

2015 specification
first exams in 2017

Frankenstein

Exam Preparation Pack
for GCSE AQA English Literature

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Teacher's Introduction

This resource is designed to support the teaching of *Frankenstein* on the AQA specification. As such, the tasks specifically address the assessment objectives which are crucial to this exam. There are activities which address just one of these objectives and activities which combine the objectives into larger tasks. Additionally, there is a wealth of essay-writing tasks with the focus on how to improve exam technique and writing coherence.

As one of the keys to success in this exam is students being aware of the assessment objectives, knowing what the examiners are looking for, there are also a number of questions for students to work closely with the mark scheme. This ensures their familiarisation with the mark scheme shows in their own essays. There is also a range of sample answers which are annotated to show what responses graded at different levels look like and how these can then be improved.

The exam is closed book, which increases the importance of students being able to recall quotations. Consequently, some of the activities focus on learning the quotations and then to analyse them in enough detail. There is a specific concentration on both writing and analysis so that AO2 is fully developed for the exam.

The resource begins with tables regarding detailed revision of the text and continues throughout the pack. They provide comprehensive notes on plot, characters and themes which can be used for independent revision homeworks or in class. There are two versions of each table (Activity 8) to provide differentiation. The exam preparation activities provide a checklist of what they will need to focus on to achieve all the assessment objectives and also a range of questions to tackle the question. The practice exam questions follow the same style as the exam questions which students will encounter in their final assessment and there are a range of questions, each focusing on a different part of the novel, which the students must concentrate on for part of their answer as well as the whole. The worked-through example offers students advice at each of the stages with guidance on reading the question, initial planning and gathering evidence. This can be used to scaffold their response, an annotated sample answer, and to provide a model for their own. By following through each stage, students will be able to address their part of the question and answer the question. The sample student essays provide further guidance on what is needed to achieve each level and how much of each assessment objective is required. The assessment objectives are clearly labelled so that the student can also refer back to the objectives in their response.

Each of the activities is flexible and can be adapted for individual, paired or group work. They can also equally be used in class or at home. This flexibility enables you to tailor the resource to suit your students.

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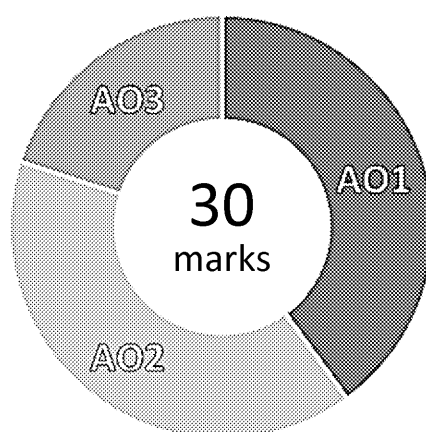


Student-friendly Specification

AQA GCSE English Literature – Specification Information

Paper 1, Section B: The 19th-century Novel

- Closed-book, written exam
- Extract-based question (answer based on extract and the novel as a whole)
- One question per text
- 30 marks in total:
 - AO1: 12 marks
 - AO2: 12 marks
 - AO3: 6 marks
- Paper 1 overall (Sections A and B) is 1 hour 45 minutes long and is worth 40%



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Revision of the Text



Chapter Summary Table

Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Prologue, Letters 1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adventure ➤ Discovery ➤ Isolation 	A bleak arctic setting is introduced in the form of St Petersburg. The desolate and inhospitable surroundings show how far removed they are from civilisation and act as a contrast to Chapter 1 which is set in Switzerland. It also suggests that a terrible incident must have happened for Frankenstein to have ended up so geographically distant.	The first-person style is directly speaking to the reader a special emotions of the character.
Chapter 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Childhood and identity ➤ Male-female relationships (Victor is possessive of Elizabeth – ‘she was to be mine only’) ➤ Adoption 	The reader is transported back to Victor’s childhood, which is described as idyllic, and acts as a contrast to the harsh conditions in the letters.	Victor’s narrative begins with him addressing a specific reader already known between the characters. The relationship implies honesty in his narrative.
Chapter 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Childhood and identity ➤ Discovery ➤ The power of the natural world ➤ Destiny 	The focus is still on Victor’s childhood and teenage years. It is still idyllic but there is also the inclusion of Victor’s growing interest in natural philosophy. The setting changes as Victor witnesses the thunderstorm at the family home in Belrive.	There are elements of contrast with the idyllic childhood – ‘before taint my mind’. The narrative includes proper nouns relating to Agrippa, Paracelsus, and Magnus. These are alchemists and so the passion for knowledge and guidance.

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Chapter 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Death of childhood ➤ Increasing independence from family ➤ Discovery of new scientific information 	Victor moves from Geneva to Ingolstadt to attend university. His mother dies in Geneva which symbolically shows how his family has been severed and how Victor is moving away from them. Ingolstadt is described as being more forward thinking as Krempe tells Victor that the natural philosophy he studied in Geneva was 'wasted'.	Victor regards this as a turning point in the beginning of his journey. The women of my future coincides with his childhood home which could show his interest in science and meetings with Krempe.
Chapter 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Isolation ➤ Obsession leading to illness ➤ Arrogance 	Victor's experience of Ingolstadt is now one of isolation. He is far away from his family and friends and further isolated from them by the 'solitary chamber, or rather cell, at the top of the house' where he works. Victor is alone with only his knowledge and the creature he is about to animate.	The language of Victor's narrative 'one pursuit' has life. It has an 'imagination, which possibility of discovery is too tantalising for family. Even though 'silence' disquiets his thoughts away

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narra
Chapter 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Childhood memories ➤ The dangers of his scientific work ➤ The negative consequences of his obsession (both in terms of Victor's health and the fear of what The Monster could do) ➤ Secrecy as Victor does not tell even Henry Clerval about what he has created 	Victor's apartment is no longer the safe space where he worked alone on his experiment but is now a place that is haunted by the Monster. He tries to escape it by taking 'refuge in the courtyard' but finds no solace there. He spends the rest of the chapter at Henry Clerval's apartment where he feels safer.	The opening of the chapter is marked by Victor's 'watery eyes' of grief, which is deemed to be disfiguring. This is the Monster's first appearance, which is a result of Victor's rejection of his creation. The rejection by even his friend Henry Clerval. There are also no more dreams, what Victor desired, the reality of his creation, his dream vanished, and disgust filled
Chapter 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Friendship and society is important for health ➤ Victor cannot escape from his past (either his family who write to him, or the Monster which haunts him) 	Victor finds it impossible to stay in Ingolstadt as he is tormented by his thoughts and even looking at a scientific instrument brings back the memory of his creation. He and Henry take a walking tour and his health 'gained additional strength from the salubrious air'. Nature is shown to have a rejuvenating and restorative effect on him.	The letter from Elizabeth which Victor is reading, which is his home in Ingolstadt, base for him when he was young, shows the change to him since he was unwilling to share his secret with his friend, Henry Clerval. Victor's 'apostrophe' where he addresses a character who 'sincerely did you to elevate my mind with your own.' Victor's disorientation and his innermost feelings

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Chapter 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Death of childhood ➤ How painful it is to return to the place of his childhood ➤ The changes that Victor has undergone ➤ How innocent people are made to look guilty 	The news of William's murder motivates Victor to return to Geneva. On his journey, everything is different – 'one sudden and desolating change had taken place'. This could relate to William's murder, how much Victor has altered or the creation of the Monster. The fact that 'the gates of the town were already shut' suggests that Victor does not really belong in Geneva any more.	The inclusion of the father allows the monster to see himself and not just his own views. It highlights the realism as Victor is forced to dictate these events. The narrative serves to question the narrative is and Victor is not trusted in his own words. Walton.
Chapter 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The death of innocent people which could symbolically represent how Victor's own innocence has also died ➤ The dangers of secrecy ➤ Male-female relationships and the power imbalance 	The courtroom where Justine's trial takes place. Justine is described as being completely innocent and vulnerable as 'the public indignation was turned with renewed violence' on Justine after Elizabeth has tried to speak in her favour.	Although it is Justine who is yet executed, the focus is on Victor's feelings. Considering the monster it does highlight the egocentric he is. Victor considers his suffering more magnitude than the woman – 'the monster not equal mine' but also how much he has made him.
Chapter 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The power of nature to restore ➤ The dangers of solitude 	The chapter begins with Victor's childhood home being mournful and the family go to their house in Belrive. This has a revivifying effect on Victor as he now feels 'free'. Victor walks in Chamonix and is reassured that the scene is as he remembered it – 'nought had changed in those savage and enduring scenes'.	Victor's sense of almost beyond description – 'a he has no language to describe it to the reader. The depth of his anguish and contrast between the beginning of the monster's sleep at the oblivion'.

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Chapter 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The power of nature to restore ➤ Haunting ➤ Responsibility ➤ Bias of the narrative 	Victor travels to the summit of Montanvert and sees the Monster. It is appropriate that the Monster appears to Victor when he thinks he is furthest away from civilisation. This suggests that the Monster is haunting Victor and he is thus able to escape him as well as showing that the Monster is perhaps safest when he is as far away from humans as possible.	The Monster is at his first time and his narrative is Victor's description of the 'Devil' but the Monster is both sensitive and to John Milton's 'remember, that to be thy Adam, the angel' – emphasising responsible for the him.
Chapter 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The search for identity ➤ Abandonment ➤ Alienation ➤ The reaction of humans to difference ➤ The importance of company 	The Monster tells his narrative to Victor while sitting by the fire in his cave. These surroundings show how far away from human civilisation the Monster is and it also helps to portray how he is following a development path similar to humans, as troglodytes lived in the same way.	The Monster is at his first time and his views are who is sitting by the fire as well. His needs as a human – 'former thirst' – which is entirely monstrous confusion and is what they promote – also show the human Monster.

Key term:

Troglodyte – somebody who lives in a cave. It often relates to prehistoric times. It can also refer to a hermit, which is a person who isolates themselves from society and lives far away from other people.

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narra
Chapter 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discovery of knowledge ➤ Discovery of his appearance as the reason why humans attacked him ➤ The human side of the Monster 	<p>The Monster's hovel is described and he starts to feel more comfortable there as he is away from the villagers who attacked him and is able to observe the comings and goings of the cottagers. The Monster becomes increasingly attached to them.</p>	<p>As the narrative perspective, the sympathy for his kind nature and which is again also helpful and has been stealing that they can ill to ease their burden path from the sea aware that his ap but hopes his 'ge conciliating word friendship.</p>
Chapter 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Isolation ➤ The importance of company ➤ The rules of society ➤ Searching for an identity 	<p>The cottage is transformed by the arrival of Safie who 'beheld a countenance of angelic beauty and expression'. The Monster enjoys watching the cottagers but his own isolation in his hovel is thrown into relief and the Monster questions his identity more and more and desires some company.</p>	<p>The Monster questions throughout this showing how his and to know of Safie and the Monster role of outsiders becomes part of learns to speak the Monster learns to has nobody to co differences between Monster emphasizes isolation.</p>

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Chapter 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Male-female relationships ➤ Exile and isolation ➤ Unable to escape the past ➤ Discovery of knowledge 	The setting has not changed and it is almost as if the Monster is so bewitched by the cottagers that he has no desire to move. Discovering the backstories of the cottagers leads to his greater affection towards them but also his growing awareness of his lack of identity.	The Monster listens to the cottagers, listening to the reader. The Monster is unable to communicate with language as he only understands English only when the Monster speaks in the language that he understands in the narrative.
Chapter 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discovery of knowledge ➤ Judgement and violence of humans ➤ Abandonment and rejection 	The Monster dares to venture into the cottage and speaks with the old man. The conversation is amiable and his 'present humanity assures' the Monster. The scene turns violent, however, when the children return and attack the Monster, who then retreats back to the relative safety of his hovel.	It is only after the Monster has been rejected by the cottagers that he goes to the cottage and is rejected by its residents. The old man mentions that he is prejudiced by the Monster's appearance – 'there is something in his aspect which persuades me you are not human' – when the other cottagers are filled with 'horror' and in this order the Monster's rejection increases until he is 'struck violently'.

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Chapter 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Revenge ➤ Abandonment ➤ Murder ➤ Death of innocents 	The Monster sets out for Geneva, determined to find Victor. On the way, he saves a young girl from drowning but is attacked again. He murders William, whom he happens to encounter during his journey.	The chapter begins with Victor addressing the Monster as 'my creator!' – which shows Victor and the Monster's relationship. Victor also shows his initial sympathy for the Monster, seeking to blame the actions. This chapter shows the murder of William and Justine so the reader can see the perpetrator's initial sympathy is challenged, although his behaviour remains the same.
Chapter 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Changing power in the relationship between the Monster and Victor ➤ The need for companionship ➤ Haunting ➤ Repeating mistakes of the past 	The chapter begins with the Monster concluding his demand to Victor in his cave and afterwards Victor descends into the valley again. This could be a metaphor for him descending into unknown realms of knowledge as he has no idea what the consequences of creating a mate will be. He travels back to Geneva and his 'wild appearance' alarms his family.	This chapter continues the relationship between Victor and the Monster. Victor manages to persuade the Monster that there was some justice in what he did. This shows the power of the Monster to change and control the relationship. The relationship will grow independent and Victor will want to start their own family.

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Chapter 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Marriage ➤ Male-female relationships ➤ Discovery of knowledge ➤ Travelling as a means of escape ➤ Secrecy ➤ Power imbalance between the Monster and Victor 	Victor travels from Geneva to Strasbourg where he waits for Henry Clerval and they travel to England together. Throughout the journey, Victor is troubled by his promise to create the female monster. The journey shows the contrast between Henry's enthusiasm and buoyancy, which is borne out of his love for nature, and Victor's despondency at his task.	Henry is very much a couple of years older than Victor and perceives the beauty and charm in the bar and is also enthusiastic about the pursuits – 'humanity is sufficient to satisfy'. Consequently, Henry is an example of the contrast that could be if he had a female monster.
Chapter 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secrecy ➤ Isolation ➤ Impatience ➤ Unable to escape the past ➤ Haunting 	The shack where Victor works on creating the female monster is extremely remote – 'I lived ungazed at'. This allows Victor to work without being disturbed and also echoes the hovel that the Monster lived in, thereby drawing another parallel between these two characters.	This chapter shows Victor gradually becoming more isolated, which is similar to the violent reactions of the Monster. Victor 'hastened to quit the room' which reminds him of the Monster's 'rests 'on one of the Orkneys'. This is similar to that of the Monster, the difference being that Victor is able to remove himself from the Monster has created sympathy for him at this time when he is most.

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrator
Chapter 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secrecy ➤ Isolation ➤ Guilt ➤ Madness 	Victor returns home to Geneva and the wedding preparations are made. After the descriptions of the 'dungeon' in which he stayed for much of the previous chapter, his home is clearly a domestic idyll. The fact that he is getting married increases this sense of domestic bliss and conforming to the expectations of civilised society.	Throughout the chapter, Victor insists that he 'is not mad' but that he 'is not mad' may be as much a reassurance to himself as to others. Him trying to persuade other characters that he is sane is most in doubt in the inclusion of a letter which increases the reliability of the whole. The letter is written in entirety and as seen from Victor's perspective is trustworthy.
Chapter 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Revenge ➤ Death of innocents 	It is in the Alps where Elizabeth is murdered and the power and savagery of nature, which was included in previous chapters, is now unleashed on the vulnerable and defenceless Elizabeth. The mountainous landscape shows how inhospitable this landscape is and so how far removed from society, making Elizabeth appear even more vulnerable. Victor returns to Geneva, which has remained a base for him throughout his life.	A sense of foreboding is created by the description of a 'heavy storm of rain' and a violent deluge, which is the Monster. The phrases from previous chapters, for example, Elizabeth's 'mark of the fiend' and 'neck' which echoes the 'neck' of the Monster. Additionally, Victor is cursed by the fiend and the Monster crying out 'creator'. The echo draws parallels between Victor and the Monster but also emphasises that the roles have been reversed and the Monster is in control.

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Chapter	Key themes	Setting	Narrative
Chapter 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Revenge ➤ Severance from family ➤ Isolation ➤ Obsession ➤ Destiny 	Victor leaves Geneva 'for ever' which signals the complete severance he has from his childhood home and also the person he was when he lived there. He visits the cemetery where William, Elizabeth and Alphonse are buried, which stresses the damage that has been caused by his creation. Victor isolates himself again from society but now in a more extreme way as he braves 'the wilds of Tartary and Russia'.	Victor is becoming the Monster as he 'braves' the cold food that [he] has. He and the Monster share their desire for revenge and turn them into more desperate behaviour. Walton addresses Victor about the possessive power of the narrative in the epilogue where Victor's narrative is revealed.
Epilogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identity ➤ Revenge ➤ Remorse 	The narrative concludes on the ship which is stuck in the Arctic ice. It is barren all around but Walton's kindness shows a level of friendship which is similar to that between Henry and Victor. The frozen wasteland could represent the lack of hope at the end of the novel and acts as a sharp contrast to the fire which will kill the Monster.	Walton's narrative is true as the words of the letters bring a sense of conviction of the truth. The narrative is framed by Walton's words which allows the reader to see Walton's 'noble' but ultimately flawed perspective. This third perspective helps the reader understand the Monster's, and Victor's (and himself) helps them to see their own mind and the Monster takes control of the conclusion, as described him as how the Monster finds his own identity.

