at the beginning of his quest? Are they similar?
18. How does Victor view his quest at the end?

### **Chapters 4-5**

19. As you read the account of the creation, make a list of words or ideas that are repeated, emphasized, contrasted, etc.
20. Consider labor to mean not only “work” but is also related to childbirth. Are there any similarities between what Victor is doing and what occurs at childbirth? Are there any differences?
21. What do you make of Victor’s dream?

## **Chapters 6-7**

22. In Elizabeth’s letter there is a discussion of Republics verses Monarchies. Why? What does it say about the two, how does she compare them.
23. What effect does Elizabeth’s letter have on Victor? Why?
24. How does the setting reflect Victor’s mood?
25. Notice the change in setting from pg. 62-64. Why is there this change? What does it signal to you as a reader? What happens immediately after the change in weather?
26. --Victor knows the truth about his brother’s murderer. Who does everyone else think murdered William? Why?
27. Victor knows the truth, why doesn’t he explain and clear Justine’s name?
28. Consider what Elizabeth said about Justine in her letter and Justine’s relationship to the family. Why is it so easy for the family to believe she is guilty?
29. What is the Creature’s demeanor when he approaches Victor? How is this different from what you expected?

## **Chapter 10-12**

30. How does the Creature describe himself and his situation? How does this relate to the themes of isolation and justice?
31. Victor calls the Creature his enemy. Why?
32. Why does the Creature say Victor should have compassion and listen to his story?
33. Does he deserve Victor’s compassion?

34. Who does Victor represent to the Creature?
35. Do you have compassion for the Creature? Why or why not?
36. What are the Creature's first experiences? What do they remind you of?
37. Is Victor even mentioned? Why not?
38. How do people react to the Creature when they see him? Can you blame them? Are they right?
39. Why does the Creature steal? He has broken the law, does he deserve to be punished?
40. How does the Creature view the people? Is he right? Can you blame him?
41. What are some of the things he experiences? What causes all of the Creature's difficulties?
42. Judging from the text, what do you think Shelley believes is the cause of crime?
43. How does the Creature get anything he has? Does he think this is wrong? Do you?
49. Do you see any alternatives for him? He does stop stealing on page 100. Why?
50. How does the Creature's reformation relate to the theme of isolation?
51. The Creature learns morals from the cottagers, what else does he learn?
52. Why is learning to speak important to the Creature?
53. How does the Creature feel towards the cottagers? Why?
54. What does this say about the Creature?

### **Chapter 13-15**

55. How does the Creature learn to read? Is this similar to your education?
56. What does this say about the Creature?
57. How does he learn about human society?

58. At the end of the chapter, how does the Creature view the world, the DeLaceys and himself?
59. What does he try to do? What do you think about his plan? Why did it fail? What would you have done differently? Do you think there could have been a different outcome?

## **Chapters 16-19**

60. What is the Creature's reaction to the rejection by the De Laceys?
61. Did the creature instantly give up all hope of friendship with them? If not, what was the final result?
62. How did this event affect the Creature? Why? What does Shelley say happens and why?
63. What does the Creature decide to do & Why?
64. Is the Creature evil?
65. What is his reward when he attempts good?
66. When he meets William, what happens?
67. Did he intend to kill William?
68. How does he feel after William is dead? Why?
69. Is the Creature justified?
70. Why does the Creature plant the evidence on Justine?
71. What does the Creature say about his reasoning?
72. What is going on and what is Shelley trying to say is the root of the Creature's evil?
73. What does the Creature ask for and why?
74. What is Victor's response?
75. What are the Creature's arguments and what does Victor finally say? Why?

## **Chapters 20-22**

76. Compare and contrast the two creation processes described in the novel examining the theme of isolation, the effects of setting/nature, childbirth, and the health of Victor (2 paragraphs). Chapter 5 & 20
77. Explain the similarities between Pandora and Victor's fears if he created a female companion for the Creature?
78. Do you think Victor did the right thing?
79. Do you think Shelley thinks Victor did the right thing?
80. The enraged Creature murders Clerval and Victor is accused of the murder. Consider the evidence stacked against Victor and the evidence used against Justine. Using your expertise in these two cases, and presuming you had to find one guilty based only on the evidence presented to the court, which one would you as a member of the jury find guilty?
81. Why is Victor acquitted? (found innocent)
82. Do you think Victor's social status had anything to do with his acquittal? What further comment on justice does Shelley make here?

## **Chapter 23**

83. Throughout the novel, Victor has been evolving into the monster. Consider the language used when he reaches the Irish shore describing how the villagers greet him.
84. Consider the description of Victor's father's death, who does it say caused it?
85. Compare Victor's experience at the police station with the Creature's experience demanding a companion while talking with Victor on the mountain.
86. Why do you think Shelley links Victor and the Creature so closely?
87. Since Victor is the man of science and technology, do you think Shelley is commenting on technology? If so, what?

## **Chapter 24- end**

88. Why does Victor spend the rest of his life chasing the Creature?
89. What effect does this quest have on Victor?
90. How does Victor die?
91. Is he happy or at peace?
92. How does he see himself?
93. Why does the Creature allow Victor to follow him and protect him when it is very clear that he could easily escape Victor at any time?
94. How does the Creature die?
95. Is he happy or at peace?
96. How does he see himself?
97. Who do you think the hero of the novel is? Why do you feel that way?
98. Do you feel the frame narrative has shaped your opinion of the characters?  
How so?