

Worksheet 3 – Structure

Review: Lecture 2

In the previous lecture, Prof. Groom discussed the scientific advancements of the time and the ethical discussions that developed from this.

- ✓ Annotate around the image with the (arguably) unethical actions of Victor Frankenstein

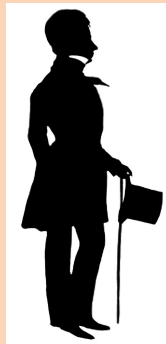


Image from clipartqueen.com

Recall: Lecture 3

Answer these questions after watching the video lecture to check how much you remember.

- To whom is Captain Walton writing his letters?
 - His sister
 - His mother
 - Victor Frankenstein
 - Henry Clerval
- How has Walton ensured that his accounts are accurate?
 - He only writes about his own experiences
 - He cross checks all of the facts with public records
 - He doesn't
 - Frankenstein checks them over
- Which of the following does **not** appear in the novel?
 - A biography of Henry Clerval
 - An account of Victor's education and career
 - An account of the creature's experiences
 - A reply letter from Walton's sister
- Which is the odd one out?
 - Obscurity
 - Gloomy or wild landscapes
 - Light-hearted, comic interactions
 - Elements of the supernatural

Bonus: Explain why?

Analysis

5. Obscurity* is a common feature of Gothic literature. Come up with 3 examples of how Mary Shelley uses obscurity in *Frankenstein*?
6. In the lecture [2:40-3:35], Prof. Groom discusses the presentation of this tale through Walton's letters, and the doubt that is cast over whether or not these events actually occurred.

To put it another way, all this could just be a figment of Walton's imagination. Remember, he's talking about the delusions that he experiences because of the extreme cold and Shelley, therefore, casts a veil of great doubt over these series of episodes.

- a) According to Walton's account, what happens to the being at the end of the novel?
- b) Therefore, if we are left uncertain about the truth of his letters at the end of the novel, what is the effect on the reader?
- c) Think of 2 other instances in the novel where we encounter unreliable narrators and explain what motive they may have for being untruthful.
- d) How does the use of unreliable narrators heighten the sense of unease in the reader?

Evaluation

How does Mary Shelley use common features of Gothic literature to create a sense of foreboding* in *Frankenstein*?

Success Criteria:

- Write your answer as two analytical paragraphs.
- Ensure each paragraph has a clearly defined topic.
- Include quotations.

Challenge: Also analyse the use of language or punctuation in your chosen quotations.

Hint: Use these sentence starters to help you.

One typical feature of Gothic literature used by Shelley is...

For example, we see this technique when... Another example is...

This creates a sense of foreboding for the reader because...

Another Gothic trait employed by Shelley is...

Glossary

- **Biography** (noun) - An account of someone's life written by someone else.
e.g. Anna Williams wrote a best-selling biography of the life of Oprah Winfrey.
- **Obscure** (verb) – To partly conceal from view.
e.g. I thought I saw an old friend, but I can't be sure as her face was obscured by the glass.
- **Foreboding** (noun) – A feeling that something bad will happen.
e.g. As she crept down the basement steps towards the darkness below, she was filled with a sense of foreboding.