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Character Summary Table

Character	One-line description	Key quotation
Victor Frankenstein	The protagonist of the novel who creates The Monster thinking he will be able to control it	<p>'I am not mad,' I cried energetically; 'the sun and the heavens, who have viewed my operations, can bear witness of my truth. I am the assassin of those most innocent victims; they died by my machinations. A thousand times would I have shed my own blood, drop by drop, to have saved their lives; but I could not, my father, indeed I could not sacrifice the whole human race.'</p> <p>(Chapter 22)</p> <p>Analysis: Victor protests his own sanity, which is recurrent throughout the narrative and shows how he is aware of how others view him. He calls on nature to verify his mental well-being and this suggests that he now sees himself as standing outside natural laws. He calls himself an 'assassin', which represents how guilty he feels about The Monster murdering his friends and family.</p>
The Monster	The Monster is created by Frankenstein and he is shown to be intelligent and thoughtful (Chapter 11) but when he is rejected by humans he reacts in a murderous and violent way	<p>'I, the miserable and the abandoned, am an abortion, to be spurned at, and kicked, and trampled on. Even now my blood boils at the recollection of this injustice.'</p> <p>(Chapter 24)</p> <p>Analysis: The Monster feels vengeful towards humans because of how he has been treated by them. He uses a list of three 'spurned... kicked... trampled' to show the violence which he has had to endure. By describing himself as 'miserable' and 'abandoned', The Monster is trying to garner sympathy. The final word, 'injustice', demonstrates how he views his treatment as unfair and this justifies his anger – 'my blood boils'.</p>

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Henry Clerval	Henry is Victor's friend since childhood and he helps Victor to recover from illness	<p>'But Henry noticed how thin I was, and that I was laughing too much and could not sit still. Suddenly he said: 'My dear Victor, what is the matter with you? Are you ill? Has something awful happened?' (Chapter 4)</p> <p>Analysis: It is Henry who realises that Victor is behaving oddly and he shows care and concern for his friend as shown through his term of address, 'my dear Victor'. He immediately assumes that he must be unwell and that 'something awful' has caused this. The ambiguity of 'something' shows that Henry does not know the real reason and he will only encounter The Monster when he is murdered by him.</p>
Elizabeth	Elizabeth grows up with Victor and they are very close, getting married to each other in Chapter 22	<p>'The sweet girl welcomed me with warm affection; yet tears were in her eyes, as she beheld my emaciated frame and feverish cheeks [...] her gentleness and soft looks of compassion, made her a more fit companion for one blasted and miserable as I was.' (Chapter 22)</p> <p>Analysis: Elizabeth rarely speaks and this quotation is all from Victor's perspective. He views her as the ideal of femininity as it is 'her gentleness' and 'compassion' which really enable Victor to recover. By describing her as 'girl', she is seen as young and innocent, which makes her murder more horrific. This quotation also shows the contrast in temperament between Elizabeth who is 'sweet' and Victor who is 'miserable'.</p>
Victor's Father	Alphonse Frankenstein is very encouraging towards his son, supports him during the trial and helps him to recover	<p>'The appearance of my father was to me like that of a good angel, and I gradually recovered my health' (Chapter 21)</p> <p>Analysis: The novel includes many religious references and here is another. His father is one of the main sources of support for Victor and he is seen as having a beneficial influence as he is here described as 'a good angel'. Significantly it is only when his father is there that Victor recovers and the adverb 'gradually' shows how long this process is.</p>

Robert Walton	<p>Robert rescues Victor in the Arctic and helps him during his illness. He hears Robert's story and narrates it at the beginning and end of the novel.</p> <p>Analysis: Robert is torn between his own impressions of The Monster, which induce sympathy for him as Robert is 'touched', and the impressions that have been formed by Victor's narrative about the Monster. It is the latter which caused 'indignation' and anger in Robert. There is a reference to Robert's 'eyes' which links him with both Victor whose 'eyes closed for ever' and the Monster, whose 'watery eyes' are described when he is first created.</p>
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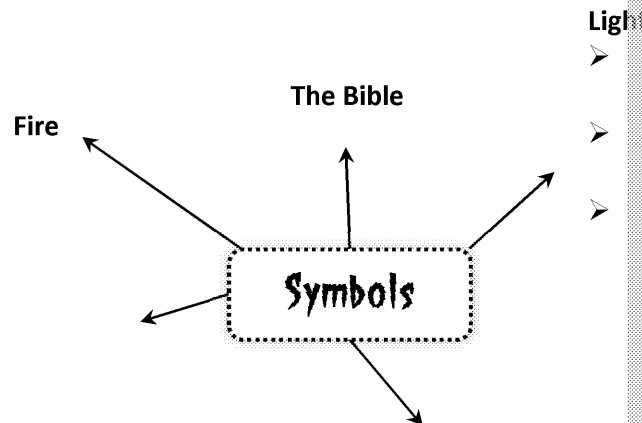
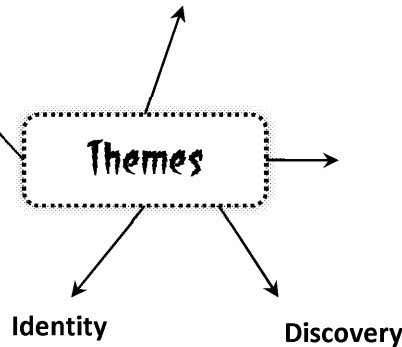
Revision Activities

Activity 1 – Themes, Symbols and Techniques

The novel is very rich in terms of the themes and symbols and how the narrative is told from different perspectives and in different time frames. The mind maps below show a few examples of themes, symbols and techniques. Complete the mind maps, adding as much detail as you can. Try to find as many as you can from the whole novel.

Isolation

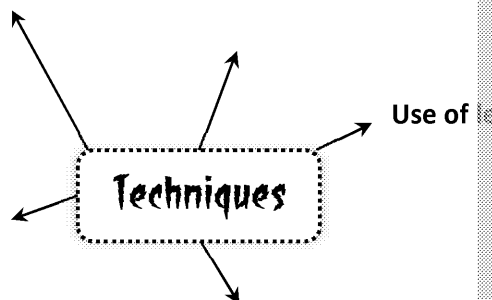
- Victor isolates himself through his obsession with creation
- Robert isolates himself when he is trying to discover new lands
- The Monster is isolated, although this is imposed on him by the behaviour of humans



References to *Paradise Lost*

Changing narrative perspectives

- The novel begins and ends with Robert's narrative which frames the overall novel
- The speaker's feelings change the reader's perceptions, e.g. when the Monster speaks, the reader feels more sympathy
- The changing perspectives increase the reliability as no one character has to be believed



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Activity 2 – Quotation Quilt

Choose quotations which relate to the theme of nature in the text; you can find your quotations on page 19 of the exam preparation pack below. Write your chosen quotation on the card clearly (it should be visible from the back of the card to reflect the content of the quotation, i.e. through drawings, colours and patterns). The cards can then be combined with other students' cards to create a patchwork quilt effect. The quilt will double up as a revision tool.

Nature Quotations

- 'I beheld a stream of fire issue from an old and beautiful oak...as the dazzling fire disappeared and nothing remained but a blasted stump.' (Vol I, Ch. 2)
- 'A serene sky and verdant fields filled me with ecstasy... the flowers of spring and those of summer were already in bud.' (Vol I, Ch. 6)
- 'I contemplated the lake: the waters were placid: all around was calm and the beauty of nature.' (Vol I, Ch. 7)
- 'I saw the lightnings playing on the summit of Mont Blanc in the most beautiful clouds and I soon felt the rain coming slowly in large drops.' (Vol I, Ch. 7)
- 'vivid flashes of lightning dazzled my eyes, illuminating the lake, making it appear like a mirror.' (Vol I, Ch. 7)
- 'The immense mountains and precipices that overhung me on every side – the glaciers among the rocks, and the dashing of the waterfalls around.' (Vol II, Ch. 1)
- 'Ruined castles hanging on the precipices of piny mountains; the impetuous winds and there peeping forth from among the trees.' (Vol II, Ch. 1)
- 'the mighty Alps, whose white and shining pyramids and domes towered above the clouds of earth.' (Vol II, Ch. 1)
- 'The high and snowy mountains were its immediate boundaries; but I saw no fields. Immense glaciers approached the road, I heard the rumbling thunder and marked the smoke of its passage.' (Vol II, Ch. 1)
- 'They congregated round me; the unstained snowy mountain top, the glittering ice and ragged bare ravine, the eagle soaring amidst the clouds.' (Vol II, Ch. 2)
- 'I looked on the valley beneath; vast mists were rising through the rivers which were thick wreaths around the opposite mountains, whose summits were hid in the clouds that poured from the dark sky.' (Vol II, Ch. 2)
- 'The sea, or rather the vast river of ice, wound among its dependent mountains and over its recesses. Their icy and glittering peaks shone in the sunlight over the



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Quotation Quilt Template

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Activity 3 – Revision Board Game

Work in groups to create a board game to revise questions on specific themes, chapters or characters from the novel. You can either design your own game or use the template provided. Questions should be of varying difficulty – easy, medium, hard.

Easy questions might have very specific answers, such as the name of Victor's young wife or where Victor went to university.

Medium questions may be more open, such as 'What were Victor's feelings towards the creature?' Alternatively, they may include questions such as 'who said this quotation?'

More difficult questions should involve higher-level thinking and analysis; so, for example, 'What does the quotation 'x' tell us about the creature's feelings at 'x' point in the novel?'

Answers need to be available and they would be written on the backs of question cards.

Your teacher may decide to give you a particular theme, chapter or character to focus on. If not, different groups can work on different topics then students can play each other's games and ask questions.

You will need to devise rules for your game and an objective, e.g. Help Victor Frankenstein to create The Monster or help The Monster find happiness by finding him a home.

Aim of the Game:

.....

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Rules:

.....

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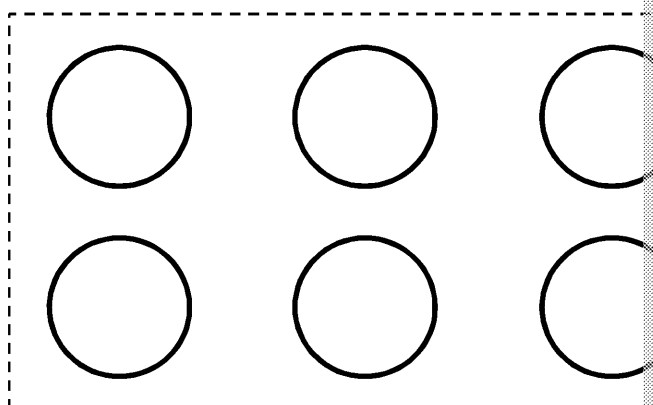
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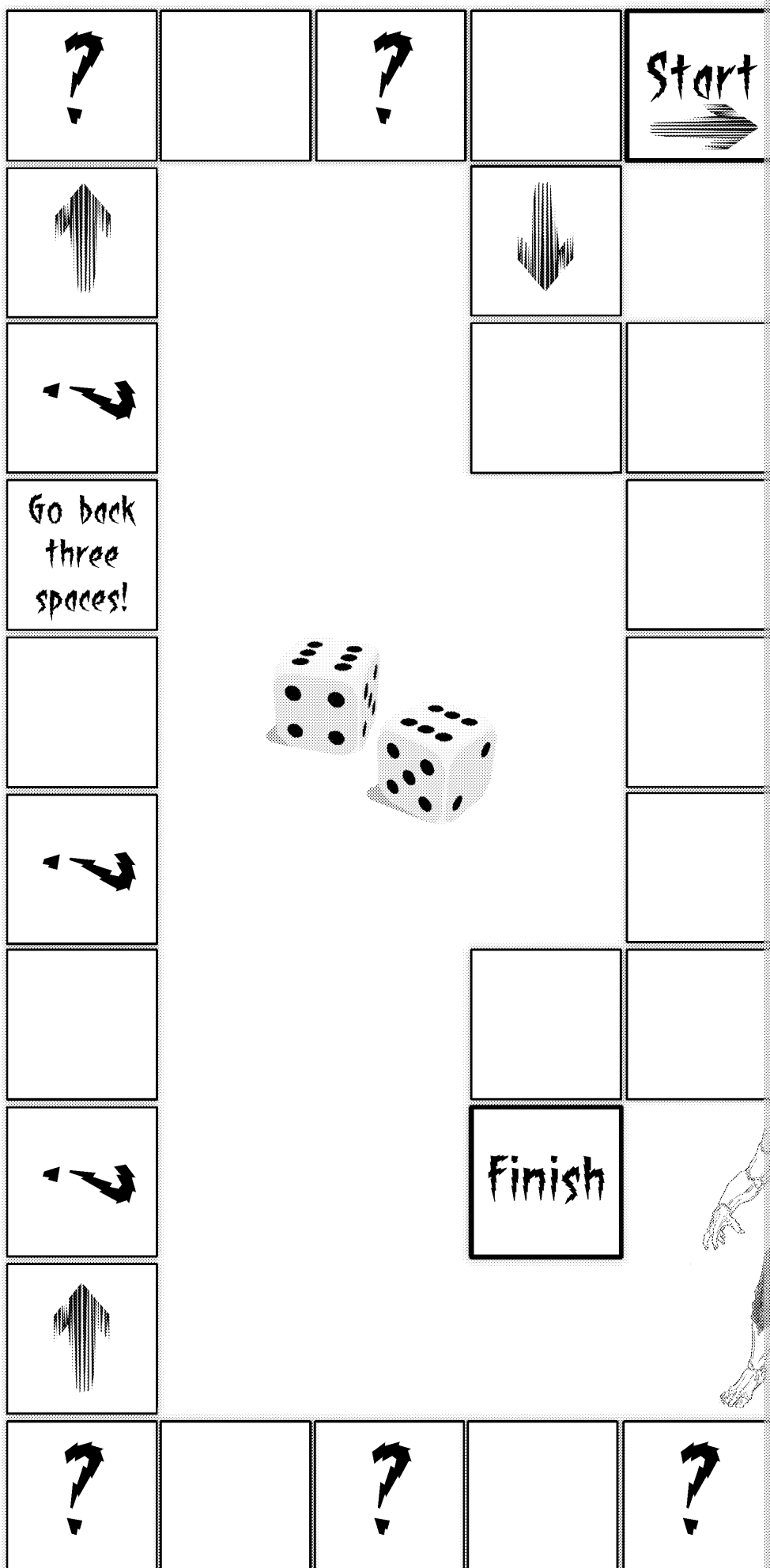
Cut out and colour the counters using a different colour for each player.



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Game Board



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Activity 4 – Plot Quiz

- 1) The opening of the novel is narrated by:
 - a) Margaret
 - b) Robert Walton
 - c) Victor Frankenstein
 - d) The Creature
- 2) Victor was from:
 - a) Ingolstadt
 - b) Scotland
 - c) St Petersburg
 - d) Geneva
- 3) Caroline Beaufort (Victor's mother) was:
 - a) the daughter of a merchant who abandoned her
 - b) the daughter of a merchant who became poor
 - c) Margaret Walton's friend
 - d) from a family of fishermen
- 4) Elizabeth's parents were:
 - a) Milanese and German
 - b) French and German
 - c) Swiss and French
 - d) Swiss and British
- 5) Victor was interested in learning more about:
 - a) poetry
 - b) languages
 - c) the metaphysical
 - d) politics
- 6) Victor's mother died:
 - a) at sea on a ship
 - b) because she was ill
 - c) of scarlet fever
 - d) of scarlet fever
- 7) At university Victor studied:
 - a) Maths and Science
 - b) Law and Business
 - c) Natural Philosophy
 - d) Physics and Chemistry
- 8) What was the weather like when Victor brought the creature to life?
 - a) Rainy and cold
 - b) Sunny and hot
 - c) Stormy and windy
 - d) Windy and cold
- 9) When the creature first came to life, Victor felt:
 - a) relieved but sad
 - b) tired and irritated
 - c) terrified and angry
 - d) cold and uncomfortable
- 10) What does Elizabeth tell Victor about William's death?
 - a) Because he was ill
 - b) Because he was playing with the dog
 - c) Because he was playing with the dog and fell into the water
 - d) Because the dog was ill



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- 11) Who is the only character to believe Justine is innocent?
 - a) Ernest
 - b) Victor's father
 - c) The people of the community
 - d) Elizabeth
- 12) How does Victor feel after Justine's death?
 - a) Guilt and remorse
 - b) Anger and fear
 - c) Glad and relieved
 - d) Excited and happy
- 13) What did Victor do to relieve his misery?
 - a) Turn to drink
 - b) Spend time with friends
 - c) Turn to nature to be alone
 - d) Comfort his father and Elizabeth
- 14) What does the creature say was his reason for his anger?
 - a) Loneliness
 - b) Not having a home
 - c) Being ugly
 - d) Not being able to live like a normal human
- 15) What did the creature do when he first saw fire?
 - a) Put it out
 - b) Warmed himself
 - c) Cooked food
 - d) Put his hand into it
- 16) What happened to the creature when he went into the village?
 - a) He was attacked
 - b) He was shot
 - c) He was welcomed as a shepherd
 - d) He was laughed at
- 17) Why did the creature go so far away?
 - a) He found the people there were too close
 - b) He knew they would not accept him
 - c) He was afraid of them
 - d) He liked being alone
- 18) When the creature was alone and poor he:
 - a) stopped taking berries and nuts
 - b) took more of them
 - c) bought more food
 - d) stopped taking anything
- 19) When Safie tried to teach the creature to speak the De Laceys he realised:
 - a) her accent was too hard to hear
 - b) she wasn't very good
 - c) he was faster than her
 - d) she could not speak
- 20) How did the creature approach the De Laceys?
 - a) He approached them alone
 - b) He threatened them to make them welcome him
 - c) He sneaked into their house
 - d) He disguised himself



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Activity 5 – Who Said It?

Write the name of the character who speaks each quotation.

You accuse me of murder, and yet you would, with a satisfied conscience, destroy your own creature. Oh, praise the eternal justice of man!

Vol. II, Ch. 2



1)

You throw
buildings,
consumed
ruins, and
Vo

2)

I am thy creature; I ought to be thy Adam, but I am rather the fallen angel.

Vol. II, Ch. 2



I will
relieve
blind
diffic

3)

I did confess; but I confessed a lie. I confessed, that I might obtain absolution; but now that falsehood lies heavier at my heart than all my other sins.

Vol. I, Ch. 8

Not bro
again
feeling



5)

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Activity 6 – Close Analysis of Key Passage

The narrative ends with Walton describing what happens to Victor and to the Monster, which is taken from the beginning of his final narrative.

WALTON, in continuation.
August 26th, 17--.

YOU have read this **strange and terrific story**, Margaret; do you not feel your blood **congealed with horror**, like that which curdles mine? Sometimes, seized with sudden agony, he continued his tale; at others, **his voice broken, yet piercing** with difficulty the words so replete with agony. His fine eyes were now lighted up with indignation, now subdued with downcast sorrow, and quenched in infinite wretchedness. Sometimes he commanded his countenance and tones, and told the most horrible incidents with a tranquil voice, suppressing every mark of agitation; then, like a volcano bursting forth, his features suddenly change to an expression of the wildest rage, as he uttered out imprecations on his persecutor.

Why does Walton talk about the letters here?

His tale is connected, and told with an appearance of the truth; yet I own to you that the letters of Felix and Safie, which he shewed me, and the apparition of the monster, seen from the ice, **brought to me a greater conviction of the truth of his narrative** than his asseverations, however earnest and connected. Such a truth has then really existence; **I cannot doubt it**; yet I am lost in awe and admiration. Sometimes I endeavoured to gain from Frankenstein the particulars of his creature's formation; but at that point he was impenetrable.

"Are you mad, my friend?" said he, "or **whither does your curiosity lead you?** Would you also create for yourself and a demoniacal enemy? Or to what do your questions tend? Be at peace! learn my miseries, and do not seek to increase your

- 1) Annotate the importance of the words that have been highlighted in **bold**.
- 2) Write notes in answer to the questions in the boxes.
- 3) Discuss with a partner why you think Shelley chooses to end the text with Walton's narrative rather than Frankenstein's.
- 4) Write a paragraph using quotations from the above extract as a starting point. *Why does Shelley choose to end the text with Walton's narrative rather than Frankenstein's?*

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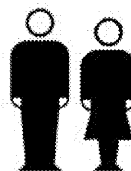


Activity 7 – Themes

Theme Summary Table

The boxes below represent the nine main themes in the novel. For each of the themes, using a quotation from Chapter 24, analyse the quotation to explain what it shows about the theme, and explain how this theme is represented in other chapters.

Religion and morality  Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:	Revenge Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:	The Creature Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:
Hardship Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:	Isolation Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:	Science and technology Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:
Death Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:	Nature Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:	Faith Quotation: Analysis: Links to the rest of the novel:



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Activity 8 – Context

How does the novel explore the social conditions of the period?

