

1 The events below come from Chapter Three. Put them into their correct order. There is one event you will not use (this comes from Chapter Four).

- a. Frankenstein fell ill.
- b. Victor met Henry Clerval in the streets of Ingolstadt.
- c. Frankenstein woke up to find the monster standing over him.
- d. Frankenstein fell asleep.
- e. Victor abandoned the study of science.
- f. Henry told Victor that his father, Elizabeth and Walton are worried about him.
- g. Victor and Henry returned to Victor's apartment.
- h. Frankenstein finished creating his monster.
- i. Elizabeth appeared in Victor's nightmare.
- j. Victor left his attic and the monster and spent the night outside.
- k. The monster came to life (breathed for the first time).
- l. Henry noticed how ill Victor appeared.
- m. Henry brought Victor a letter from Elizabeth.

2 **SUMMARY**

Write a brief summary of the chapter using the events you ordered in Exercise 1.

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3 Which event do you think will be the most important for the development of the story?

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4 Topic – The supernatural

Frankenstein's creation might be seen as: '*...a creature that is believed by some people to exist even though it involves things which are not physically possible, existing outside the sphere of gravitational law.*' (*Collins Cobuild English Language Dictionary*). Find other examples of a 'supernatural' phenomenon such as ghosts, fairies, Dracula, owl-monkeys. Choose an article, some pictures, a book or a video and use these questions to help you talk about it.

1. What is this supernatural thing? Do you believe it exists?
2. What special powers or properties does it have which are not physically possible?
3. Do you believe in the supernatural?

Before you go on

1 Why do you think Elizabeth has written to Victor?

Tick (✓) the reason that you think is more probable.

- Elizabeth wants to visit Victor in Ingolstadt.
- She tells him she wants to marry him.
- She tells him the monster has arrived in the house.
- She tells him about her news.

After reading Chapter Four check if you were right.

1 What three pieces of news does Elizabeth's letter contain?

a.

b.

c.

2 In Chapter Three you were asked to put the twelve events (a-m) in their correct order. Event 'e': 'Victor abandoned the study of science.' comes in this chapter. Why does Victor do this?

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INTERNET PROJECT

Frankenstein has interested both readers and critics because it appears to have ingredients of more than one genre. It is a horror story, a gothic novel, and is universally regarded as the first science-fiction novel in English.

1. What different types of fiction do you know?
Draw up a list.
2. What are the typical ingredients of each type?
3. Think of a famous example of each type in English and fill in the table on the next page.
4. Have you read any of the books?
5. What type of fiction do you like?

Type	Author	Title

The different types of fiction you have identified are in fact well-recognised divisions in literary language and are often called genres.

Search the following topics:

- ▶ what the characteristics of a **horror** story are and why *Frankenstein* can be considered as an example;
- ▶ what the characteristics of a **gothic** story are and why *Frankenstein* can be considered as an example;
- ▶ what the characteristics of a **science-fiction** story are and why *Frankenstein* can be considered as an example.

1 Read the letter Victor receives from his father, Alphonse Frankenstein (tragedy has struck Victor's family).

For questions 1-6, tick (✓) the answers (A, B, C or D) which you think fit best.

1. What was Victor's family waiting for before William's murder?

- A A letter from Victor.
- B Victor's arrival.
- C Justine's arrival.
- D A letter from Henry.

2. Who had been with William before his disappearance?

- A Justine.
- B Justine and Alphonse.
- C Alphonse and Elizabeth.
- D Justine and Elizabeth.

3. Why was the first search interrupted?

- A It was dark and late.
- B They needed torches.
- C They thought William was at home.
- D The path was closed.

4. Who found William?

- A Justine.
- B Alphonse.
- C Elizabeth.
- D Somebody else.

5. Why did Elizabeth cry, 'Oh, God! I have murdered my lovely boy!?

- A She wanted to protect somebody else.
- B She thought it was wrong to lie.
- C She was confused.
- D She felt responsible for the tragedy.

6. Which statement is NOT true?

- A Alphonse thinks William was murdered for the locket.
- B Alphonse wants Victor to return home as quickly as possible.
- C Alphonse does not know where the locket is now.
- D Alphonse wants Victor to find the murderer and kill him.

2 These places are mentioned in Victor's journey from Ingoldstadt to Geneva. What information can you give about each place?

- a. Lausanne
-
- b. Planpalais
-
- c. Mont Blanc
-
- d. Mont Salève
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3 In Chapter One (Page 30) you were asked to give a title to the chapter's two parts. Chapter Five has three distinct parts. Decide what they are and then choose a title or heading for each from the list below.

- A A stormy journey.
- B The mystery of the locket.
- C Can it really be Justine?
- D The monster is sighted.
- E Victor arrives home.
- F Tragic news.

Part 1 _____ Part 2 _____ Part 3 _____

4 Think about the following questions:

- a. Why has Justine been accused of William's murder?
- b. What could Victor do to prove her innocence?

1 What does Frankenstein know about the murder of his brother that his family and the court do not?

Write a word or short sentence about:

a. the identity of the murderer:

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b. the motive:

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c. the truth about the locket:

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d. Justine's involvement:

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2 Why doesn't Frankenstein tell the truth?

Complete the sentences in an appropriate way.

a. 'If I tell the truth (about the monster)

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b. 'If I tell the court I murdered my brother

.....

3 What do you think about Victor's silence?

4 When Elizabeth found William she said: *'I have murdered my lovely boy!'* (Page 46) and when Justine was hanged, Victor said he was: *'the true murderer'* (Page 53). However, the monster killed William. Why did Elizabeth and Victor say these things?



Chapter Seven

⑨ I felt as if my soul were in hell. I wanted to kill the monster I had created. When I thought of him, my mind was full of hatred and revenge. I wished to see him again so that I could avenge the deaths of William and Justine.

My father became ill with sadness and grief. Elizabeth grew pale and thin. I felt horribly ¹ guilty. My only comfort was to escape to the mountains and forget my sorrows for a few days. The mountains and rivers were made by God. In the magnificent Alpine valleys, I felt His power and was afraid of nothing else.

On one of these journeys, in August, nearly two years after the death of Justine, I entered the valley of Chamonix. Rivers of ice came down from the mountains. The great white dome ² of Mont Blanc stood above me. I decided to climb Montanvert. I remembered the view from the top of the mountain. That sublime ³ landscape alone could tranquillize ⁴ my soul.

1. **horribly** : 非常。
2. **dome** : 圆顶。
3. **sublime** : 壮观的。
4. **tranquillize** : 使平静。

1 Victor's private hell: 'I felt as if my soul were in hell.' contrasts with the 'sublime landscape (that) could tranquillize (his) soul.' What language is used to portray both? Complete the table. Some examples have been done for you.

Victor's private hell	Mountains and rivers made by God
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•	•
•	• fear only of God's power
• feeling of guilt	

2 Write a few sentences about the effects William's murder had on Alphonse Frankenstein and Elizabeth.

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Before you go on

1 In Chapter Eight Frankenstein meets his creation, the monster. What do you think his immediate reaction will be?