



DIXONS  
SIXTH FORM  
ACADEMY

# SUMMER WORK

**A LEVEL  
ENGLISH  
LITERATURE**

STUDENT NAME:

20  
25

## English Literature Summer Work

**Task:** Read the novel *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley (1831 edition) and answer the questions **on paper**. Hand your answers in during your first English Literature lesson at D6A.

*Google 'Frankenstein full text PDF' for an online version if you don't have your own copy yet. You could use the Project Gutenberg site.*

You DO NOT need to copy the questions out.

## INTRODUCTION

1. The **Introduction** was written for the 1831 edition of *Frankenstein* and so represents Shelley's thoughts fifteen years after writing the book. How does the 34-year-old Shelley describe her childhood/what was she like?
2. Why did Shelley start writing *Frankenstein*?
3. How does Shelley say she first thought of the story of *Frankenstein*?
4. How did the story become a novel?

**LETTERS**

5. Who is writing **Letter 1** (and all the letters)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. To whom is he writing?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What is their relationship?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Where is **Robert Walton** when he writes Letter 1?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Where is he going?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Name two reasons why is he going there.

11. How much time has lapsed between Letter 1 and Letter 2?

12. What does he want most?

13. List at least three things he says about himself...

14. Briefly explain what happened in the “Romantic” story of the Master/mariner?

15. How much time has lapsed between Letter 2 and Letter 3?

16. Where is Walton now?

17. What do you think of Walton's question "What can stop the determined heart and resolved will of man"?

18. How much time has lapsed between Letter 3 and Letter 4?

19. What "strange accident" has happened to the sailors and what did they see?

20. What is the physical state of the man picked up by the ship?

21. What sort of person does he seem to be?

22. Why is he in the North Pole?

23. Fill in the blank: Robert began to love the stranger as a \_\_\_\_\_

24. How much time has lapsed when Walton begins writing again?

25. Find one example of the Romantic Movement in the August 13<sup>th</sup> letter...

26. In the August 19<sup>th</sup> letter, how has the stranger's own quest for knowledge and wisdom worked out?

27. Why do you think the stranger agrees to tell his story?

## CHAPTER 1

28. What is the man's family like?

29. Where is he from – city and country (you may need to look it up if you don't know)?

30. What is the story of the man's mother, **Caroline Beaufort**?

31. How does the stranger's father treat his mother Caroline?

32. How did the stranger's parents treat him as a boy?

33. Who is **Elizabeth Lavenza** and how does she arrive?

## CHAPTER 2

34. Find an example of the Romantic movement on the first page of chapter 2.

35. Who is **Henry Clerval** and what is his relation to **Victor**?

36. Fill in the blank "I have described myself as always having been imbued with a  
fervent longing to penetrate the secrets of \_\_\_\_\_".



37. What does the following quote mean: “The untaught peasant beheld the elements around him, and was acquainted with their practical uses. The most learned philosopher knew little more. He had partially unveiled the face of Nature, but her immortal lineaments were still a wonder and a mystery”.

38. What does Victor want, as opposed to wealth – “an inferior object”?

39. At the end of chapter two, Victor is discouraged by the study of natural science.

What does Victor then begin to study?

40. Who or what does he credit for this change in direction or “miraculous change of inclination”?

41. Who or what does he blame for his "utter and terrible destruction"?

### CHAPTER 3

42. What happens to Elizabeth and Victor's mother as a result of Elizabeth's scarlet fever?

43. What is in Ingolstadt (where Victor is going)? (Ingolstadt is in southern Germany, in Bavaria, on the Danube, 43 miles north of Munich. The university founded there in 1472 moved to Landshut in 1802 and to Munich in 1826.)

44. What does Victor learn from **M. Krempe** about his prior studies?

45. To understand this chapter, you need to know what an alchemist studies (alchemy).

Write the definition:

46. Why is Victor intrigued by **M. Waldman's** declaration about the "ancient teachers of this science"?

47. Finish this sentence "I will pioneer a new way, \_\_\_\_\_"

48. What is this quote an example of?

49. Why was it such a memorable day when M. Waldman took Victor on as his "disciple"?

## CHAPTER 4

50. How well does Victor progress during the next two years?

51. What does he then become interested in as a focus area for his studies?

52. Why isn't he afraid or horrified by what he is studying?

53. What does Victor discover as he is studying death and corpses?

54. Will he share that knowledge with Robert Walton? Why? (Note the "present" of the storytelling breaking through the narration \*remember, this is a framed narrative\*).

55. How does he go about creating a human being?

56. What does he expect from this creation?

57. How does this fit into the Romantic movement?

58. Where does Victor get the parts for the Creature?

58. How long does the task take?

59. What happens to Victor in the process?

**CHAPTER 5**

60. 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?

61. How much do we learn of the actual procedure?

62. How does Victor respond to the actual creation of life ?

63. What surprises him about the way the **Creature** he has brought to life looks?



64. What happens to Victor's dream of creation once the Creature comes to life?

65. How does the Victor's dream about Elizabeth grow out of, comment on, even explain what Victor has done and been through?

66. What does the Creature do?

67. How does Victor respond?





68. How do you think the Creature would feel at this moment?

69. Whom does Victor meet arriving in a coach the next morning?

70. How does Victor feel when he sees this person?

71. What does Victor discover when they go to Victor's apartment?

72. What happens to Victor, and for how long?

## CHAPTER 6

73. What is waiting for Victor when he finally recovers?

74. Who is **Justine Moritz** and what is her story?

75. Who is **William** and how old is he?

76. How does Victor feel about his studies once he returns to school?

77. When does Victor finally plan to return home?

78. What do he and Clerval do while waiting for his father's directions?

79. Find and copy down a quote showing the Romantic movement in the last two pages.

## **CHAPTER 7**

80. What is waiting for Victor when he returns to his apartment?

81. What news does his father have for him?

82. What is his father's name?

83. How long has Victor been away from home?

84. Whom does Victor see the night he returns to Geneva?

85. How does the weather reflect Victor's emotions at this moment?

86. What does Victor now believe happened to William?

87. What does Victor assume about the nature of the Creature?

88. Who has been identified as the murderer, and on what evidence?

89. How does Victor respond to this news?

90. Why doesn't he say anything about the real murderer?

91. What attitudes toward justice and the justice system are expressed on, and by whom?

## CHAPTER 8

92. What is the verdict at Justine's trial?

93. How does Victor respond?

94. The next day, why does Justine say she has confessed to the murder of William?

95. How does Victor respond to Justine's situation and to Elizabeth's anguish?

96. What happens to Justine?

97. How would you characterize Victor thus far?

## CHAPTER 9

98. How does Victor respond in the days after Justine's death?

99. How have Elizabeth's views changed?

100. What journey does Victor undertake?

101. What places does he travel through?



102. How does Victor feel when he is spending time outdoors in nature?

103. Where does he stay?

(Throughout the journey chapters, note the Romantic descriptions of the scenery. This is a journey Mary Shelley made with P. B. Shelley and Byron in July 1817.)



**CHAPTER 10**

104. How does Victor feel during this part of his journey?

105. Whom does Victor see?

106. How does Victor respond?

107. In this chapter we hear the Creature speak for the first time. Summarize what he says to Victor...

108. Is this what we expect from the Creature?

109. How good is Victor at performing the role of creator for his Creature?

110. Why is the Creature doing bad things?

111. What will cause the Creature to change? Keep in mind his statement "I was benevolent and good; misery made me a fiend. Make me happy, and I shall again be virtuous".

112. Does Victor agree to listen to the Creature's tale?

113. What does Victor begin to feel?