Complete the table below by finding the characters, quotations and key events with the factor.

Contextual factor	Character	Quotation
Gender		‘No word, no expression could body forth the kind of relation in which she stood to me – my more than sister, since till death she was to be mine only’ (Chapter 1)
Poverty and Charity		
Wealth	Both Walton and Frankenstein shun wealth and comforts for knowledge and renown	
Outsiders		
Science		‘What could not be expected in the country of eternal light?’ (Letter 1)
The Gothic		‘the rain pattered dismally against the panes, and my candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the half-extinguished light, I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open’ (Chapter 5)

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Context (AO3) is a very important skill to be able to demonstrate in the exam. For below, find one more quotation which expresses the factor, select one or two key words and write a couple of sentences analysing how these specific words express the context.

Contextual factor	Quotation	Keywords from the quotation
Gender		
Poverty and Charity		
Wealth		
Outsiders		
Science		
The Gothic		

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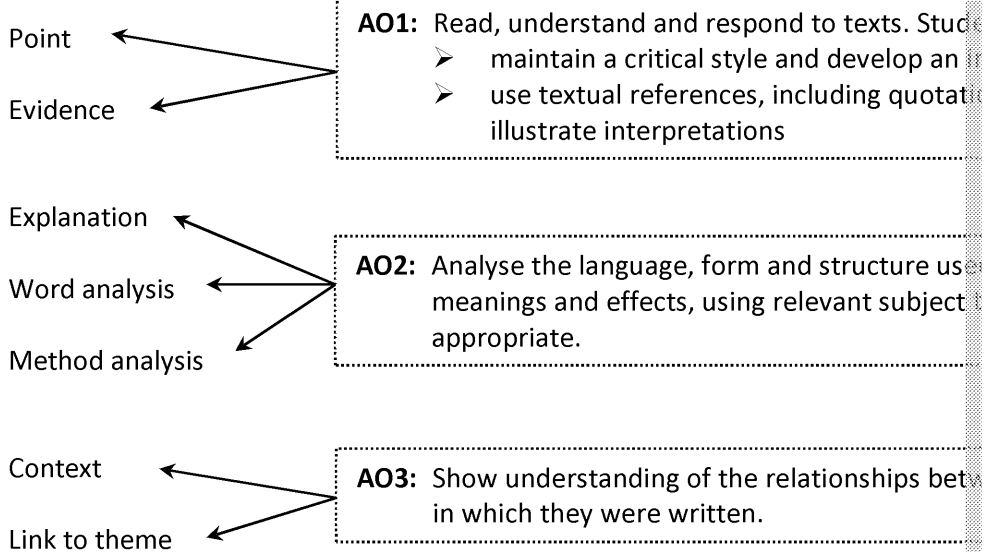
Exam Preparation Activities

Before your exam you need to make sure you are well prepared and have practised exam papers as you can. It can be a stressful and intimidating process, but remain calm. One of the most common mistakes students make is reading the question wrongly. Always carefully read the question and what is being asked of you until you are completely comfortable with how to approach it.

Once you have made sure you completely understand the question, the next most important step is to plan your answer. Before you start, try to work out what it is you intend to write so that you can focus on any themes or parts of the text that might be important or relevant. There are many ways to plan your ideas on paper; some people like spider diagrams, others bullet points. It is important to choose a method that works successfully for you. The basic points of your argument will help lead to the conclusion.

Once you have begun writing, try to back up each point you make with evidence from the text. This is a process. First, you make a statement. Then you back this up with evidence; for example, a description of an event in the novel that links to this point. Then discuss the evidence and how it supports your point. Analyse it and interpret it before moving on. How does it back up the evidence?

You could use the following structure to help you. If you do, you will achieve all the marks for each paragraph you write.



In the exam, you will be asked to analyse an extract and then relate it to the text. The following short extract from Chapter 5 and then complete the activities on the following page.

How can I describe my emotions at this catastrophe, or how delineate the woe
pains and care I had endeavoured to form? His limbs were in proportion, and
beautiful. Beautiful! -- Great God! His yellow skin scarcely covered the work
beneath; his hair was of a lustrous black, and flowing; his teeth of a pearly whiteness;
only formed a more horrid contrast with his watery eyes, that seemed almost
white sockets in which they were set, his shrivelled complexion and straight

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- 1) Analyse the following quotation using this paragraph structure.

Point: *The Monster is presented as having a disgusting appearance.*

Evidence: *'His yellow skin scarcely covered the work of muscles and arteries beneath*

Explanation:

Word analysis:.....

Method analysis:.....

Context:.....

Link to theme:

Relate to the whole text:

- 2) Find another quotation from the extract which describes the Monster and co

Point:

Evidence:

Explanation:

Word analysis:.....

Method analysis:.....

Context:.....

Link to theme:

Relate to the whole text:

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Essay Planning

Once you are confident in your paragraph structure, it is easier to write an essay which hits all the assessment objectives. You can think of paragraphs as the building blocks of an essay. It is very important to plan the order in which you want to write the points in your essay. Each point in sense and each point is supported with references and explained in detail.

Before you start writing, you should brainstorm all the ideas which you could include in your essay.

- 3) Complete the spider diagram below in answer to the question: 'How is the Monster presented in Frankenstein?' Make sure that you have at least four different points.

How can I describe my emotions at this catastrophe, or how delineate the wretch whom with infinite pains and care I had endeavoured to form? His limbs were in proportion, and I thought that his features as beautiful. Beautiful! -- Great God! His yellow skin scarcely covered the work of muscles and arteries beneath; his hair was of a lustrous black, and flowing; his eyes of a blue, and glazing with white; but these luxuriances only formed a more horrid contrast with his ghastly complexion and straight black lips.

Point from the extract:

Link to novel as a whole:



'How is the Monster presented in Frankenstein?'

Point from the extract:

Link to novel as a whole:

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- 4) It is now time to order your four points. You could do this by thinking about working out which events happened first, or you could think about how the support the progression of an overall idea. It is also a good idea to consider together or if any of them are clear opposites of each other. This will help you you have thought about your order, write them below.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

- 5) Complete the table below in note form for each of your four paragraphs.

Paragraph one	Paragraph two
Point:	Point:.....
Evidence:	Evidence:
Explanation:	Explanation:
Word analysis:.....	Word analysis:
Method analysis:.....	Method analysis:
Context:.....	Context:
Link to theme:	Link to theme:.....
Relate to the whole text:	Relate to the whole text:

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Paragraph three	Paragraph four
Point:	Point:.....
.....
Evidence:	Evidence:
.....
Explanation:	Explanation:
.....
Word analysis:.....	Word analysis:
.....
Method analysis:.....	Method analysis:
.....
Context:.....	Context:
.....
Link to theme:	Link to theme:.....
.....
Relate to the whole text:	Relate to the whole text:
.....

- 6) You should also include an introduction and a conclusion in your essay. They should include the following ideas.

Introduction

- Link back to the question
- Briefly describe the Monster and his relationship with other characters
- Briefly describe the main points about how the Monster is presented (useful to develop in the essay)
- Briefly describe how language and method are used to show how the Monster is presented

Conclusion

- Link back to the question
- Sum up the main points about the Monster and how he is presented
- Sum up their relationship with theme(s)
- Sum up how the Monster communicates Shelley's message
- Briefly include your own opinion about the Monster's presentation

Do not discuss anything which you have not already developed in your essay

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- 7) Write notes about what you would include in the introduction and conclusion of your presentation. **'How is the Monster presented in *Frankenstein*?'**

[illegible]

- 8) Choose another of the main characters and an extract from *Frankenstein* and the question:

'How is [X] presented in *Frankenstein*?'

Planning your response will help you to order your ideas without having to write the whole essay. Once you have finished planning, make sure you have included each of the following in each paragraph: Point, Evidence, Explanation, Word analysis, Method analysis, Context, Link to theme, Related to the whole text.

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Essay Writing

The examiner is looking for you to demonstrate a number of skills in your essays which was written in answer to the question 'What are Frankenstein's views about knowledge?'

9) Read the paragraph and identify if the following features are present:

- quotations have been used to support comments
- quotations are embedded in the sentence
- some language features have been analysed
- some structural features have been identified and analysed
- context has been included
- spelling, punctuation and grammar are all accurate

Frankenstein thinks that science holds the key to unlock the greatest knowledge of all: the ability to, therefore, make life himself. He 'entered with the greatest diligence into the study of electricity and the elixir of life; but the latter soon obtained my undivided attention' (Chapter 2). The 'greatest' emphasises that this is where all of his attention was focused and so it drives home the knowledge he seeks. Such comments could be because of how new scientific discoveries were at the time of writing the novel and so it portrays how the search for such knowledge is enticing but ultimately dangerous through Victor's creation.

a) Which skills are missing?

.....

.....

b) What detail could you add to the skills that are present?

.....

.....

c) Rewrite the paragraph making sure you show each of the above skills and use the correct language features.

.....

.....

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Subordinate clauses

Whenever you write an essay, remind yourself to include all three sentence types

- A **simple sentence** includes one main verb idea, such as 'I bought chocolate'
- A **compound sentence** is one or more simple sentences joined by a connective, such as 'I bought chocolate because I was hungry' where the connective 'because' links the two sentences
- A **complex sentence** consists of a main clause which makes sense by itself and a subordinate clause which relies on the main clause to make sense. Look at the example below:

This is the **subordinate clause** because it depends on the main clause to make sense.

Because I was hungry, I bought chocolate.

- 10) a) Underline the subordinate clauses in the following complex sentences.
- After playing football, I walked home.
 - The concert was fun despite the long queue.
 - Although he enjoyed the drums, he thought that guitar was the best.
 - Whichever way she walked, she always got lost.
 - They decided to buy it however expensive it was.

- b) Identify the type of sentence in each example below. Then, depending on the type, rewrite the sentences into simple, compound or complex. You may need to rephrase the latter two and condense the information for the simple sentences.

- 1) Frankenstein thinks that science holds the key to unlock the greatest discovery of how life is formed and the ability to, therefore, make it better.

This is a sentence.

Change it to a complex sentence:

- 2) The use of the superlative adjective 'greatest' emphasises that this discovery was focused and so it drives his obsession to discover the knowledge he needs.

This is a sentence.

Change it to a simple sentence:

- 3) Such comments could be because of how new scientific discoveries were made when he was writing the novel and so it portrays how the search for such knowledge was ultimately quite dangerous, as shown through Victor's creation.

This is a sentence.

Change it to a compound sentence:

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Exam Technique

Depending on how you order your points, there may be some ideas which are different. Try to join these ideas together using a range of connectives. Brainstorm as many words as you can think of which express either similarity or difference.

Words to show similarity	Words to show difference

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- Frankenstein thinks that science hold the key to unlock the greatest knowledge of all: the ability to therefore make life himself. He 'entered with the greatest diligence into the study of natural philosophy, and the elixir of life; but the latter soon obtained my undivided attention (Chapter 2). The 'greatest' emphasises that this is where all of his attention was focused and so it drives home the point that the search for knowledge he seeks. Because knew scientific discoveries were being made when Shelley was writing, the search for knowledge is enticing but ultimately quite dangerous as shown thorough The M

-
- This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

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Extension: Include more than one complex sentence and write one with a subordinate clause at the beginning of the sentence and one with a main clause at the beginning.

As an extra challenge, rewrite the paragraph using the following:

- Simple sentence
- Complex sentence
- Simple sentence
- Compound sentence
- Compound sentence
- Complex sentence

- 13) Each of the quotations below relates to Victor Frankenstein. Match each of the quotations to a character trait that could use to describe the character. Then, write down at least two more words that could describe the character. If you don't know the meaning of any of the words, look them up in a dictionary.

Some of the words can relate to more than one quotation.

Egocentric

'THE WORLD WAS TO ME A SECRET WHICH I DESIRED TO DIVINE'
(Chapter 2)

'I feel exquisite pleasure in dwelling on the recollections of childhood, before misfortune had tainted my mind'
(Chapter 2)

Vengeful

'No one can conceive the anguish I suffered during the remainder of the night'
(Chapter 7)

'The tortures of the accused did not equal mine; she was sustained by innocence, but the fangs of remorse tore at my bosom, and would not forego their hold'
(Chapter 8)

Nostalgic

'I was seized by remorse and the sense of guilt, which hurried me away to a hell of intense tortures, such as no language can describe'
(Chapter 9)

'I burned with rage to pursue the murderer of my peace'
(Chapter 20)

Angry

'I had formed in my own heart a resolution to pursue my destroyer to death'
(Chapter 23)

'They were dead, and I lived; their murderer lived, and to destroy him I must drag out my wretched existence'
(Chapter 24)

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Practice Exam-style Questions

AQA-style Practice Questions

The extracts below vary in length to provide opportunities for students to use as longer extended essay practice.

- 1) In the extract below Frankenstein first sees his creation as a living being.

It was on a dreary night of November that I beheld the accomplishment of my more than almost amounted to agony, I collected the instruments of life around me, that I might infuse into the lifeless thing that lay at my feet. It was already one in the morning; I had placed against the panes, and my candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the moon, I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open; it breathed hard, and a convulsive

How can I describe my emotions at this catastrophe, or how delineate the woe infinited pains and care I had endeavoured to form? His limbs were in proportion as beautiful. Beautiful! – Great God! His yellow skin scarcely covered the artless features of his face; arteries beneath; his hair was of a lustrous black, and flowing; his teeth of a pearly whiteness; but these luxuriances only formed a more horrid contrast with his watery eyes, that seemed to

Using this extract as a starting point, write about how Shelley explores Frankenstein's feelings of awe and disgust at his creation.

You should look at:

- how Frankenstein's immediate rejection of his creation is presented
- how the significance of this initial rejection is presented by Shelley in the text

- 2) In this extract from Chapter 10, the Monster explains its life and predicament to Frankenstein.

How can I move thee? Will no entreaties cause thee to turn a favourable eye upon me? I implore thy goodness and compassion? Believe me, Frankenstein: I was created with love and humanity: but am I not alone, miserably alone? You, my creator, give me life; but I gather from your fellow creatures, who owe me nothing? They spurn and scorn me; mountains and dreary glaciers are my refuge. I have wandered here many months; no man only do not fear, are a dwelling to me, and the only one which man does not

Using the extract as a starting point, how does Shelley present the Monster?

You should look at:

- How the Monster's interactions with humans and the impact this has on them is presented by Shelley in this extract.
- How The Monster's interactions with humans are presented by Shelley in the whole text.

- 3) In this extract from Chapter 1, Frankenstein describes his parents and childhood.

There was a show of gratitude and worship in his attachment to my mother; it was a doating fondness of age, for it was inspired by reverence for her virtues, and in some degree, recompensing her for the sorrows she had endured, but with respect to his behaviour to her. He strove to shelter her, as a far exotic is sheltered from a rougher wind, and to surround her with all that could tend to excite pleasure in a benevolent mind. Her health, and even the tranquillity of her hitherto disturbed mind, by what she had gone through.*

Using this extract as a starting point, how does Shelley portray female characters?

You should look at:

- how Frankenstein's mother is presented by Shelley in this extract
- how female characters are presented by Shelley in the whole text. Think about the time of Mary Shelley's writing

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- 4) In this extract from Chapter 11, the Monster describes the initial stages of its relationship with humans.

It was noon when I awoke; and, allured by the warmth of the sun, which shone upon the ground, I determined to recommence my travels; and, depositing the remainder of a wallet I found, I proceeded across the fields for several hours, until at sunset a small hut miraculously did this appear! the huts, the neater cottages, and stately houses were all in turns. The vegetables in the gardens, the milk and cheese that I saw placed upon the cottages, allured my appetite. One of the best of these I entered; but I had scarcely opened the door, before the children shrieked, and one of the women fainted. The others fled, some attacked me, until, grievously bruised by stones and many other means, I escaped to the open country, and fearfully took refuge in a low hovel, quite different in appearance after the palaces I had beheld in the village. This hovel, however, had a pleasant appearance; but, after my late dearly bought experience, I dared not enter. The refuge was constructed of wood, but so low that I could with difficulty sit upon the floor; however, was placed on the earth, which formed the floor, but it was dry; and by innumerable chinks, I found it an agreeable asylum from the snow and wind.

“Here then I retreated, and lay down happy to have found a shelter, however small, from the inclemency of the season, and still more from the barbarity of man.

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how far you think Mary Shelley presents the Monster.

You should look at:

- how the Monster’s alienation in the world and the difficulties of his life as Frankenstein are presented in this extract
- how the sympathy generated by Shelley for the Monster compares to that in the whole text

- 5) In the following extract from Chapter 2, Victor witnesses the lightning which

Before this I was not unacquainted with the more obvious laws of electricity. A great research in natural philosophy was with us, and, excited by this catalytic explanation of a theory which he had formed on the subject of electricity, I was once new and astonishing to me. All that he said threw greatly into the shade Albertus Magnus, and Paracelsus, the lords of my imagination; but by some of these men disinclined me to pursue my accustomed studies. It seemed to me that I could never be known. All that had so long engaged my attention suddenly fell from those caprices of the mind, which we are perhaps most subject to in early years; former occupations; set down natural history and all its progeny as a deformed and entertained the greatest disdain for a would-be science, which could never lead to real knowledge. In this mood of mind I betook myself to the mathematical appertaining to that science, as being built upon secure foundations, and so

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how Shelley presents science in

You should look at:

- how science is presented in this extract
- how science is presented in the whole text

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6. In this extract Victor gathers all the parts to make the creature and spends all on this project, neglecting his family, friends and health.

No one can conceive the variety of feelings which bore me onwards, like a hurricane, from the state of torpor or indifference, to one of the most exalted enthusiasm of success. Life and death appeared to me ideal bounds, which I was well wadded with the promise of bliss and pour a torrent of light into our dark world. A new species would bless many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me. No father could have his child so completely as I should deserve theirs. Pursuing these reflections, to bestow animation upon lifeless matter, I might in process of time (although I knew it not) renew life where death had apparently devoted the body to corruption.

These thoughts supported my spirits, while I pursued my undertaking with a cheerfulness that my cheek had grown pale with study, and my person had become emaciated. On the very brink of certainty, I failed; yet still I clung to the hope which might realise. One secret which I alone possessed was the hope to which the moon gazed on my midnight labours, while, with unrelaxed and breathless and anxious attention, to her hiding-places. Who shall conceive the horrors of my secret toil, as I dived into unhallowed damp of the grave, or tortured the living animal, to animate a lifeless form? Trembling and my eyes swim with the remembrance; but then a resistless, ardent urge urged me forward; I seemed to have lost all soul or sensation but for this one purpose. In this passing trance that only made me feel with renewed acuteness so soon as, to operate, I had returned to my old habits. I collected bones from charnel houses and the graveyards, the tremendous secrets of the human frame. In a solitary room, on the top of the house, and separated from all the other apartments by a gallery and workshop of filthy creation: my eye-balls were starting from their sockets in their ghastly employment. The dissecting room and the slaughter-house furnished materials. As my human nature turned with loathing from my occupation, whilst, still urged on by the demon which perpetually increased, I brought my work near to a conclusion.

