Comprehension Questions

1) In the novel *Frankenstein*, the doctor’s story is being re-told...
   A. By an investigator who is researching the murders.
   B. By a ship captain who is writing it down.
   C. When Abigail finds Dr. Frankenstein’s journals.
   D. By a professor who is giving a lecture.

2) How does the doctor treat his creature when it first comes to life?
   A. He is strict and cruel in order to control it.
   B. He is as loving and caring as a parent.
   C. He abandons the creature immediately.
   D. He tries to kill it.

3) To learn about human beings, the creature observes…
   A. Inmates in a prison.
   B. People living and working in a city slum (poor neighborhood).
   C. A family in a country cottage.
   D. People visiting a church and graveyard.

4) What name does the creature choose for himself?
   A. Adam
   B. Cain
   C. Prometheus
   D. Lucifer
   E. Trick question! He takes no name.

5) The doctor’s attempt to create a second creature are ruined when…
   A. The police arrest him.
   B. The monster burns down the laboratory.
   C. The doctor destroys his own work.
   D. It refuses to live.

6) What threat does the creature issue to Dr. Frankenstein?
   A. “If I am first to reach Geneva, nothing will await you.”
   B. “You, too, will be fatherless.”
   C. “Mankind will loathe you as it loathes me.”
   D. “I shall be with you on your wedding-night.”

7) Why does the doctor decide to tell Walton his horrifying story?
   A. So that Walton will tell the world what happened
   B. To give the captain a warning and make him wiser
   C. Because they are having a scary story contest
   D. To convince the captain to give him control of the ship
8) Which choice accurately describes the doctor's relationship with the natural world?
   A. He finds nature to be upsetting and disgustig.
   B. He cannot enjoy nature because he analyzes everything.
   C. He finds nature to be beautiful and soothing.
   D. He is afraid of nature and its power.

9) In order to save the innocent Justine from execution, the doctor...
   A. Sends an anonymous letter from the supposed murderer.
   B. Tells the court the truth about the creature, but they do not believe him.
   C. Plans an elaborate escape, but the plan fails.
   D. Trick question! He does nothing to save her.

10) How does the De Lacey family lose their wealth and status?
    A. Agatha has a forbidden affair.
    B. Mr. De Lacey (the father) makes a series of terrible investments.
    C. Felix breaks a man out of jail.
    D. Safie is involved in a failed coup (an attempt to overthrow the government).

11) What is remarkable about the creature’s speech?
    A. He shows no emotion.
    B. He has the voice of a child.
    C. He is highly intelligent.
    D. He struggles to pronounce every word.
    E. Trick question! He cannot speak.

12) To what does the creature attribute his evil behavior?
    A. He is controlled by demons.
    B. He has been twisted by negative life experiences.
    C. The doctor gave him the brain of an insane murderer.
    D. He has no conception of right and wrong.

13) The second creature dies when...
    A. She accidentally starts a fire.
    B. The first creature strangles her.
    C. The doctor shoots her.
    D. Trick question! She is never brought to life.

14) How does Dr. Frankenstein fail in protecting Elizabeth?
    A. The doctor believes that he is the creature’s target.
    B. The doctor is imprisoned at the time and can do nothing.
    C. The creature switches places with Elizabeth, and the doctor shoots her.
    D. He tries to warn her, but she refuses to believe him.
    E. Trick question! He saves her.
Language Arts Questions

1) Which of the following is an accurate definition for the framing device in narrative?
   A. A character is “framed” in an unusual context where they are out of place.
   B. The setting is a frame that contains the actions. Characters can neither leave nor enter the frame of action.
   C. The author describes a specific scene or view (the frame) in great detail.
   D. An outer story is used to “frame” an inner story.

2) Mary Shelley’s full title, *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus*, is an example of…
   A. Synecdoche.
   B. Allusion.
   C. Consonance.
   D. Dialect.
   E. Authorial intrusion.

3) “...vivid flashes of lightning dazzled my eyes, illuminating the lake, making it appear like a vast sheet of fire; then for an instant every thing seemed of a pitchy darkness…”
   This excerpt is an excellent example of...
   A. Characterization.
   B. Structure (foreshadowing).
   C. Structure (frame).
   D. Figurative language.
   E. Allusion.

4) Which statement is true about Shelley’s characterization?
   A. She makes the creature and the doctor opposites in every way.
   B. She makes her characters purely good or purely evil.
   C. She makes the reader despise Captain Walton and then care for him.
   D. She makes the creature and the doctor similar in important ways.

5) “I have one secret Elizabeth, a dreadful one; when revealed to you, it will chill your frame with horror… I will confide this tale of misery and terror to you the day after our marriage…”
   This excerpt is an excellent example of...
   A. Plot structure (climax).
   B. Structural effects (suspense).
   C. Bookending (frame device).
   D. Authorial intrusion.
   E. Hyperbole.

6) When the author presents one character to highlight the traits of another character it is...
   A. A character foil.
   B. A Venn method.
   C. A persona.
   D. An archetype.
   E. A side-by-side.
7) “You have read this strange and terrific story, Margaret; and do you not feel your blood congeal with horror, like that which even now curdles mine?”

This excerpt highlights Shelley’s use of...
A. Omniscient narrator.
B. Symbolism.
C. Structure (framing device).
D. Counterargument.
E. Word choice (allusion).