The summer months passed while I was thus engaged, heart and soul, in my work. It was a beautiful season; never did the fields bestow a more plentiful harvest, or the vines give a richer vintage: but my eyes were insensible to the charms of nature. And the same neglect the scenes around me caused me also to forget those friends who were dear to me, whom I had not seen for so long a time.

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how Shelley presents the theme of obsession.

You should look at:

- how Victor's dreams have become an obsession in this extract
- how the theme of obsession is presented in the whole text

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7) In this extract, Victor comes face to face with the creature and he is overcome

I trembled with rage and horror, resolving to wait his approach, and then combat. He approached; his countenance bespoke bitter, anguish, combat while its unearthly ugliness rendered it almost too horrible for human eyes. My rage and hatred had at first deprived me of utterance, and I recovered only expressive of furious detestation and contempt.

“Devil,” I exclaimed, “do you dare approach me? and do not you fear the woe wreaked on your miserable head? Begone, vile insect! or rather, stay, that I may and, oh! that I could, with the extinction of your miserable existence, rest have so diabolically murdered!”

“I expected this reception,” said the daemon. “All men hate the wretched; who am miserable beyond all living things! Yet you, my creator, detest and whom thou art bound by ties only dissoluble by the annihilation of one of us. How dare you sport thus with life? Do your duty towards me, and I will do the rest of mankind. If you will comply with my conditions, I will leave them in peace; if you refuse, I will glut the maw of death, until it be satiated with the blood of your

“Abhorred monster! fiend that thou art! the tortures of hell are too mild a Wretched devil! you reproach me with your creation; come on, then, that which I so negligently bestowed.”

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how far you think Shelley presents Frankenstein.

You should look at:

- how Victor shows his desire for revenge on the creature in this extract
- how the theme of revenge is presented in the whole text

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8) In this extract The Monster tells Victor how he observed the actions and feelings of the cottagers.

"I lay on my straw, but I could not sleep. I thought of the occurrences of the last night; and the gentle manners of these people; and I longed to join them, but well the treatment I had suffered the night before from the barbarous village. In the course of conduct I might hereafter think it right to pursue, that for the present I remained in my hovel, watching, and endeavouring to discover the motives which influenced them. The cottagers arose the next morning before the sun. The young woman prepared the food; and the youth departed after the first meal.

"This day was passed in the same routine as that which preceded it. The youth was employed out of doors, and the girl in various laborious occupations within the cottage. I perceived to be blind, employed his leisure hours on his instrument or in reading. He exceeded the love and respect which the younger cottagers exhibited towards him. They performed towards him every little office of affection and duty with cheerfulness, and cheered him by his benevolent smiles.

"They were not entirely happy. The young man and his companion often wept. I saw no cause for their unhappiness; but I was deeply affected by it. I was miserable, it was less strange that I, an imperfect and solitary being, should sympathize with these gentle beings unhappy? They possessed a delightful house (for such it was, in proportion to their wants; they had a fire to warm them when chill, and delicious viands when hungry; excellent clothes; and, still more, they enjoyed one another's company and day looks of affection and kindness. What did their tears imply? Did they have secrets first unable to solve these questions; but perpetual attention and time exposed which were at first enigmatic.

"A considerable period elapsed before I discovered one of the causes of their misery: it was poverty; and they suffered that evil in a very distressing degree. Their food consisted entirely of the vegetables of their garden, and the milk of one cow. In the winter, when its masters could scarcely procure food to support it. The pangs of hunger very poignantly, especially the two younger cottagers; for they ate before the old man when they reserved none for themselves.

"This trait of kindness moved me sensibly. I had been accustomed, during my confinement, to store for my own consumption; but when I found that in doing this I inflicted pain on others, I abstained, and satisfied myself with berries, nuts, and roots, which I gathered from the forest.

"I discovered also another means through which I was enabled to assist them. The youth spent a great part of each day in collecting wood for the family fire; and I took his tools, the use of which I quickly discovered, and brought home firewood for the consumption of several days.

"I remember the first time that I did this the young woman, when she opened the door, appeared greatly astonished on seeing a great pile of wood on the outside. She called in a loud voice, and the youth joined her, who also expressed surprise. I observed that they did not go to the forest that day, but spent it in repairing the cottage and cultivating the garden.

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how Shelley presents the character of The Monster. You should look at:

- how the kindness and sensitivity of The Monster is presented in this extract
- how the kindness and sensitivity of The Monster is presented in the whole of the novel

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9) In this extract *The Monster* begins to question his own identity and existence

“As I read, however, I applied much personally to my own feelings and circumstances, and I found them similar, yet at the same time strangely unlike to the beings concerning whom I read; and my conversation I was a listener. I sympathised with, and partly understood them; but they understood me not. I was dependent on none and related to none. ‘The path of my departure was lonely, and none to lament my annihilation. My person was hideous and my stature gigantic. What should I have done? Who was I? What was I? Whence did I come? What was my destination? What was my purpose? The questions recurred, but I was unable to solve them.

“The volume of Plutarch’s *Lives*, which I possessed, contained the histories of the ancient republics. This book had a far different effect upon me from the romances of Werter’s imaginations despondency and gloom: but Plutarch taught me to rise above the wretched sphere of my own reflections to admire and love the virtues of the things I read surpassed my understanding and experience. I had a very curious idea of kingdoms, wide extents of country, mighty rivers, and boundless seas. But I had seen nothing of towns, and large assemblages of men. The cottage of my protectors had been my school; but this book developed new and mighty ideas in my mind; men concerned in public affairs, governing or massacring their species. I felt a virtue rise within me, and abhorrence for vice, as far as I understood the species, relative as they were, as I applied them, to pleasure and pain alone. Induced by this course led to admire peaceable lawgivers, Numa, Solon, and Lycurgus, in contrast with Theseus. The patriarchal lives of my protectors caused these impressions to take a permanent hold on my mind; perhaps, if my first introduction to humanity had been made by a year of peace and slaughter, I should have been imbued with different sensations.

“But *Paradise Lost* excited different and far deeper emotions. I read it, as I read the others, which had fallen into my hands, as a true history. It moved every feeling of mine. The picture of an omnipotent God warring with his creatures was capable of exciting several situations, as their similarity struck me, to my own. Like Adam, I was alone in a wide and desolate scene; but his state was far different from mine in that he came forth from the hands of God a perfect creature, happy and prosperous, conversing with his Creator; he was allowed to converse with, and acquire knowledge from, his fellow creatures; but I was wretched, helpless, and alone. Many times I considered Satan as the true hero; for often, like him, when I viewed the bliss of my protectors, the bitter gall of my

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how Shelley presents the theme of creation and identity in *Frankenstein*.

You should look at:

- how the theme of creation and personal identity is presented in this extract
- how the theme of creation and identity is presented in the whole text

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10) In this extract, the Monster is discovering his origins.

“Another circumstance strengthened and confirmed these feelings. Soon I discovered some papers in the pocket of the dress which I had taken from the neglected them; but now that I was able to decipher the characters in which they were written, I began to study them with diligence. It was your journal of the four months that you had spent in the country, minutely described in these papers every step you took in the progress of your journey, mingled with accounts of domestic occurrences. You, doubtless, recollect that Everything is related in them which bears reference to my accursed origin, and the chain of disgusting circumstances which produced it is set in view; the minutes of my life as a loathsome person is given, in language which painted your own horrors and rendered me sickened as I read. ‘Hateful day when I received life!’ I exclaimed in agony. ‘Did you form a monster so hideous that even _you_ turned from me in disgust? You were beautiful and alluring, after his own image; but my form is a filthy type of his, the very reverse of the very resemblance. Satan had his companions, fellow-devils, to admire and comfort him, but I have none. I am solitary and abhorred.’”

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how Shelley presents the religious theme in the text.

You should look at:

- how the theme of religion is presented in this extract
- how the theme of religion is presented in the whole text

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AQA GCSE Student Self- or Peer Assessment

This mark scheme combines the ideas given in the AOs and the AQA mark scheme. You should use this to

		Level →	0 marks	Level 1	Level 2
		Keywords →	Nothing worthy of credit	Simple, explicit	Supported relevant
Skills to demonstrate in your work	A01	I demonstrate my knowledge of the text*			
	A01	I present an informed personal response			
	A01	I use references to the text to support my interpretations			
	A02	I analyse the methods used by the author			
	A02	I analyse the effects of these methods on the reader	If this is not done, give 0 marks for this skill.		
	A02	I use appropriate subject terminology			
	A03	I understand the relationship between text and context			

*This does not appear in the AQA SAMs mark scheme

Don't forget: **A04** – I use a variety of word choices and sentence types, with correct use of spelling and

Best area:

Areas to work on:

Teachers should refer to the mark schemes given on the AQA website for marking and to ensure students

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Worked-through Exam



In this extract from Chapter 11, the Monster describes the initial stages of its existence with humans.

“It was noon when I awoke; and, allured by the warmth of the sun, which shone on the ground, I determined to recommence my travels; and, depositing the remains of my wallet I found, I proceeded across the fields for several hours, until at sunset I perceived a miraculous did this appear! the huts, the neater cottages, and stately houses, exchanged their turns. The vegetables in the gardens, the milk and cheese that I saw placed at the doors of the cottages, allured my appetite. One of the best of these I entered; but I had hardly entered the door, before the children shrieked, and one of the women fainted. The whole family then some attacked me, until, grievously bruised by stones and many other kinds of weapons, I fled to the open country, and fearfully took refuge in a low hovel, quite bare, and made of mud, not far after the palaces I had beheld in the village. This hovel, however, joined a cottage, and had the appearance; but, after my late dearly bought experience, I dared not enter it. It was constructed of wood, but so low that I could with difficulty sit upright in it. No roof was on the earth, which formed the floor, but it was dry; and although the wind entered, I found it an agreeable asylum from the snow and rain.

“Here then I retreated, and lay down happy to have found a shelter, however miserable, from the inclemency of the season, and still more from the barbarity of man.”

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how far you think Mary Shelley created sympathy for the Monster.

You should look at:

- how the Monster’s alienation in the world and the difficulties of his life after his creation by Frankenstein are presented in this extract
- how the sympathy generated by Shelley for the Monster compares to that of the other characters in the whole text

Initial Planning Activity

Question wording

- a) Read the question and highlight the keywords that you need to focus on in order to answer all parts of the question. Use the space below to define any of the key terms that you need to define in the introduction.

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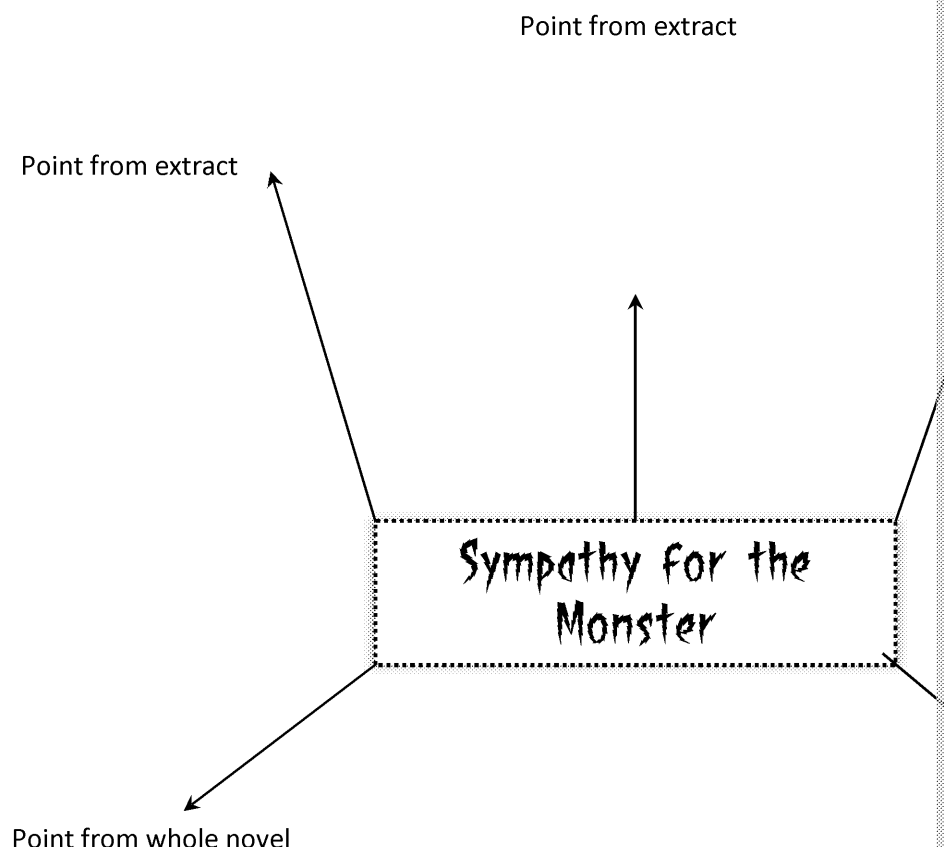
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b) Complete the mind map below with your initial ideas in answer to the question:

- how all the characters express the Monster's alienation
- the techniques used to express these ideas
- contextual issues, such as why Shelley makes this theme prominent

Split your ideas into points from the extract and points from the novel as a whole.



Write your key quotations here:

Key quotations from extract	Key quotations from whole novel

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Sample Plan

- c) In your essay you should aim to write about five paragraphs. Before you start your response so that you know what points you want to make in each paragraph. It might be ideal to work through events chronologically, or by character, for the structure below in each paragraph, you are more likely to achieve each of the marks. Complete the boxes. The first one has been done for you.

Introduction

- Briefly describe what 'sympathy' is and what 'alienation' is
- Briefly describe how different characters interact with these ideas
- Briefly describe how language and method are used to show these ideas
- Briefly describe how both ideas link to the message of the novel

POINT:	what is the main topic of the paragraph and the question?
EVIDENCE:	what key quotation can be used to support the point?
EXPLANATION:	how can you further explain the key quotation using specific words or techniques and their effects?
WORD ANALYSIS:	what specific connotations do individual words have?
METHOD ANALYSIS:	what techniques has the writer used to show these ideas?
CONTEXT:	how does this relate to ideas which were present in the text written?
LINK:	how does all of this relate back to context?
RELATE TO THE WHOLE TEXT:	how is this shown elsewhere in the text?

Paragraph one

Point: *When the Monster speaks for himself he expresses human emotions*

Evidence: *'fearfully took refuge in a low hovel'*

Explanation: *The Monster feels that he is in severe danger, which shows that he fears humanity fears him.*

Word analysis: *The adverb 'fearfully' represents how terrified he is and how he would protect himself in a 'low hovel', than be exposed to the threats that humanity poses.*

Method analysis: *The fact that he seeks 'refuge' reinforces how threatened he feels, and 'hovel' implying that the shelter offers protection but little in the way of comfort.*

Context: *Humans can be fearful of what they don't know and often react with violence, especially in the context of political revolutions and scientific discoveries which sometimes provoked violent debates.*

Link to theme: *Until the Monster speaks and is given a chance to explain itself, it is feared and never even given a name.*

Relate to the whole text: *When the Monster speaks he is intelligent and sensitive, as shown by his 'weeping' because he feels alone. This is the opposite of the descriptions that Victor gives of him as a 'fiend' or 'devil', which express completely different ideas.*

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Paragraph two

Point:

Evidence:

Explanation:.....

.....

Word analysis:

.....

Method analysis:

.....

Context:

.....

Link to theme:

.....

Relate to the whole text:

.....

Paragraph three

Point:

Evidence:

Explanation:.....

.....

Word analysis:

.....

Method analysis:

.....

Context:

.....

Link to theme:

.....

Relate to the whole text:

.....

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Paragraph four

Point:

Evidence:

Explanation:.....

.....

Word analysis:.....

.....

Method analysis:.....

.....

Context:

.....

Link to theme:

.....

Relate to the whole text:

.....

Paragraph five

Point:

Evidence:

Explanation:.....

.....

Word analysis:.....

.....

Method analysis:.....

.....

Context:

.....

Link to theme:

.....

Relate to the whole text:

.....

Conclusion

- Link back to the question
- Sum up the main points about sympathy and alienation and how they relate to the text
- Sum up how sympathy and alienation relate to Shelley's message
- Briefly include your own opinion about the presentation of sympathy and alienation
- **Do not discuss anything which you have not already developed in your paragraphs**

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Writing Frame

d) Using the information in the table, write out each paragraph in full sentences

Paragraph one

TIP: Remember to comment on the extract, and then relate the points you have made to the novel as a whole.

Paragraph two

Paragraph three

TIP: Remember

Paragraph four

TIP: Remember to include quotations and to analyse them for language use and method.

Paragraph five

TIP: Remember to use a range of ideas together and make sure

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Annotated Sample Answer

Introduction

The reader is made to feel sympathy for the Monster through the way it uses language, how it reacts to nature which shows that it is not as different from the other characters, the violent treatment it receives, the emotional impact of the violence on the Monster and how it has been abandoned by its creator. By listening to its own perspective and by listening to its words, the reader is able to have a greater level of compassion for the Monster (AO1 and AO2 as there is both a critical voice and method analysis) These ideas link to the Monster's motivations because trying to find identity and companionship are central to the Monster's motivations, as he seeks a mate for him.

Paragraph one – focus on the extract

Sympathy is created for the Monster in this extract through the language it uses. (AO1 and AO2 analysis) The Monster expresses very human emotions such as terror which makes the character's actions of running 'fearfully' and taking 'refuge in a low hovel' is entirely understandable considering his situation which most readers would regard as rational and human. (AO2 language analysis) Such a response from the Monster feels that he is in severe danger and shows that he fears humanity as much as humans fear him (personal response) The adverb 'fearfully' represents how terrified he is and how he would prefer to be alone than be exposed to the threats that humanity poses. (AO2 analysis) The fact that he seeks refuge in a 'low hovel' he feels, especially as this refuge is a 'low hovel', implying that the shelter offers protection but is also a place of fear (analysis) Humans can be fearful of what they don't know and often react with violence. (AO3 knowledge of context) The age of political revolutions and scientific discoveries which sometimes provoked violent debates. When the Monster speaks and is given a chance to explain itself, it is fully demonised in the text, and is seen as a monster (analysis) When the Monster speaks he is intelligent and sensitive. (AO2 analysis) He also shows 'weeping' because he feels alone. This is the opposite to the descriptions that Victor gives of the Monster as a 'fiend' or 'devil', which express completely different ideas. (AO1 knowledge of the text)

Paragraph two – focus on the extract

The Monster behaves towards nature in a way which mimics other characters and this creates sympathy for him as other characters are living in the same world but it is the Monster alone who is isolated. (AO1 informed person) The Monster described how he was 'allured by the warmth of the sun, which shone brightly on the water' (references) This shows how positively he viewed nature at this time and this reflects his emotional state and determination to continue and the weather affirms this positivity. (AO1 informed person) The sun shows the rejuvenating effect that the sun has on the spirit of the Monster and as it is the same for all characters, the isolation of the Monster becomes more pronounced. (AO2 analysis) It is not just the sun that affects him but also the amount of light and as light is often related to ideas of purity and hope, the Monster also feels as though it is moving towards a period of discovery and is buoyed by this thought. 'brightly' and 'white' further emphasises the positivity of nature and the Monster's optimism (analysis and subject terminology) Contextually this could relate to the abundance of revolutions and discoveries that were being made at the time: they were deemed by some to be progressive and by others to be dangerous. The Monster mirrors the attitudes of the Monster because he has no way of knowing what he will discover. The danger of discovery is recurrent throughout the novel as it is arguably Victor's determination to discover the secret of life which causes the death of his family and friends. (AO1 knowledge of the text) Victor's reaction relates strongly to Frankenstein's ideas about how discovery is positive when he comes to life. When creating the Monster, he wants to 'pour a torrent of light into our dark world'. These parallels show how closely aligned they are, rather like the relationship between a parent and child. This makes the Monster even more heartless and thus generates more sympathy for the Monster. (AO2 analysis)

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Paragraph three – focus on the extract

Sympathy is created for the Monster because of the violent treatment it experiences from humans. The extract includes a number of dynamic verbs which stress the violence that the villagers employ. (AO2 – use of language) Words such as ‘shrieked’, ‘attacked’, ‘bruised’ and ‘roused’ all depict the commotion and chaos that occurred. The Monster appeared, and stresses his confusion because he cannot see why the humans behaved as they did. (AO2 – subject terminology and method analysis) Additionally, the adverb ‘grievously’ shows how injured the Monster was. (AO2 – subject terminology and method analysis) Contextually the reaction of the villagers is a negative response but yet as the reader finds out about it from the Monster’s perspective, it highlights the sympathy for the Monster. (AO3 context) This links with the rest of the text because elsewhere the monster is seen from the Monster’s perspective which means sympathy for the character decreases. (AO2 method analysis) The sympathy for humans increases because there are also many graphic physical descriptions of the Monster as hideous and terrifying to look at. (AO2 – use of method) Examples of this are its ‘yellow skin’ and ‘yellow skin’ described as being non-human. (AO1 – use of quotations to critically support points) Consequently, the reader can empathise with how the villagers reacted as they were fearful of the Monster’s appearance.

Paragraph four – focus on the extract

Sympathy is created for the Monster because of the emotional impact the attack has on the Monster. The extract describes his emotional state as he is ‘miserable from the inclemency of the season, and still more so from the knowledge that he was alone in the world’. (AO1 use of references to support) The word ‘miserable’ is a contrast with the optimism that the Monster encounters the humans and this emphasises the hugely negative impact of their violent attack. The term ‘barbarity’ accentuates the uncivilised behaviour of the villagers and this is another contrast to what is expected to behave: before the Monster tells his own story, the reader perceives that he is barbaric towards humans, but yet when the Monster speaks for himself, it is the barbarity of the humans that is highlighted. (AO1 informed personal response) Presenting the Monster like this could be interpreted as how humans fear the unknown and that when people are allowed to speak for themselves, they are more human. As a result, she could be saying that there needs to be more dialogue with the disenfranchised. Alternatively, she could be showing how cruel humans can be through the way the Monster is treated. (AO2 using more than one interpretation) This quotation links with the rest of the novel because the Monster he often uses words such as ‘the wretch’ or ‘the fiend’. (AO1 – use of quotations to support points) This suggests that the Monster is unique and consequently his threat to humans is also exceptional. In the extract, however, it is the Monster who is threatened by the humans.

Paragraph five – focus on the novel but linking with the extract

One way in which Shelley creates a sense of sympathy for the Monster in the novel as a whole is through the themes of parenthood and abandonment. (AO1 – strong critical voice) The Monster questions his existence and not have a parental influence in his life: ‘And what was I?’ (Chapter 13 – AO1) Victor is presented as the one who created the Monster and brought him into the world. Thus, his rejection of the Monster can be seen as a failure of parental responsibilities. (AO1 informed personal response) In this way, it can be argued that Victor is responsible for the Monster’s subsequently damaging actions, and this was something Shelley wanted the reader to recognise. (AO3 – link to context) It is telling that the Monster questions himself using the word ‘what’ which suggests that he does not regard his identity as being human. It also emphasises his confusion about himself which is like him. The use of the question shows that he is both curious and confused about his existence. History shows her own mother to have tragically died in childbirth, which is often referred to as a tragedy in the writing process. (AO3 – relevant and useful reference to context) The feelings of loss and confusion about identity could represent Shelley’s own emotions. Within the narrative Shelley also often gives the Monster violent actions, which leads to a feeling of sympathy. (AO2 method analysis) For example, the Monster’s violent actions are a major theme of the text, because Victor does not live up to his word to create a companion for the Monster. His reaction to the destruction of his mate is shown with ‘a howl of devilish despair’. (Chapter 20 – AO1 to back up answer successfully applied) As the readers we begin to realise that the Monster is not meant to integrate with humans, and while we perhaps do not agree with the method, Mary Shelley creates a sense of sympathy for revenge and denial of Victor’s future happiness. (AO1 – critical voice and AO2 description of text)

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Conclusion

In conclusion, sympathy for the Monster increases in this extract because it is told from the Monster's perspective, which allows the reader to gain an insight into his thoughts and feelings, which ultimately turn out to be more sympathetic than Victor's. (AO1 and AO2 as there is both a critical voice and method analysis) Throughout the novel, the Monster is perceived and how Victor is perceived because when Victor is telling the story, he is seen as 'a devil' or 'a fiend' whereas when the Monster is telling the story, Victor is shown to be selfish and cruel. The fact that Victor does not make the female monster. I think that it is difficult to feel complete sympathy for either character as the Monster's perspective makes such a huge difference as to how the reader perceives Victor or the Monster.

Commentary

This answer would be awarded low Level 6. It demonstrates some secure language used throughout in order to support ideas (AO2) and as the quotations are generalised sentences, the level of cohesion is good (AO4). Overall, the essay is well structured with the topic sentences clearly expressing the main ideas in the subsequent paragraphs. Within each paragraph it has been used effectively to link back to the question. The answer would move into the next level if there was a greater amount of word-level analysis. The question specifically uses the word 'alienation' but this term is not used. It would have been useful if there was a definition given of this word so that the examiner could see the student is using it. There also should be more explicit links drawn between the two characters. This would show the examiner that the student is able to compare these two characters and their similarities between them which are pivotal in Shelley's novel.

Overall, it is quite a strong answer, with all the AOs being addressed. With a little more detail the essay would move up into the next level.

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Improve Your Essay

- e) Annotate your essay showing where you have achieved each of the assessment objectives. Use three different colours so that you can easily see where the majority of your essay is based on each objective.

Once you have done this, rewrite any paragraphs which are missing a particular objective.

AO1: rewrite a section, ensuring that you hit the assessment objective

AO2: rewrite a section, ensuring that you hit the assessment objective

AO3: rewrite a section, ensuring that you hit the assessment objective

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- SPaG

- a simple sentence
- a compound sentence
- a complex sentence
- a connective showing similarity
- a connective showing difference

[illegible]

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Sample Student Essays with

Sample Essay One

In this extract Victor gathers all the parts to make the creature and spends all his project, neglecting his family, friends and health.

No one can conceive the variety of feelings which bore me onwards, like a hurricane, from the state of torpor or indifference, into one of high life. At times the idea of death, which had hitherto been a vague and remote notion, appeared to me ideal bounds, which I should first break through before I could attain to the bliss of light into our dark world. A new species would bless me as its creator and source; many excellent natures would owe their being to me. No father could claim the gratitude of his child so completely as I should deserve theirs. Pursuing these reflections, I thought, that if I could matter, I might in process of time (although I now found it impossible) renew the world, and devoted the body to corruption.

These thoughts supported my spirits, while I pursued my undertaking with unrelaxing diligence. My person had grown pale with study, and my person had become emaciated with confinement. On the brink of certainty, I failed; yet still I clung to the hope which the next day or the next night might bring. My secret which I alone possessed was the hope to which I had dedicated myself; and in the midnight labours, while, with unrelaxed and breathless eagerness, I pursued nature to her hiding-places, I shall conceive the horrors of my secret toil, as I dabbled among the unhallowed damps of the grave, or contemplated the living animal, to animate the lifeless clay? My limbs now tremble and my eyes are dim with the remembrance; but then a resistless, and almost frantic, impulse urged me forward, I cared not for pain or fear; my soul or sensation but for this one pursuit. It was indeed but a passing trance that I renewed acuteness so soon as, the unnatural stimulus ceasing to operate, I had collected bones from charnel-houses; and disturbed, with profane fingers, the tremendous frame. In a solitary chamber, or rather cell, at the top of the house, and separated by a gallery and staircase, I kept my workshop of filthy creation: my eyeballs were usually in attendance to the details of my employment. The dissecting room and the slaughter-house furnished me with my material; and often did my human nature turn with loathing from my occupation, yet, by an eagerness which perpetually increased, I brought my work near to a conclusion.

The summer months passed while I was thus engaged, heart and soul, in one pursuit; never did the fields bestow a more plentiful harvest, or the vines yield a more luxuriant vintage, but my eyes were insensible to the charms of nature. And the same feelings which hurried me on to my work, also caused me also to forget those friends who were so many miles absent from me for so long a time.

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how Shelley presents the theme of obsession in this extract.

You should look at:

- how Victor's dreams have become an obsession in this extract
- how the theme of obsession is presented in the whole text

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Activity One: Using the mark scheme (AO1, AO2, AO3)

Read the essay below, which was written in response to the question on the previous page. Highlight the parts of the essay that answer the question on the previous page. Write down the activity below.

Victor wants to achieve something which has not previously been accomplished. He dreams of the creation of life in this new, albeit unnatural way. (AO1 – critical style) However, Victor begins with enthusiasm, but this enthusiasm seems to morph into obsession, which has, in Victor's case, a negative outcome. (AO1 – informed personal response) The framing narrative introduces us to Walton's dreams and when they are revealed, it is apparent that this becomes a cautionary tale, warning Walton not to allow the same fate as it has destroyed Victor. (AO2 – structure and form analysis)

Victor begins by imagining the possibilities and the advantages of understanding the human form and replicating it and bring it to life. (AO1 – critical style) His excitement is heightened when he begins his task and this is illustrated in the opening sentence of the extract where he employs the use of powerful feelings which bore me onwards, like a hurricane, in the first enthusiasm of success.' (AO1 – informed personal response) 'feelings' at this stage does not suggest that he is obsessive yet because, although he is determined, his enthusiasm is a mixture and not entirely focused on one feeling. (AO2 – language analysis) As Victor begins to describe his behaviour, begin to narrow onto only one focus. This is reinforced through the word 'enthusiasm' which has positive connotations of interest and eagerness rather than a fanatical pursuit of one goal. The use of the two words suggest that Victor is balanced and that his interest has not become obsession. The use of 'hurricane' there is a sense of the tumult and possible destruction which will be the result of his actions. This possible consequence and so instead throws himself into his work. (AO1 – critical response) The use of 'hurricane' create a sense of foreboding and also shows the arrogance of Victor, who does not seem aware of the consequences. (AO2 – method analysis) A hurricane cannot be controlled, just like The Monster will not be controlled. (AO2 – method analysis) Later in the novel, Victor regrets being 'the author of unalterable evils' but at the time his enthusiasm has overpowered his ability to see the dangers. (AO3 – link to text) These ideas are linked to the concern about how some scientists made discoveries and undertook experiments without considering the consequences of their work. It is too late to consider these consequences once the experiments have been carried out.

Victor's enthusiasm leads to obsession because he wants to become like God. (AO1 – informed personal response) That 'a new species would bless me as its creator and source; many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me.' (textual reference) This clearly suggests that Victor not only wishes to emulate God's ability to create but also to receive gratitude. It is highlighted with the word 'owe' which represents how he thinks his creation would owe him. (AO2 – language analysis) The reference to the word 'bless' evokes feelings of unease in the reader as his arrogance is not ones usually associated with a divine and sacred power. (AO1 – critical style and AO2 – language analysis) Victor says he 'dabbled among the unhallowed damps of the grave or tortured the living animal to animate the lifeless clay' (textual reference) The reference to animating clay reminds us of the creation of Adam from clay. The conflict between good and evil in the language used, such as 'unhallowed' and 'torture', which are associated with Satan, rather than God – perhaps in some way foreshadowing the conflicting nature of both Victor's ambition to dabble with God's work. (AO3 – link to context) It also reminds us of the titan Prometheus who was given the gift of knowledge as he also suffered terrible consequences for interfering with God's plan. The comparison between Titan Prometheus and Victor Frankenstein – 'the modern Prometheus' – is that the former had to live with the consequences, therefore, anticipate any misfortune that may befall mankind as a result of his actions. Frankenstein is utterly fixated with the glory he might gain for his achievements that he neglected to consider the consequences of his actions, consequences which had devastating results. (AO3 – link to text and context)

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- a) Annotate the remainder of the essay following the sample above.

Victor allows his desire to create life to overwhelm him, both mentally and physically. He is 'pale with study' and he had become 'emaciated with confinement'. He even admits that he has 'loathing' when collecting the necessary materials, which affirms that he really had become obsessed. The quotations show how unnatural his obsession has become as it is taking a toll on his health. He no longer goes outside and enjoys nature as he did before. This could also emphasise how he is going against its laws. It is furthered by the word 'emaciated' which represents how his body has changed and become unhealthy but his entire body has started to starve because he is neglecting his human needs, it could also be argued that Victor is becoming more monstrous as his obsession is accentuated by the final quotation because it is almost as if Victor's humanity has become so lost that his 'human nature' would be appalled by the behaviour if the rest of him represented his scientific pursuit. Victor suffers from ill-health throughout the novel, such as when he is 'ill' and it could be that, because he has gone against his human nature, his body can never fully recover. This links with the idea that some scientific experiments were going against natural law which had severe consequences.

Victor's obsession leads to him isolating himself. He ignores those he loves claiming that 'these friends who were so many miles absent'. This represents a twofold isolation because he is physically distant from them, being 'many miles absent' but he is also emotionally distant from them and does not think about them. The magnitude of this isolation emphasises how his scientific obsession has taken over. Victor does not even stop to admire the nature of the environment during the summer months, 'in one pursuit'. The word 'one' demonstrates again how this sole pursuit has become his entire life. His obsession. He has shown this passion previously when he first started studying natural history, 'his personality is a very strong characteristic of his'. Victor is, therefore, fully aware that he is unlikely that the reader will feel completely sympathetic, however, as his motives are not purely to benefit himself. This links to context through the fear that some scientists were creating weapons but yet the consequences affect everyone in society.

It could be argued that Victor gains the ability to foresee difficulties in Walton's future by suffering by relating his own events to the explorer. Victor evidently sees the similarity between them as they both endure hardship to achieve his dreams and, just as Victor becomes very unwell through his obsession, Walton admits he 'voluntarily endured cold, famine, thirst, and want of sleep'. This inability to stop is from the obsessive nature of the two men. Walton's desire to explore the unknown parts of the world, Victor's desire to create life, and Walton admits 'this expedition has been the favourite dream of my life'. Walton concedes that 'These are my enticements, and they are sufficient to conquer all fear of danger and death so lightly does cause us to imagine that these consequences will not befall us'.

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like Victor, he is blinded by the power and glory associated with his dream of exploring the unknown. We can observe how Victor's dream becomes a nightmare and the tragic events of the novel unfold as a result of obsession become apparent. It is through Victor's lack of forethought that the tragedy leads to the fortunate lifestyle Victor led. He claims that 'wealth was an inferior object' and in Walton's letter, Walton states that 'My life may have been passed in ease and luxury; but I preferred glory to ease, and placed in my path.' It could be perceived that both desired glory as a substitute for the unknown. Ultimately, however, the novel ends leaving the reader feeling dissatisfied with the result that Walton will heed Victor's advice. A more prevailing sentiment, however, is the sympathy for the creature who died and the creature who endured lifelong misery and suffering; all which were solely the result of obsessions of one man's quest for power and glory.

In conclusion, Victor's enthusiasm turns into obsession when he is unable to consider any other consequences. His physical health begins to suffer as a result. It is only when Victor realises the error of his ways in his creation that the reader has some sympathy for him, but by then it is too late. Obsession is a trait shared by just Victor who expresses this trait as Walton is similarly driven and there are many parallels between the two.

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- b) Look back at the mark scheme and, based on your annotations above, consider how well you think you have achieved for each assessment objective. Complete the table below with your

Assessment objectives	Suggested questions
<p>AO1 Read, understand and respond to texts.</p> <p>Students should be able to: maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response and use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.</p>	
<p>AO2 Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.</p>	
<p>AO3 Show understanding of relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.</p>	

Discuss with a partner your reasons for awarding the mark you have for each

Activity two: AO1, AO2 and AO3

Choose one paragraph which you think is lacking in either AO1, AO2 or AO3 and mark it as you can.

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Sample Essay Two

Activity three: AO1, AO2, AO3

- a) The following essay uses most of the same points and quotations as the previous answer and highlight the quotations (AO1) with a red pen.

Victor's obsession is ever-present in his personality. He wants to achieve the impossible which starts out as an interest but becomes an obsession when he is no longer able to focus on anything else and it becomes the only thing he is interested in. There are many parallels between Victor and Walton.

At the beginning of the extract, Victor is excited about what he may be able to create. He says 'which bore me onwards, like a hurricane, in the first enthusiasm of success'. This suggests that he might be able to discover and he is also confident of being successful in this regard. The 'hurricane' shows how his emotion is uncontrolled. It could link to the lightning which sparks the idea as an uncontrollable force is pushing him onwards. Contextually, Shelley was concerned about what might happen with the results of their experiments before they undertook them.

Victor is no longer just enthusiastic, he has become obsessed as shown when he wants to position himself as a godlike character. He wants to create the new species so that it 'would be many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me'. This suggests that Victor is aware that it can be in his debt. Victor doesn't seem to know what he is doing as he 'dabbled and tortured the living animal to animate the lifeless clay'. The word 'dabbled' implies that he is clueless as to what might happen in the future because of the results. It links with the words 'the modern Prometheus' because Victor is unaware about where his creation will lead.

Victor suffers because of his obsession. He does not take care of himself as his 'cheek had become emaciated with confinement'. These both show that he has become unwell because of his obsession. This is heightened as he says that his 'human nature would turn with loathing' when he was the Monster. The fact that his 'human nature' would be distressed by what he is doing implies that it is making him ill. This links to other times in the novel when Victor is poorly because of what he has done. Justine is unfairly executed for murder. It could suggest that Victor should not go against nature and only do experiments which they are in control of.

Victor becomes so obsessed with his experiments that he deliberately isolates himself from his friends who were so many miles absent'. He does not want anyone or anything to interfere with his work. Even avoids his 'friends' shows just how determined Victor is to succeed. He even ignores his own soul, in one pursuit'. He does not notice the beauty of the seasons because he invests everything in his experiments. This is similar to how Victor was once really interested and obsessed with his work. Victor has the kind of personality which becomes entirely absorbed by one thing at a time. The experiments that Victor does by himself have huge implications for all of society and so he does not take care that their experiments are not damaging.