8) Which of the following is NOT true about Romantic literature?
A. The main characters are often tragic and emotionally troubled.
B. The plots often include fantastic, far-fetched elements.
C. The themes celebrate scientific and industrial progress.
D. It idealizes individual feelings rather than rational thoughts.

9) Which of the following is NOT a type of foreshadowing?
A. Concrete clues (Chekhov’s gun)
B. Direct (prophecy)
C. Climactic clues
D. Word choice clues
E. Symbolic / allegorical clues

10) Which source material is NOT referenced by an allusion in Frankenstein?
A. Paradise Lost
B. The Bible
C. “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner”
D. Macbeth

11) “I had an obscure feeling that all was not over and that he would still commit some signal crime, which by its enormity should almost efface the recollection of the past.”

This excerpt is an excellent example of...
A. Imagery / sensory details.
B. Foreshadowing.
C. Character foil.
D. Allusion.
E. Flashback.

12) “…a few shattered pines were scattered around; and the solemn silence of this glorious presence-chamber of imperial nature was broken only by the brawling waves or the fall of some vast fragment, the thunder sound of the avalanche…”

This excerpt is an excellent example of...
A. Imagery.
B. Allusion.
C. Resolution.
D. Foreshadowing.
E. Flashback.
13) Which choice is an accurate theme statement for Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*?
A. Playing God
B. Personal ambition can have disastrous consequences.
C. The pointlessness of revenge
D. Science and knowledge ultimately benefit humanity.

14) “The modern Prometheus” of the title most aptly applies to…
A. The doctor.
B. The captain.
C. Mary Shelley.
D. The creature.

15) “‘Slave, I before reasoned with you, but you have proved yourself unworthy of my condescension. Remember that I have power; you believe yourself miserable, but I can make you so wretched that the light of day will be hateful to you. You are my creator, but I am your master; obey!’” This excerpt is an excellent example of...
A. Dramatic irony.
B. Sound devices.
C. Personification.
D. Tone.

16) “I will watch with the willingness of a snake, that I may sting with its venom. Man, you shall repent of the injuries you inflict.”
In this excerpt, the creature makes a reference to...
A. Shakespeare’s *Twelfth Night*
B. The Bible
C. “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner”
D. Homer’s *The Odyssey*

17) Shelley is called “the mother of science fiction” because…
A. She was the first to tell a story that imagined possible developments.
B. She invented the term science fiction to describe her book.
C. *Frankenstein* is a modern example that moralizes over scientific developments.
D. All her real-life children had superpowers.

18) Which choice has the LEAST symbolic importance in *Frankenstein*?
A. The ship
B. Lightning / electricity
C. Deserted places
D. The creature’s scars

19) Romanticism as a movement was largely a reaction to…
A. Shakespeare / Elizabethan culture.
B. The Enlightenment.
C. The Dark Ages.
D. Modernism.
Short Response Prompts

1) Identify one allusion from Frankenstein and briefly explain how Shelley uses it.

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2) What are the key features of Romanticism? What did the Romantics idealize? What topics interested them? Use examples to develop your answer.

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3) Choose one character from Frankenstein who serves as a foil to the doctor. How does Shelley develop and use this character foil?

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Extended Response (choose 1)

1) Choose one Frankenstein theme subject to analyze in an essay. Put the theme subject in an accurate theme statement and explain how Shelley develops the theme. Use examples from the text (quotations not required) in your analysis.

Key theme subjects in Frankenstein

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rebellion</th>
<th>Nature</th>
<th>Guilt</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compassion</td>
<td>Science / industry</td>
<td>Isolation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appearances</td>
<td>Justice</td>
<td>Companionship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playing God</td>
<td>Knowledge / discovery</td>
<td>Parenthood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personality development</td>
<td>Revenge</td>
<td>Ambition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hubris / excessive pride</td>
<td>Fate</td>
<td>Evil</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2) Where does Frankenstein fit in literary history? What came before and after? Briefly explain the ideological and historical context of the novel. (Helpful tip: You should have one paragraph on Romanticism.)

3) Write an essay analyzing Shelley’s craft in terms of word choice. Make sure to use relevant word choice terms in your explanation. You may find the following excerpt helpful in your analysis:

“As the night advanced, a fierce wind arose from the woods and quickly dispersed the clouds that had loitered in the heavens; the blast tore along like a mighty avalanche and produced a kind of insanity in my spirits that burst all bounds of reason and reflection. I lighted the dry branch of a tree and danced with fury around the devoted cottage, my eyes still fixed on the western horizon, the edge of which the moon nearly touched. A part of its orb was at length hid, and I waved my brand; it sank, and with a loud scream I fired the straw, and heath, and bushes, which I had collected. The wind fanned the fire, and the cottage was quickly enveloped by the flames, which clung to it and licked it with their forked and destroying tongues.” (Shelley 88)

4) Analyze Shelley’s craft and structure regarding how she creates effects like tension, suspense, mystery, and surprise. How does she do this? Make sure to use relevant Language Arts terms in your answer.

5) It is no accident that people mistakenly call the creature Frankenstein. Shelley purposely creates similarities between the creature and his creator. Why does she do this?

Write an essay analyzing the characterization of both the doctor and creature and pay special attention to the ways that the two characters mirror one another. Explain the effects of this mirroring.