There are many similarities between Victor and Walton and how obsessed they are to achieve their goals. They are prepared to suffer as Walton says that 'this expedition has been the favourite dream of my life'. This is similar to Victor whose interest in the natural sciences first begins when he is a child. Both are in danger which is interesting as they both come from quite wealthy families. Victor sees Walton 'preferred glory to every enticement that wealth placed in my path'. These both want to obtain something higher than money. Unfortunately, in Victor's case this drive led to the creation and destruction of a monstrous figure. Their ambitions may seem to be good but they are unsympathetic towards them.

Victor starts as enthusiastic but then becomes obsessed and suffers as a result. He is not like Walton or The Monster which he creates. Walton is similar to Victor in that he too is obsessed with his work.

- b) Use a green pen to highlight where there is analysis of form, language or structure.

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- c) What do you notice about how much AO1 and AO2 there is?

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- d) There are equal marks available for AO1 and AO2 in the exam. Choose one paragraph that is unbalanced in terms of AO1 and AO2. Rewrite it to increase the amount of AO1.

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Activity four: AO3

Context is included in each of the essays but it is different in terms of the amount of context included with the question.

Reread both essays and highlight any analysis of context with a blue pen.

- a) What do you notice about the amount of AO3 in essay one and essay two?

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- b) What do you notice about the quality of AO3 in essay one and essay two?

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- c) What do you notice about how AO3 links back to the question in essay one and essay two?

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Sample Essay Three

Read through the following sample essay, which was written in answer to the question:

In this extract, Victor comes face to face with the creature and he is overcome with

I trembled with rage and horror, resolving to wait his approach, and then close on him. He approached; his countenance bespoke bitter, anguish, combined with disdain and unearthly ugliness rendered it almost too horrible for human eyes. But I scarcely recovered from the hatred had at first deprived me of utterance, and I recovered only to overwhelm him with a furious detestation and contempt.

“Devil,” I exclaimed, “do you dare approach me? and do not you fear the fierce retribution wreaked on your miserable head? Begone, vile insect! or rather, stay, that I may destroy you! oh! that I could, with the extinction of your miserable existence, restore those whom you have diabolically murdered!”

“I expected this reception,” said the daemon. “All men hate the wretched; how then am I miserable beyond all living things! Yet you, my creator, detest and spurn me, and I am bound by ties only dissoluble by the annihilation of one of us. You purpose my destruction; sport thus with life? Do your duty towards me, and I will do mine towards you and your kind. You will comply with my conditions, I will leave them and you at peace; but if you refuse, I will devour you alive, or I will die of death, until it be satiated with the blood of your remaining friends.”

“Abhorred monster! fiend that thou art! the tortures of hell are too mild a vengeance for thy crimes. Wretched devil! you reproach me with your creation; come on, then, that I may destroy you so negligently bestowed.”

Using this extract as a starting point, explain how far you think Shelley presents the creature in *Frankenstein*.

You should look at:

- how Victor shows his desire for revenge on the creature in this extract
- how the theme of revenge is presented in the whole text

Read through the following essay.

Victor shows his desire for revenge through the language he uses to address the Monster, his use of threats and his determination. He has clearly planned what he was going to do when he met the Monster. Victor feels justified in his actions and it is understandable that the Monster wants revenge for the way he has been abandoned by his creator.

The untimely death of two members of Victor's household evoked feelings of extreme loathing and the language he uses when he meets the creature. The word he uses to greet him is 'Devil', which is a far more eloquent and seem more rational: he calmly asks Victor to 'Do your duty towards me and the rest of mankind'. He offers a choice, almost as God would offer alternative paths, in the hope that a better one would be chosen. There is frequent use of biblical language in the extract and the creature, despite his monstrous appearance, is repeatedly referred to as a 'devil' or 'demon'. Victor even tells him that 'the torture of your crimes'. This constant abuse and reference to his 'crimes' give the impression that Victor is not taking responsibility for his role in the murders or even considered what might have happened had he been different.

The creature seeks his revenge through Victor's loved ones, rather than attacking him directly. Initially, the creature is benevolent and tries to help other people on several occasions. However, he is very people he is trying to help. He spends years alone, fending for himself. His only solace is the children, whom he calls them his 'protectors', whom he observes from afar and eventually comes to love as he would his own. His feelings are of love. When he sees the young girl crying and the old man comforting her he describes it as 'peculiar and overpowering nature; they were a mixture of pain and pleasure.' It is when the creature is with them and is again treated with abhorrence and brutality that he 'vowed eternal hatred and

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Victor is very emotional and the word 'rage' appears throughout the extract. This shows how driving him to exact revenge on the creature that has killed his family and friends. Victor desires him, which shows how he is so upset and emotional that he is not in control of how he interacts with the Monster, who is much more composed and able to express himself clearly using words such as 'furious detestations and contempt' which again highlights the level of his desire for revenge. The Monster is able to assess situations rationally whereas Victor is controlled by his emotions. Therefore, himself, it is unsurprising that he is also unable to control the Monster.

Victor has planned what he is going to do when he meets the Monster as he 'waits for his appointed moment of mortal combat'. This shows that he has decided in advance how he wants to act, thus reinforcing his desire for revenge on the Monster and killing him in revenge for the murders he has enacted. The word 'wait' shows a contrast with Victor's unbridled and uncontrolled emotions elsewhere in the extract. The word 'wait' also suggests that the desire for revenge will end in death; either Victor's or the Monster's. Victor has stopped wanting to live with taking it away.

In conclusion, both characters feel that they are justified in their desire for revenge. The Monster is abandoned by everybody, especially his creator, and feels that he has been driven to murder because of the way he is treated by the humans he came into contact with. Victor feels justified in his desire for revenge because of the Monster he will avenge the deaths of his family and friends who were killed by the Monster.

Activity One

This would be considered a low Level 4 response as it:

AO1 – is clear and well explained with a range of textual references used effectively

AO2 – shows understanding of the effects of the writer's methods

AO3 – shows understanding of contextual factors

- a) What would you have to do to make this a Level 5 answer? Look at the mark scheme and decide what would have to be included for each assessment objective:

AO1

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AO2

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AO3

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Activity Two

Choose one paragraph and rewrite it so that it at least a Level 5 answer. When you are done, indicate where each of the assessment objectives have been met.

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Sample Essay Four

Read the essay below, which was written in response to the question on the previous page. The essay discusses the activities that follow.

Victor and his creature are continually seeking revenge on each other and this is essentially due to their mutual obsession and lack of love and care for his creation. The creature is justified in his assumption that he should have been loved rather than being abandoned. It is difficult for the reader not to make a comparison between Victor and the Monster; we therefore feel sympathy towards him, and, to some degree, an understanding of his actions. Victor's quest for revenge for the murder of his friends and family at the hands of the Monster. The reader can, however, see that both characters although their constant pursuit to destroy the other means that ultimately their obsessions are so strong.

Victor shows his desire for revenge on the opening line of the extract because his plan to attack the Monster is premeditated. The fact that Victor was 'resolving to wait his approach, and then close him in' shows that he has calculated the best way to attack the Monster and so represents how this desire is occupying his mind. This also reinforces his determination to seek revenge after the Monster has killed Victor's family. The word 'mortal' highlights how Victor sees this altercation as a battle to the death and accentuates the finality of the Monster which he created or to die in pursuing him. This quotation comes after the reader is told of Victor's 'rage and horror' which also shows how overwhelmed he is when he confronts his creation. The desire to 'extinguish the spark' represents how Victor is taking his God-like power a step further by trying to create life but he now thinks that he has the right to take life away. Such themes could link to the many experiments concerned with electricity and reanimating dead animals. This provokes the question: was this moral and if it was dangerous to enable humans to create life in this manner.

Victor's desire for revenge is so great that he starts to lose control of his emotions and this is shown by the fact that Victor 'recovered only to overwhelm him with words' shows his inability to express himself. Victor is incandescent with 'rage', a word which is repeated throughout the extract. His rage may also be linked to the burden of his creation and the subsequent murders alone. He has had to suppress his emotions and his thoughts are not rational but purely feeling-driven. The word 'overwhelm' could relate to how Victor is overwhelmed by the strength of Victor's 'rage and hatred'. This is emphasised because the desire for revenge reinforces how out of control and angry he is. His words of 'furious detestation and contempt' show his desire for revenge. However, Victor losing control of his emotions is quite frequent throughout the novel. When Victor creates the Monster he loses control of his emotions in his obsessive drive to achieve his goal. This is a contextual debate in the sense that there is a greater sense of danger if the scientists who create the Monster control even themselves, let alone their creations.

Victor uses the Monster's crimes as fuel to drive his need for revenge. Throughout the extract Victor refers to the Monster's crimes and those that were 'diabolically murdered' in order to justify his own desire for revenge. This is exacerbated through the terms of address which Victor uses in relation to the Monster such as 'daemon'. These both show how Victor takes no responsibility for the creature's behaviour and instead places the blame on him. This has influenced that of the Monster. In terms of the language that is used, these quotations all suggest that if Victor is the God-like figure of creation, the Monster is his polar opposite. The use of these terms as in other parts of the novel he is described as 'the fiend' or 'the wretch'. Both of these are more interesting is the use of the definite article 'the'. This inclusion suggests that the Monster is the paragon of wickedness. Contextually this could link with ideas that people must take responsibility for what they do not, the consequences can only be devastating.

Ironically, it is the creature who has to remind Victor of this; therefore, indirectly saying that Victor has avoided had he reacted more responsibly. The language used by the creature portrays him as a moral authority who reprimands Victor for his improper actions. He reminds him that he brought him to life by referring to his 'creator'. At this point the reader is reminded of Victor's dream of creating life and ultimately 'playing God'. Yet the creature is the one who is the true God in this context.

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creations were not similar to those of Victor as the creature points out, saying: 'You, my creator, to whom thou art bound by ties only dissoluble by the annihilation of one of us. You pretend to have sported with life, but play with it thus thus with life?' This question, and in particular the word 'sport' makes Victor appear careless. Life was a toy to play with and drop when he was tired of it. The creature by contrast is present and has evidently considered the impact of Victor's dream and tries to offer a solution for them but is reinforced through the contrast of both their language and their actions. While the creature 'tremble(s) with rage and horror' and hurls abuse at the creature calling him a 'fiend' and 'a vile fiend', dramatically Victor changes in his obsessions. At the beginning of the novel, he was obsessed with creation, but later is obsessed with destruction. This shows how Victor is acting out of selfishness and the desire for benevolence.

However, despite the creature's declaration of war on humankind, through his use of emotive language the creature could be appeased if he was shown love and kindness as he shows so many examples with a companion, suggesting that, if he were treated well by others, he would be a kind, caring creature. The creature's kindness towards others, Shelley seems to bring the nature versus nurture question into play. When the young William Frankenstein he wishes to befriend him and hopes that he will be 'unprejudiced' towards him in the past. It is unfortunate that the boy speaks such cruel words, calling him a 'monster' and exhibiting the same prejudice as he had previously suffered from adults. The creature then disappears and on hearing the name Frankenstein he exclaims that that is his enemy, and to him he had 'sworn' to be a child. As Victor was unable or unwilling to rationally explain who the true murderer was, Justine was executed. The author again presents the cruelty of man and the concept of 'judging a book by its cover'. William's comment on his appearance; Victor describes his 'unearthly ugliness' implying that he did not want to be accepted. The alliteration highlights his disgust and, therefore, makes Victor seem even more monstrous.

The revenge sought by both characters is certainly understandable and probably justified in the context of the story. Mary Shelley presented this as a cautionary tale and tries to warn us of the consequences of actions, particularly dangerous obsessions, conducted when the mind is overwhelmed and the body unrested.

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Activity Three

- a) Look at the introductions and conclusions from each of the sample essays and showing which assessment objectives have been met.

Sample essay three	Assessment
Introduction Victor shows his desire for revenge through the language he uses to address the Monster, his uncontrolled emotions and the fact that he has clearly planned what he was going to do when he met the Monster. Victor feels justified in his drive for revenge. Equally, it is understandable that the Monster wants revenge for the way he has been abandoned by his creator and treated appallingly by humans.	
Conclusion In conclusion, both characters feel that they are justified in their desire for revenge. The Monster feels hurt that he has been abandoned by everybody, especially his creator, and feels that he has been driven to murder because of the harsh way he has been treated by the humans he came into contact with. Victor feels justified in his desire for revenge because he thinks that by killing the Monster he will avenge the deaths of his family and friends who were killed by the Monster.	
Sample essay four	Assessment
Introduction Victor and his creature are continually seeking revenge on each other and this is essentially down to Victor's lack of responsibility and care for his creation. The creature is justified in his assumption that he should have been shown love and care by his creator rather than being abandoned. It is difficult for the reader not to make a comparison between the creation and a new-born child and we therefore feel sympathy towards him, and, to some degree, an understanding of his actions. Victor understandably seeks revenge for the murder of his friends and family at the hands of the Monster. The reader can, therefore, feel some sympathy for both characters although their constant pursuit to destroy the other means that ultimately they destroy themselves as their obsessions are so strong.	
Conclusion The revenge sought by both characters is certainly understandable and probably justified in both cases. However, Shelley has presented this as a cautionary tale and tries to warn us of the consequences of actions, particularly those which are the result of dangerous obsessions, conducted when the mind is overwhelmed and the body unrested.	

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- b) Combine what you think is good within each introduction and conclusion to form your own introduction and conclusion in answer to this question. You could also add more detail to your objectives which you think are missing.

Exemplar introduction	Exemplar conclusion

Activity Four

- a) The structure of each answer is very different. Write out the topic sentences (the first sentence of each paragraph) for the two essays.

Essay three	Essay four
1)	1)
2)	2)
3)	3)
4)	4)
5)	5)
6)	6)
	7)

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b) Which do you think is the more logical structure?

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c) Write your own bullet point plan as to how you would answer this question

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Answers



Revision Activities

Activity 1 – Themes, symbols and techniques

Personal response but some content could include:

Themes

- Identity – The Monster searches for his identity. Walton is defined by his identity as a scientist. Elizabeth does not really have an identity of her own.
- Discovery – Walton and Robert are both obsessed with discovering new knowledge about their own identity. The desire for discovery ultimately leads to danger and death.
- Prejudice – The Monster is treated very badly because of his appearance. Only the blind because he cannot see the Monster. Humans are extremely judgemental and violent towards the Monster to act as he does.
- Responsibility – Robert does not take responsibility for his creation. He does not take responsibility for how they treat the Monster.

Symbols

- Fire – Prometheus stole fire from the gods and the title of Frankenstein is 'the modern Prometheus'. Frankenstein was trying to obtain knowledge which he should not have. The Monster's development links with that of human development throughout history.
- The Bible – there are many references to Frankenstein trying to be godlike and create life. Adam and Eve show parallels between religion and the scientific methods Frankenstein employs.
- Walton's quest – his determination mirrors that of Frankenstein and both characters seek new knowledge and are willing to endure hardships to do so. Frankenstein serves as a warning of what an adventure could lead to.
- The changing seasons – these symbolise the stages of development that the Monster undergoes. Spring mirrors nature because spring is a time for renewal and rebirth and this is when the Monster discovers about his origins and so his identity.

Techniques

- Use of letters throughout the narrative – gives an increased sense of reliability as the story is told by one character throughout. Reader obtains different perspectives. These different perspectives change how the reader views a particular character.
- References to *Paradise Lost* – Frankenstein wants to be a godlike figure by being able to create life, which parallels the satanic figure in *Paradise Lost*. Both are ultimately punished for their ambition.
- Gothic elements – including ideas such as a monster, pathetic fallacy (where the weather is used to show mood), the use of nature to inspire both awe and terror (the sublime).
- Walton is trapped in ice at the North Pole, representing how he too is far removed from reality. When he encounters Frankenstein, who has also voluntarily moved away from those he loves, it shows that knowledge for both characters is at the expense of normal human relationships.

Activity 2 – Quotation Quilt

Personal response

Activity 3 – Revision Board Game

Personal response

Activity 4 – Plot Quiz

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Robert Walton | 11. Elizabeth |
| 2. Geneva | 12. Guilt and remorse |
| 3. The daughter of a merchant who became poor | 13. Turn to nature |
| 4. Milanese and German | 14. Loneliness |
| 5. The metaphysical | 15. Put his hand in the fire |
| 6. Of scarlet fever when tending to Elizabeth | 16. He was attacked by the Monster |
| 7. Natural Philosophy and Chemistry | 17. He was afraid of the Monster |
| 8. Rainy and dreary | 18. Stopped taking his own life and roots |
| 9. Terrified and disgusted | 19. He was faster than the Monster |
| 10. Because he wore a valuable piece of jewellery round his neck | 20. He approached the Monster |

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Activity 5 – Who said it?

1. The creature
2. Robert Walton
3. The creature
4. Mr De Lacey (old man)
5. Justine
6. Alphonse Frankenstein (Victor's father)

Activity 6 – Close analysis of key passage

Personal response but could include references to how the story is described and the effect of Frankenstein speaks and fluctuates between illness and shows of tremendous force; the way Frankenstein's tale is true and reasons why the reader should believe him; the contrast in how warning to Walton to not let his curiosity drive him onwards as this will ultimately destroy him.

The contrasts show how Frankenstein can change quickly which emphasises how unwell he is which was evident throughout the narrative in that Frankenstein often becomes obsessed with then equally obsessed with its opposite (e.g. destroying life).

Walton talks about the letters to make the narrative seem more reliable as he is drawing on a testified. This is important as Frankenstein is very ill and may not be lucid.

His arrogance has now been overcome with self-knowledge about what he has created. Frankenstein of others or heed their warnings but he does try to warn Walton of the consequences of his creation.

Walton's narrative frames the text and so it is fitting that the last words should be from Walton's death which ultimately brings about the death of the Monster and so there has to be a character in the last words of the Monster. Walton is Victor's friend and so the final narrative perhaps shows Walton's order to garner some sympathy for the flawed scientist.

Activity 7 – Themes

The table below shows some suggested content but is by no means exhaustive

Religion and Morality	Quotation: 'cursed and hellish monster' 'Scoffing devil!' 'I was cursed by some devil, and carried about with me my eternal hell' 'with what ecstasy shall I join my Elizabeth and my departed friends, who even now prepare me for the reward of my tedious toil and horrible pilgrimage'	Analysis: Frankenstein uses religious rhetoric and language in this chapter to describe his plight and his need for retribution.	Links to the rest of the text: draws from Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i> situation 'Many times I considered my condition' – Chapter 15 Frankenstein often refers to his creation as an abomination: 'the demoniacal corpse that I gave life' – Chapter 5, soon after
Revenge	Quotation: 'Again do I vow vengeance; again do I devote thee, miserable fiend, to torture and death' The Monster also seeks vengeance. He leaves a note: 'we have yet to wrestle for our lives'	Analysis: Frankenstein obsesses over revenge and is willing to sacrifice his life for it.	Links to the rest of the text: The Monster both seek revenge and continues and the more each enjoys the idea of revenge
The Supernatural	Quotation: 'I call on you, spirits of the dead; and on you, wandering ministers of vengeance, to aid and conduct me in my work'	Analysis: As Frankenstein descends further into madness and toil he invokes spirits to help him. The Monster's supernatural abilities make him an impossible foe to pursue.	Links to the rest of the text: The supernatural pervade the text. The Monster's appearance, superhuman strength, and learnt intelligence, although for good. 'I suddenly beheld the figure advancing towards me with

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Hardship	<p>Quotation: The Monster's note: 'Prepare! Your toils only begin: wrap yourself in furs and provide food; for we shall soon enter into a journey where your sufferings will satisfy my everlasting hatred.'</p>	<p>Analysis: To achieve retribution, Frankenstein must chase the Monster across a vast and uncompromising landscape. He has lost all of his family and is isolated. He and the Monster delight in each other's hardship.</p>	<p>Links to the rest of the text: Frankenstein's hardship through the elements and the isolation of humans when Frankenstein is created. 'I am malicious because I am miserable. I am grievously bruised by storm and tempest, and my missile weapons, I escape not.' Chapter 23. Frankenstein and his family are isolated. The Monster exacts his revenge on them. Frankenstein serves to increase their hardship. Elizabeth's death, Frankenstein is under the horrors that wait for him in Chapter 23.</p>
Isolation	<p>Quotation: Frankenstein resolves to 'quit Geneva forever', isolating himself from his home. Unlike the Monster, Frankenstein is not completely isolated – he gains 'friendship' of villagers on his path with money or food, but they are not companions.</p>	<p>Analysis: All of his family are dead and Frankenstein is condemned to isolation on his journey (except in his dreams), as is the Monster.</p>	<p>Links to the rest of the text: Frankenstein is isolated from family and the world. The Monster's creation. Once the Monster is abandoned, Frankenstein has no companionship, even offering him a companion. 'I demand a creature of a different nature from myself; the gratification is mine, the creature is his, and it shall content me.' Chapter 23. Frankenstein becomes isolated. The Monster's revenge on him.</p>
Science, Knowledge and Discovery	<p>Quotation: Walton's ship is a surprise to Frankenstein, who had 'no conception that vessels ever came so far north'.</p>	<p>Analysis: Frankenstein does not put his faith in science, but in a 'guiding spirit'.</p>	<p>Links to the rest of the text: Frankenstein's quest for 'glory' through science. Walton and Frankenstein are also interested in science. Henry Clerval are also interested in science. In Chapter 4, Frankenstein is inspired by Walton and 'the energy of my pursuit'.</p>
Death	<p>Quotation: Frankenstein and the Monster both obsess over killing each other. 'Again do I devote thee, miserable fiend, to torture and death' Frankenstein wishes to kill the Monster so that his life can end.</p>	<p>Analysis: When Frankenstein seems close to death, he is surprisingly (miraculously?) saved, e.g. the boat appears as 'I was left drifting on a scattered piece of ice, that was continually lessening, and thus preparing me for a hideous death'.</p>	<p>Links to the rest of the text: Frankenstein's obsession with death – he is made to feel that he is defying a natural order. 'The dissecting room and the tomb, the many of my materials' Chapter 23. The Monster uses murder to achieve his goals. He kills William, condemning Clerval results in Frankenstein's final murder of Elizabeth. Frankenstein's father so on.</p>
Nature	<p>Quotation: Frankenstein is determined to overcome all natural obstacles to catch his foe. However, the weather often changes as though fated to rescue him 'again the frost came and made the paths of the sea secure'.</p>	<p>Analysis: The landscape and the elements are unforgiving and unfamiliar. They play a crucial part in Frankenstein's hardship. The Monster is better at traversing them and taunts Frankenstein.</p>	<p>Links to the rest of the text: Frankenstein's fervour for 'glory' and his desire to reach the North Pole. His excitement is shattered when he begins to create the Monster. The Monster is untouched, uninhabitable and unnatural – 'I try in vain to find a seat of frost and desolation, but my imagination as the region of my dreams.' Chapter 23. The Monster's creation is an obsession with the natural world. The Monster's existence goes against the natural order. He turns away from nature. 'I watch the blossom or the fall of the leaf, as I was I engrossed' Chapter 23.</p>

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Family	<p>Quotation: Frankenstein swears an oath on his family's graves: 'By the sacred earth on which I kneel, by the shades that wander near me, by the deep and eternal grief that I feel, I swear; and by thee, O Night, and the spirits that preside over thee, to pursue the daemon who cause this misery until he or I perish in mortal combat'</p>	<p>Analysis: Frankenstein dreams about his family and this is the only time he finds happiness. He wishes to join them and end his isolation, once he has exacted revenge for them: 'What agonising fondness did I feel for them! How did I cling to their dear forms, as sometimes they haunted even my waking hours.'</p> <p>The last line of Frankenstein's narrative shows the relevance of family to him: 'Hear him not; call on the <i>manes</i> of William, Justine, Clerval, Elizabeth, my father, and of the wretched Victor, and thrust your sword into his heart. I will hover near and direct the steel alright.'</p>	<p>Links to the rest of the text: Frankenstein has a happy family in the novella: 'I was the only creature bestowed on earth with the feelings of humanity. I longed for a family of my own.'</p> <p>Frankenstein is an absolute loner who longs for a family of his own.</p> <p>The Monster is rejected by his own family.</p> <p>'I tenderly love these people; but I have been for many months estranged towards them; but the Monster will not be reconciled to them' (Chapter 11)</p> <p>The Monster exacts his revenge by eradicating his family.</p> <p>By Chapter 24, the only family Frankenstein and the Monster have is one of their own.</p>
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Activity 8 – Context

The table below shows some suggested content but is by no means exhaustive. There is more content in the activity and the following one.

Contextual factor	Character	Quotation	
Gender	Elizabeth Justine	'No word, no expression could body forth the kind of relation in which she stood to me – my more than sister, since till death she was to be mine only' (Chapter 1)	Elizabeth is the only woman in the novel who has a name. She is the only woman who is not Justine's daughter. She is the only woman who is not a victim of the Monster's wrath.
Poverty and Charity	Elizabeth The cottagers	'they enjoyed one another's company and speech, interchanging every day looks of affection and kindness' (Chapter 12)	Although the cottagers are poor, they are charitable and kind to the Monster.
Wealth	Both Walton and Frankenstein shun wealth and comforts for knowledge and renown	Walton – 'My life may have been passed in ease and luxury; but I preferred glory to every enticement that wealth placed in my path.' (Letter 1) Frankenstein – 'wealth was an inferior object' (Chapter 2)	Frankenstein is a wealthy man who is driven by his desire for knowledge and glory. He is a wealthy man who is driven by his desire for knowledge and glory.
Outsiders	The Monster The cottagers	'Who can describe their horror and consternation on beholding me?' (Chapter 15)	The Monster is an outsider who is rejected by society. The cottagers are outsiders who are rejected by society.
Science	Frankenstein Walton	'What could not be expected in the country of eternal light?' (Letter 1)	Frankenstein is a scientist who is driven by his desire for knowledge and glory. Walton is a scientist who is driven by his desire for knowledge and glory.
The Gothic	Frankenstein The Monster	'the rain pattered dismally against the panes, and my candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the half-extinguished light, I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open' (Chapter 5)	The Gothic elements of the novel are the dark, mysterious, and terrifying atmosphere. The Gothic elements of the novel are the dark, mysterious, and terrifying atmosphere.

Exam Preparation Activities

1.
 - Point: The Monster is presented as having a disgusting appearance.
 - Evidence: 'His yellow skin scarcely covered the work of muscles and arteries beneath' (Chapter 1).
 - Explanation: Because The Monster is composed of dead body parts, his appearance is less human.
 - Word analysis: 'yellow skin' shows the unnatural and unhealthy pallor of The Monster.
 - Method analysis: The adverb 'scarcely' suggests that the skin is stretched so tight over the workings of The Monster, which again makes his appearance less human.
 - Context: As The Monster does not have a human appearance, he will be mistreated.
 - Link to theme: The Monster is an outsider.
 - Relate to the whole text: 'A fiendish rage animated him as he said this; his face was a horrible mask for human eyes to behold' (Chapter 17). The Monster's appearance is often equated with the devil.
2. Personal response
3. Personal response
4. Personal response depending on the points which have been selected. There should be a comment on the student has decided to order the points as they have.
5. Personal response but there should be a comment in each of the spaces provided for each point.
6. Personal response but each of the bullet points should be addressed
7. Personal response but each of the bullet points should be addressed
8. Personal response depending upon which character is selected. The notes should include a comment on the required in an analytical paragraph.
9.
 - a) All the skills are present but some could be developed in more details
 - b) There could be more analysis of method and more detailed and specific comments on the text
 - c) Personal response
10.
 - a)
 - After playing football, I walked home.
 - The concert was fun despite the long queue.
 - Although he enjoyed the drums, he thought that guitar was the best.
 - Whichever way she walked, she always got lost.
 - They decided to buy it however expensive it was.
 - b)
 1. This is a simple sentence.
Complex sentence: Because Frankenstein thinks that science holds the key to the greatest knowledge of all, he is desirous to discover how life is formed and the ability to make life himself. The use of the superlative adjective 'greatest' emphasises that this is where all of his attention was focused and so it drives his obsession to discover the knowledge he seeks.
 2. This is a compound sentence.
Simple sentence: The superlative adjective 'greatest' emphasises Frankenstein's obsession with knowledge.
 3. This is a complex sentence.
Compound sentence: New scientific discoveries were being made when Shelley wrote the poem. This is why Frankenstein's search for knowledge is enticing but ultimately quite dangerous, as shown thorough The Monster's behaviour.
11. Similarity: Similarly, likewise, in the same way
Difference: In contrast, unlike, opposing this, by comparison, on the other hand
12. Frankenstein thinks that science holds the key to unlock the greatest knowledge of all: to create life and the ability to, therefore, make life himself. He 'entered with the greatest diligence into the study of the elixir of life; but the latter soon obtained my undivided attention' (Chapter 2). The 'greatest' emphasises that this is where all of his attention was focused and so it drives his obsession to discover the knowledge he seeks. Because new scientific discoveries were being made when Shelley wrote the poem, Frankenstein's search for knowledge is enticing but ultimately quite dangerous, as shown thorough The Monster's behaviour.
13. Personal response but there should be at least one example of each sentence type
14. 'The world was to me a secret which I desired to divine' (Chapter 2) – Ambitious
 - 'I feel exquisite pleasure in dwelling on the recollections of childhood, before me' (Chapter 2) – Nostalgic
 - 'No one can conceive the anguish I suffered during the remainder of the night' (Chapter 3) – Anguished
 - 'The tortures of the accused did not equal mine; she was sustained by innocent bosom, and would not forego their hold' (Chapter 8) – Anguished
 - 'I was seized by remorse and the sense of guilt, which hurried me away to a hell from which no language can describe' (Chapter 9) – Remorseful
 - 'I burned with rage to pursue the murderer of my peace' (Chapter 20) – Angry
 - 'I had formed in my own heart a resolution to pursue my destroyer to death' (Chapter 21) – Determined
 - 'They were dead, and I lived; their murderer also lived, and to destroy him I must live' (Chapter 24) – Egocentric

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Indicative Content for Practice Exam-style Questions

1. AO1 and AO2

- lack of light suggesting that he has not discovered the pure knowledge he craves
- pathetic fallacy to show how Frankenstein has gone against natural laws – ‘rain’
- use of impersonal pronoun ‘it’ to describe The Monster as not human
- appeal to ‘God’ which suggests that Frankenstein has failed in his desire to be good
- eyes are described as ‘yellow’ and ‘watery’ to show how unhealthy and inhuman
- use of colour – ‘yellow’/‘black’ to emphasise his inhuman appearance
- link to novel – some comment about how Frankenstein’s rejection of The Monster is inhuman that The Monster encounters

AO3

Some comment about how The Monster is only judged on his appearance and not on his actions or some good deeds, especially towards the cottagers, but is driven to murder due to his judgemental nature of humans.

2. AO1 and AO2

- The Monster is vulnerable and desperate for some affection from its creator – ‘need for compassion’
- Shows the change from ‘benevolent’ behaviour but was injured so many times
- Questions why any human aside from his creator should help him – ‘owe me nothing’
- It is only nature which provides some comfort and then only when The Monster is in the mountains and dreary glaciers’
- The Monster is scared of humans as much as humans are scared of him – ‘I only seek for companionship’
- The Monster is lonely and seeks companionship which is a human longing – ‘my heart is full of love’
- Link to novel – The Monster is ‘spurned’ on every occasion he meets humans, e.g. saving the drowning girl

AO3

Some comment about how the blind man shows some help and comfort towards The Monster as he cannot see The Monster’s appearance, showing how judgemental humans are

3. AO1 and AO2

- The mother is described as fragile and in need of protection – ‘strove to shelter’
- The father is the provider in the relationship – ‘to excite pleasurable emotion’
- The mother exerts some influence over her husband as he expresses ‘gratitude’
- The use of religious language ‘worship’, ‘reverence’ shows how their love seems sacred
- The mother has not recovered fully and is still quite delicate – ‘shaken by what she has seen’
- Link to the novel – Elizabeth is protected in the same way by Frankenstein as he loves her. Safie is also protected in a similar way. The Monster wants a female monster and to cherish her as well.

AO3

For female characters who do not have a man to protect them, such as Justine, her execution is unfair and she is unfairly executed for a crime she did not commit.

4. AO1 and AO2

- The Monster has the same reaction to nature as Frankenstein and Henry Clerval – ‘the sun’ – which suggests that he is not so monstrous as he does have some human qualities
- The Monster is optimistic that he will be accepted by humans – ‘miraculous’
- The reaction of the humans is described with many dynamic words such as ‘shrieked’
- The reaction of The Monster is emotional and human as he ‘fearfully took refuge’
- His dwelling is a ‘hovel’ but it provides protection and so is a sanctuary for him. The Monster is
- Nature reflects the feelings of The Monster
- Link to the novel – the sympathy for Frankenstein is arguably less because of his rejection of it which ultimately causes its extreme behaviour. Frankenstein’s loss is arguably avoidable if he had taken heed of the warnings and behaved differently

AO3

Scientists should take responsibility for their experiments because the investigations have serious ramifications for society as a whole.

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5. AO1 and AO2

- Science is a source of knowledge which Frankenstein has utter faith in – ‘new and powerful’
- Frankenstein is also very pleased by the novelty of the ideas as he had not encountered them before
- Scientific knowledge seems to be a source of progress, such as the idea that A Frankenstein favours of more modern and progressive ideas
- Science can explain nature – ‘the subject of electricity and galvanism’
- Frankenstein describes natural history as ‘deformed and abortive creation’ which is The Monster
- It is only specific branches of science which offer the potential for knowledge – ‘the study of the life and death of the Monster’
- Link to the novel – science is presented as also being the cause of destruction as The Monster’s murderous behaviour claims the lives of a number of humans.

AO3

There could be some comment about experiments in electricity which were being carried out at the time. There could also be comment about how scientists do not always know the consequences of their experiments.

6. AO1 and AO2

- He at first describes his interest as ‘enthusiasm’ which suggests that he is still in the early stages of his interest. It has not yet become an obsession
- The simile ‘like a hurricane’, however, suggests uncontrolled energy and so implies a lack of control as he feels
- Frankenstein wants the creature to love him and admire him which shows an ambition to be loved. This shows his motivations are for self-glory and power
- He becomes obsessive because of the effect it has on his health as he loses colour and becomes ‘emaciated’ as he neglects looking after himself
- He is engaged ‘heart and soul in one pursuit’ suggesting that he cannot think about anything else as he is so engrossed in his work
- Frankenstein also neglects nature which was previously a source of comfort and recreation. ‘Months passed’
- Link to the novel – Walton shows similar obsessions in his desire to sail away and conquer the North Pole. Frankenstein always isolates himself when he is conducting science, such as with the female monster.

AO3

Obsession is dangerous and can lead to dangerous decisions being made, decisions which could be harmful for the rest of society.

7. AO1 and AO2

- Frankenstein repeats the word ‘rage’ which shows his main emotion and how intense it is
- Frankenstein has planned his attack as he waits for the approach of The Monster and watches the creature’s movements
- He is overcome or ‘overwhelmed’ with emotions and as such he finds it difficult to control himself. This accentuates how he wants to kill The Monster
- The Monster also seeks revenge for his treatment – ‘do your duty towards me’
- Both Frankenstein and The Monster feel justified in each desiring revenge over the other. They both sympathise to a certain degree with each character’s desire
- The Monster, however, does not seek revenge on Frankenstein himself but will kill anyone who is close to him instead. As The Monster kills innocent people in order to hurt Frankenstein, this shows that The Monster’s actions are justified
- Link to the novel – at the end of the novel, revenge is the only emotion which drives both Frankenstein and The Monster as they have a symbiotic relationship of needing to kill the other one

AO3

Revenge is shown to be ultimately futile as it only has tragic consequences. In the end, most of whom were unconnected with the creation of The Monster but were the innocent victims of Frankenstein.

8. AO1 and AO2

- The Monster recognises ‘the gentle manner’ of the cottagers which suggests that he is not as scary as he seems and feels he can trust them
- He is still scared after the behaviour of the villagers and ‘dared not’ talk to them
- This is all told from The Monster’s perspective so the reader can gather a clearer understanding of his feelings which are shown to be both insightful and sensitive
- The Monster recognises the sacrifices that the children make in order to look after him. He sees that they are food themselves in order to feed him

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- The Monster is astute and can detect subtleties in their mood and the atmosphere of 'uneasiness' in the house
- The Monster offers practical help to the cottagers and wants to ease their burden
- Link to the novel – when The Monster and Frankenstein talk in Chapter 24, The Monster expresses his emotions (unlike Frankenstein) and is able to articulate exactly why he feels as he does

AO3

When The Monster is left to his own devices, he can feel very human emotions and is arguably his rejection by humans which causes his violent behaviour, which implies that it provokes The Monster to murder.

9. AO1 and AO2

- The Monster feels lost because he does not know anything about his own origins
- The Monster realises that he is different from everyone else and so feels like an 'outcast among beings'
- The Monster feels completely isolated and so is unable to form his own identity 'related to none'
- There is a repetition of questions to show The Monster's confusion about who he is
- The Monster compares himself to Adam which would place Frankenstein as God in the novel
- Link to the novel – Frankenstein is also trying to shape his own identity by making himself somebody nobody has ever made in the past. Walton too expresses a similar desire to become a discoverer of knowledge.

10. AO1 and AO2

- Frankenstein is equated with God because they both created new life from nothing
- Frankenstein is an 'accursed creator' because, unlike God, Frankenstein shows no remorse
- The Monster blames Frankenstein for making him ugly – 'filthy type of yours'
- The Monster compares himself with Satan but considers himself worse than Satan as he is alone and does not even have any devils for companionship
- There is a distinction drawn between science at the start of the letter where The Monster describes his experiments which gave him life and more religious language at the end of the letter with comparisons with the Bible
- Link to the novel – Frankenstein considers himself to have godlike power, which is why he kills the female monster before he has animated it as Frankenstein has given himself the power to destroy life. This is also shown when Frankenstein pursues The Monster to kill him

AO3

There were some debates about whether science was competing with religion and creating new knowledge to explain life. Such ideas were controversial as they could have implications for even the structure of society.

Worked-through Example

- Personal response.
- Personal response but the points need to be about how sympathy for The Monster is shown.
- Personal response based on the points from the spider diagram. There should be a clear sense of what needs to be included in their answer for each of the paragraphs.
- Personal response based on the points that have been selected and developed
- Personal response but there should be a clear sense that the student knows what examples to use and what needs to be included in their answer
- Personal response. There should be an approximately equal amount of AO1 as AO2, not too much of either AO1 or AO2.
- Personal response. There should be examples of each sentence type.

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Sample Student Essays with Activities

Essay one/two

Activity One

- a) Victor allows his desire to create life to overwhelm him, both mentally and physically. He had grown pale with study' and he had become 'emaciated with confinement'. (AO1) His 'human nature would turn with loathing' when collecting the necessary materials, which affirms his obsession. (AO1) The first two quotations show how unnatural his obsession has become for his health. (AO2) He has 'grown pale' because he no longer goes outside and enjoys nature. This could also emphasise how he is taking himself away from nature and in a way going further from it, furthered by the word 'emaciated' which represents how it is not only his skin which is unhealthy but his entire body has started to starve because he has neglected his personal human needs, it could also be argued that Victor is becoming more monstrous, drive accentuated by the final quotation because it is almost as if Victor's humanity has been lost. (AO1) The way that his 'human nature' would be appalled by the behaviour if the rest of the world Victor has lost in his scientific pursuit. (AO1) Victor suffers from ill-health throughout the novel, accused of murdering Henry Clerval, and it could be that because he has gone against nature he can never fully recover. (AO3) Contextually this could link with the idea that some scientists ignore natural law which is ultimately shown to be unhealthy and have severe consequences.

Victor's obsession leads to him isolating himself. He ignores those he loves claiming 'forget these friends who were so many miles absent'. (AO1) This represents a two-fold isolation, geographically distant from them, being 'many miles absent', but he is also emotionally 'forgets' his friends and does not think about them. (AO1) The magnitude of this isolation as his obsession has become all encompassing. (AO2) Victor does not even stop to admire nature during the summer months as he is 'engaged, heart and soul, in one pursuit'. (AO1) This shows how this sole pursuit has become his preoccupation and his obsession. (AO2) He has neglected his friends when he first started studying natural sciences and so this obsessive personality is a result of his obsession. (AO3) Victor is, therefore, fully aware that he is obsessed by his dream, but it is unlikely that he is completely sympathetic, however, as his motives are not usually aimed at profiting from his discovery. (AO3) This links to context through the fear that some scientists conduct experiments without considering consequences affect everyone in society. (AO3)

It could be argued that Victor gains the ability to foresee difficulties in Walton's future by relating his own events to the explorer. (AO1) Victor evidently sees Walton's future suffering by relating his own events to the explorer. Walton is willing to endure hardship to achieve his dreams and, just as Victor becomes obsessed with his task, Walton admits he 'voluntarily endured cold, famine, thirst, and all the privations to balance rest and work stems from the obsessive nature of the two men. (AO1) Walton's desire to explore unknown parts of the world is as powerful as Victor's desire to create life and Walton's dream is the favourite dream of my early years'. (AO2) He also concedes that 'These are my motives to conquer all fear of danger or death'. (AO2) The fact that he dismisses danger and the consequences associated with his dream of exploring the North Pole. (AO2) It is only when we observe the nightmare and the tragic events of the novel unfold, that the message of the dangers of Victor's dream becomes clear. (AO1) It is through Victor's lack of forethought that the tragedies occur and perhaps the obsessive lifestyle Victor led. (AO1) He claims that 'wealth was an inferior object' and instead of wealth, he states that 'My life may have been passed in ease and luxury; but I preferred glory to ease and luxury placed in my path.' (AO2) It could be perceived that both desired glory as a substitute for wealth. (AO1) Ultimately, however, the novel ends leaving the reader feeling disappointed in Victor's dreams and the hope that Walton will heed Victor's advice. (AO1) A more prevailing sympathy we feel for the innocent victims who died and the creature who endured hardship, which were solely the result of the dreams and obsessions of one man's quest for power.

In conclusion, Victor's enthusiasm turns into obsession when he is unable to consider the consequences to his mental and physical health begins to suffer as a result. (AO1) It is only when Victor expresses remorse about his creation that the reader has some sympathy for him, but the obsession runs throughout the novel and it is not just Victor who expresses this trait. There are many parallels between these characters. (AO1)

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b)

Assessment objectives	Standard
AO1 Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to: maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response and use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.	A strong personal response throughout. The references which are made. A strong
AO2 Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.	Some good analysis of there needs to be more higher mark. There should terminology. (8/12)
AO3 Show understanding of relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.	Relevant contextual references examples would move

Activity two

Personal response

Activity three*The AOs are shown below:*

Victor's obsession is ever-present in his personality. He wants to achieve the impossible in It starts out as an interest but becomes an obsession when he is no longer able to focus on becomes the only thing he is interested in. **(AO1)** There are many parallels between Victor

At the beginning of the extract, Victor is excited about what he may be able to create. **(AO1)** feelings which bore me onwards, like a hurricane, in the first enthusiasm of success'. **(AO1)** enthusiastic about what he might be able to discover and he is also confident of being successful. A simile of his feelings being 'like a hurricane' shows how his emotion is uncontrolled. **(AO2)** sparks his initial interest because in both cases an uncontrollable force is pushing him on. Victor was concerned that scientists should think about what might happen with the results of the experiments he undertook them. **(AO3)**

Victor is no longer just enthusiastic, he has become obsessed, as shown when he wants to position him as a godlike character. **(AO1)** He wants to create the new species so that it will be a source; many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me'. **(AO1 and AO2)** Victor wants to create the figure so that it can be in his debt. **(AO1)** Victor doesn't seem to know the difference among the unhallowed damps of the grave or tortured the living animal to animate the lifeless word 'dabbled' implies that he is just trying out his ideas and is clueless as to what might happen with the results. **(AO2)** It links with the title of the novel containing the words 'the modern Prometheus' about where his creation will lead. **(AO3)**

Victor suffers because of his obsession. He does not take care of himself as his 'cheek had become 'emaciated with confinement'. **(AO1 and AO2)** These both show that he has become too focused on one ambition. **(AO1)** This is heightened as he says that his 'human nature would be collecting the body parts to build The Monster. **(AO2)** The fact that his 'human nature' would be doing implies that it is going against nature and is making him ill. **(AO2)** This links to other parts of the novel where Victor is poorly because of what The Monster has done, such as when Justine is unfairly executed for the crime that Victor should not go against natural laws and scientists should only do experiments within the bounds of nature.

Victor becomes so obsessed with his experiments that he deliberately isolates himself from his friends who were so many miles absent'. **(AO1 and AO2)** He does not want anyone or anything to distract him. The fact that he even avoids his 'friends' shows just how determined Victor is to succeed. Victor is 'engaged, heart and soul, in one pursuit'. **(AO1 and AO2)** He does not notice the beauty of everything he has 'heart and soul' in his experiments. **(AO1)** This is similar to how Victor was obsessed with Agrippa before he went to university. **(AO1)** Victor has the kind of personality that is focused on one thing at a time. **(AO1)** It links with context because the experiments that Victor does are for the benefit of all of society and so Victor, like other scientists, should take care that their experiments are conducted within the bounds of nature.

There are many similarities between Victor and Walton and how obsessed they are to achieve their goals. **(AO1)** Both are prepared to suffer as Walton says that 'this expedition has been the favourite dream of my life'. **(AO2)** This is very similar to Victor, whose interest in the natural sciences first begins with his obsession with the natural sciences. Both Victor and Walton's obsessions also lead them into danger, which is interesting as they both come from quite different backgrounds. Victor is wealthy as 'an inferior object' and Walton 'preferred glory to every enticement that wealth could offer'. **(AO2)** These both suggest that they are driven to obtain something higher than money. **(AO3)**

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this drive led to the death of many innocent people and the creation and destruction of a monster. This may seem to be good but the reader is ultimately unsympathetic towards them. (AO1)

Victor starts as enthusiastic but then becomes obsessed and suffers as a result. (AO1) He is obsessed with his knowledge or The Monster which he creates. Walton is similar to Victor in that he too is obsessed with knowledge. (AO1)

This answer would achieve a Level 3. There is a good amount of AO1 because the critic shows a solid understanding of the text. However, there is not enough AO2 as many of the points are not analysed in terms of language, structure and form. There is also a lack of subject terminology in the paragraphs and, although the comments are relevant, it would be useful if these were more detailed. To move the answer into the next band, the amount of AO2 needs to be increased so that it is in balance with AO1.

- c) There is much more AO1 than AO2 and so the amount of AO2 needs to be increased with the addition of subject terminology
- d) Personal response but there needs to be much more AO2 in the new paragraph

Activity four

- a) There is more AO3 in essay one than essay two
- b) The quality of AO3 in essay one is higher than in essay two
- c) The AO3 links back to the question in essay one more than in essay two

Essay three/four

Activity one

- AO1 – There should be a greater demonstration of knowledge of the text by making more references to the rest of the novel. It would also be good to include more references to support the argument by being expanded by offering alternative interpretations.
- AO2 – There could be greater analysis of the methods used by the author and the effect on the reader. There also should be more subject terminology throughout.
- AO3 – It would be an improved answer if the contextual comments were linked more closely to the question.

Activity two

Personal response depending on which paragraph is rewritten but there need to be improvements in activity one

Activity three

- a)

Sample essay three	Assessment
Introduction Victor shows his desire for revenge through the language he uses to address The Monster, his uncontrolled emotions and the fact that he has clearly planned what he was going to do when he met The Monster. Victor feels justified in his drive for revenge. Equally, it is understandable that The Monster wants revenge for the way he has been abandoned by his creator and treated appallingly by humans.	AO1 personal response for AO2 as the language is used about it. AO1 the text and the effect have on the reader also have some AO2 could be
Conclusion In conclusion, both characters feel that they are justified in their desire for revenge. The Monster feels hurt that he has been abandoned by everybody, especially his creator, and feels that he has been driven to murder because of the harsh way he has been treated by the humans he came into contact with. Victor feels justified in his desire for revenge because he thinks that by killing The Monster he will avenge the deaths of his family and friends who were killed by The Monster.	AO1 as there is a personal response to the text there is no AO2 the methods used in the language, for

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Sample essay four	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>Victor and his creature are continually seeking revenge on each other and this is essentially down to Victor's lack of responsibility and care for his creation. The creature is justified in his assumption that he should have been shown love and care by his creator rather than being abandoned. It is difficult for the reader not to make a comparison between the creation and a new-born child and we therefore feel sympathy towards him, and, to some degree, an understanding of his actions. Victor understandably seeks revenge for the murder of his friends and family at the hands of The Monster. The reader can, therefore, feel some sympathy for both characters although their constant pursuit to destroy the other means that ultimately they destroy themselves as their obsessions are so strong.</p>	AO1
<p>Conclusion</p> <p>The revenge sought by both characters is certainly understandable and probably justified in both cases. However, Shelley has presented this as a cautionary tale and tries to warn us of the consequences of actions, particularly those which are the result of dangerous obsessions, conducted when the mind is overwhelmed and the body unrested.</p>	AO1 throug being stud Shel as su pres

- b) Personal response depending upon which ideas the student thinks are most relevant

Activity Four

a)

Essay three	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Victor shows his desire for revenge through the language he uses to address The Monster, his uncontrolled emotions and the fact that he has clearly planned what he was going to do when he met The Monster. The untimely death of two members of Victor's household evoked feelings of extreme loathing in Victor, which is illustrated in the language he uses when he meets the creature. The creature seeks his revenge through Victor's loved ones, rather than attacking him directly like the 'barbarous villagers'. Victor is very emotional and the word 'rage' appears throughout the extract. Victor has planned what he is going to do when he meets The Monster as he 'waits for his approach' and will then 'close with him in mortal combat'. In conclusion, both characters feel that they are justified in their desire for revenge. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Victor and his creature are continually seeking revenge on each other and this is essentially down to Victor's lack of responsibility and care for his creation. Victor shows his desire for revenge through the line of the extract. The creature's need for revenge is clear. Victor's desire for revenge leads to his loss of control and his violent behaviour. Victor uses The Monster's language to show his need for revenge. Ironically, it is Victor who is the more responsible for the tragedies caused by his actions. However, despite the fact that Victor is the more responsible, humankind should be more understanding of his actions. In the language, we can see that Victor could be appealing to the kindness as he is a human and he needs to be loved and accepted. This suggests that Victor is a human and he would be a good person. The revenge sought by both characters is certainly understandable and probably justified in both cases.

- b) Personal response depending on what the student thinks is the most important factor
- c) Personal response depending on what the student thinks is the most important factor

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Commentary for essay four

Victor and his creature are continually seeking revenge on each other and this is essential responsibility and care for his creation. **(AO1)** The creature is justified in his assumption of love and care by his creator rather than being abandoned. **(AO1)** It is difficult for the reader to understand the relationship between the creation and a new-born child and we therefore feel sympathy towards him, not understanding of his actions. **(AO2)** Victor understandably seeks revenge for the murders on the hands of The Monster. **(AO1)** The reader can, therefore, feel some sympathy for both characters as their pursuit to destroy the other means that ultimately they destroy themselves as their obsessions. Victor shows his desire for revenge on the opening line of the extract because his plan to kill the Monster was premeditated. **(AO1)** The fact that Victor was 'resolving to wait his approach, and then come upon him' shows how he had calculated the best way to attack The Monster and so represents how this desire is premeditated to a greater extent. **(AO1 and AO2)** This also reinforces his determination to seek revenge after the deaths of his family and friends. **(AO2)** The use of the word 'mortal' highlights how Victor sees this alternative as an accident that accentuates how Victor is desirous to kill The Monster which he created or to die in pursuit of his revenge. This comes after the reader is made aware of Victor's emotions of 'rage and horror' which also shows his state of mind when he confronts his creation. **(AO2)** The desire to 'extinguish the spark' represents how Victor goes a step further because not only did he want to create life but he now thinks that he has to destroy it. **(AO3)** Such themes could link with contextual issues because there were many experiments in the 18th and 19th centuries reanimating dead animals. **(AO3)** This provoked many debates about whether or not this was ethical to enable humans to create life in this manner. **(AO3)**

Victor's desire for revenge is so great that he starts to lose control of his emotions and this is shown in the quotation that Victor 'recovered only to overwhelm him with words' shows his inability to control his emotions as he is so incandescent with 'rage', a word which is repeated throughout the extract. **(AO1)** This shows that because Victor has had to carry the burden of his creation and the subsequent murders of his family and friends, his emotions and so when he does speak, his thoughts are not rational but purely feeling-driven. 'overwhelm' could relate to how Victor speaks very quickly but also could represent the state of mind that Victor is in 'hatred'. **(AO2)** This is emphasised because the description of what Victor actually says reflects the state of mind that he is in. **(AO2)** His words of 'furious detestation and contempt' accentuate the strength of his emotions. However, Victor losing control of his emotions is quite frequent throughout the narrative. When Victor creates The Monster he loses control of his emotions in his obsessive drive to create more life. **(AO3)** This could link to contextual debates in the sense that there is a greater sense of danger in the 18th and 19th centuries as creating new life are unable to control even themselves, let alone their creations. **(AO3)**

Victor uses The Monster's crimes as fuel to drive his need for revenge. **(AO1)** Throughout the narrative, the remembrance of The Monster's crimes and those that were 'diabolically murdered' in order to create the creature drive his need for revenge. **(AO1 and AO2)** This is further exacerbated through the terms of address which Victor uses for The Monster such as 'Devil' and later the narrative calls him 'daemon'. **(AO2)** These both show how Victor's view of the creature's behaviour or indeed how Victor's own behaviour has influenced that of the language that is used, these quotations all have religious overtones and so suggest that Victor's creation, The Monster is his polar opposite. **(AO2)** The Monster is often referred to in the novel he is described as 'the fiend' or 'the wretch'. **(AO2)** Both of these words are derogatory and the use of the definite article 'the'. **(AO2)** This inclusion suggests that The Monster is unique in his wickedness. **(AO1)** Contextually this could link with ideas that people must take responsibility for the actions they do not, the consequences can only be devastating. **(AO3)**

Ironically, it is the creature who has to remind Victor of this, therefore, indirectly saying that Victor should have avoided had he reacted more responsibly. **(AO1)** The language used by the creature portrays him as a caring party and reprimands Victor for his improper actions. **(AO2)** He reminds him that he brought Victor to life as 'my creator'. **(AO2)** At this point the reader is reminded of Victor's dream of creating life. **(AO1 and AO2)** Yet God's actions towards his creations were not similar to those of Victor. 'You, my creator, detest and spurn me, thy creature, to whom thou art bound by ties only of love. You purpose to kill me. How dare you sport thus with life?' **(AO1 and AO2)** The word 'sport' makes Victor appear careless and selfish in his actions as though life was a toy that he was tired of it. **(AO2)** The creature by contrast is presented as thoughtful and mature as he considers the impact of Victor's dream and tries to offer a solution for them both. **(AO1)** These characters are in sharp contrast of both their language and their actions. **(AO1)** While the creature is calm and controlled, Victor is full of 'rage and horror' and hurls abuse at the creature calling him a 'fiend' and 'a vile insect'. **(AO2)** Victor dramatically changes in his obsessions. At the beginning of the novel, he was obsessed with creating life, in this extract, he is obsessed with destruction. This shows how Victor is acting out of selfishness rather than out of benevolence. **(AO2 and some AO3)**

However, despite the creature's declaration of war on humankind, through his use of emotional language, the impression that the creature could be appeased if he was shown love and kindness as he

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wanting to be loved and share love with a companion, suggesting that, if he were treated as a caring person. **(AO1 and AO2)** Through the examples of the creature's kindness towards the old woman, the text raises the nature versus nurture question to mind. **(AO2)** Even when he encounters the young William, the creature befriends him and hopes that he will be 'unprejudiced' like the adults who had mistreated him. Unfortunately, the boy speaks such cruel words, calling him a 'monster', an 'ogre' and showing the same prejudice as he had previously suffered from adults. **(AO2)** The creature then dies, and Victor's and on hearing the name Frankenstein he exclaims that that is his enemy, and to revenge himself and thus kills the child. **(AO1 and AO2)** As Victor was unable or unwilling to rationally explain the death of Justine, who was blamed and hung for a crime she did not commit. The author again presents the creature as 'judging a book by its cover', as both Victor and William comment on his appearance; Victor's 'ugliness' implying that he does not belong in this world and will not be accepted. **(AO2)** The creature's actions, and, therefore, makes Victor seem even more unreasonable. **(AO2)**

The revenge sought by both characters is certainly understandable and probably justified. Shelley has presented this as a cautionary tale and tries to warn us of the consequences of obsession. The actions are the result of dangerous obsessions, conducted when the mind is overwhelmed and the creature is driven to violence.

This answer would achieve Level 6 as the amounts of each assessment objective are in approximately the same amount of AO1 as AO2 and AO3 is about half of AO1 or AO2. The answer is AO2 throughout and there is some use of subject terminology.

To improve the answer even more, there should be a greater use of subject terminology and more definitions of the keywords in the introduction. Overall this is a very strong answer.

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