

Low

The Monster's Psychological Development

Victor Frankenstein's monster has come a long way since he was first created in that "laboratory". A creation assembled with old body parts and chemicals, yet somehow proved to have the intelligence of a true, fully educated human. He was, however, transfixed with a hideous form that Victor simply could not stand. "Miserable wretch!" "Ugly wretch!" "Hideous monster!" Abandoned by Victor, the monster is left only in confusion and tries to force himself into society, only to be treated horribly by the cottagers in the same way, if not worse, than when he was with Victor. These misconceptions upon the monster really had a physical and mental influence on him. After seeing his reflection in a mirror, he realizes what everyone was so afraid of. His grotesque appearance was only blocking the view of what his true intentions and qualities are like. The monster actually has a kind-hearted nature that most people really can't see because of his physical appearance. What the monster really wanted most was to be socially accepted and brought into the community as one of their own, but of course, everyone is still deathly afraid of him that every time they catch sight of him, they all lose their minds and continue to pelt him with stones and beat him with any weapon they can acquire. These tormented feelings inside of him build up too far and eventually snap, releasing his internal wrath. Ultimately, he blames Victor for creating him to be so hideous, and now he vows his revenge. Frankenstein is aware of his creation's actions and new intentions, so he prepares for the worst.

The first victim to fall at the hands of the monster is Victor's younger brother, William. Although it was an accident, Victor takes it as part of his vengeance in order to make him suffer just as he once had when he was first created. "William is dead! -- that sweet child, whose smiles

delighted and warmed my heart, who was so gentle, yet so gay! Victor, he is murdered!" (Shelly 59)... "Alas! I had turned loose into the world a depraved wretch, whose delight was in carnage and misery; had he not murdered my brother?" (Shelly 63). The monster certainly does not stop there; soon after, he kills one of Victor's best friends, Henry Clerval. "The examination, the presence of the magistrate and witnesses, passed like a dream from my memory, when I saw the lifeless form of Henry Clerval stretched before me. I gasped for breath; and, throwing myself on the body, I exclaimed, "Have my murderous machinations deprived you also, my dearest Henry, of life? Two I have already destroyed; other victims await their destiny: but you, Clerval, my friend, my benefactor -- " (Shelly 150). Killing his loved ones one by one, the monster achieves more and more of his initial goal of revenge on his creator. He then demands of Victor to create him a female monster that will actually accept him as a person of interest, unlike Frankenstein and the cottagers. If he does not comply with the monster, he will not stop killing his family and friends.

Victor follows through with the demand for the most part, but as it is near completion, he "tore [it] to pieces" (Shelly 142) out of rage. This was a very controversial scene, considering either creating the new monster would calm down the original one and go far away without the disturbance towards anyone ever again, or that both monsters will continue on a rampage and destroy the town and cause mayhem elsewhere for however long they can last. The monster, however, caught sight of this and was furious needless to say. "The wretch saw me destroy the creature on whose future existence he depended for happiness, and, with a howl of devilish despair and revenge, withdrew," (Shelly 142). Because of his actions, the monster now desires revenge more than ever before. His next victim to fall is Victor's beloved wife, Elizabeth. "I escaped from them to the room where lay the body of Elizabeth, my love, my wife, so lately

living, so dear, so worthy,” (Shelly 166). At this point, Frankenstein has finally had enough and vows for revenge of his own against the monster to avenge Elizabeth. He plans on killing the monster once and for all; he devotes the rest of his life to find and kill it

Naturally, Victor has major complications in accomplishing this major goal and ends up on Captain Walton’s ship, attempting to stay away from the monster. Soon after, he becomes very ill and eventually dies on the ship. “His voice became fainter as he spoke, and at length, exhausted by his effort, he sank into silence. About half an hour afterwards he attempted again to speak but was unable; he pressed my hand feebly, and his eyes closed forever, while the irradiation of a gentle smile passed away from his lips,” (Shelly 182). Along with Victor (timing-wise) the monster dies as well. Shelly writes, “‘But soon,’ he cried with sad and solemn enthusiasm, ‘I shall die, and what I now feel be no longer felt. Soon these burning miseries will be extinct. I shall ascend my funeral pile triumphantly, and exult in the agony of the torturing flames. The light of that conflagration will fade away; my ashes will be swept into the sea by the winds. My spirit will sleep in peace, or if it thinks, it will not surely think thus. Farwell’,” (Shelly 186). As he said this, he leapt into the icy waters of the ocean and drifted away in the waves, “lost in darkness and distance”.

Since the beginning of the story, the monster was only dedicated to show his kind-hearted nature and belong somewhere within the society of the cottagers. After being horribly mistreated and beaten, he lost all that hope and shifted towards the lust for revenge against his creator. He does so by killing off members of his family and closest friends. Following these actions, it is then revealed that the monster never wanted to kill or hurt anyone, but as Victor and the cottagers still will never accept him, he continued on his path of everlasting vengeance. It isn’t until his death, that this path ends altogether.

Rationale for *Frankenstein* argument essay: 12th grade 1st semester

Low

This essay received an overall score of 2. While the essay is fairly easy to read and features plenty of evidence, it is not blended into the writing and the prompt neglects perhaps the most central element of the prompt: an analysis of the Freudian psychic zones as seen in the monster. The introduction is drawn out too much and includes evidence that should have been saved for the body paragraphs; therefore, this shows poor construction of ideas. Without the analytical framework of examining the monster's psyche, the paper becomes a well-written plot summary of the monster's life.

12th grade Frankenstein 1st semester

Common Core All-Subject Writing Rubric					
Writing Type(circle one): Argumentative Informative/Explanatory Narrative (ELA only)					
CONTENT X4	The writing has a sharp focus and clarity of purpose. The ideas are developed with examples and specific details including textual evidence and are thoroughly elaborated. All elements of the prompt are addressed.	The writing has a clear central idea and a clear focus. Ideas are developed with textual evidence, even though the development may be uneven. Information is relevant. Most elements of the prompt are addressed.	The writing has a vague central idea; there are shifts in focus or digressions. Ideas are listed, information may be incomplete or irrelevant; textual evidence may be lacking, and there is little development. Some elements of the prompt are not addressed.	The writing has unclear or confusing ideas. The ideas are missing relevant information, there is not enough information, or there is little or no development, and little textual evidence. Significant elements of the prompt are <u>not</u> addressed.	X4
ORGANIZATION	There is a beginning, middle, and end in the writing with strong transitions between ideas. Ideas are presented in a logical order and there is a sense of completion about the writing.	There is a beginning, middle, and end in the writing with simple transitions between ideas. Ideas are presented in a logical order and the writing may have a weak ending.	There is a weak beginning, middle, and end with gaps in ideas. Ideas are presented in random order, there may be significant repetition, and the writing may have no ending.	There is no beginning or end with severe gaps in ideas. Ideas are presented in a random or repetitive order. There may be too little information to demonstrate organization.	
SPELLING & GRAMMAR (Conventions)	The writing exhibits superior control over grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. If there are errors present, they do not appear to be part of a pattern of errors.	The writing exhibits proper control over grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. If there are errors present, they do not appear to be a part of a pattern of errors.	The writing exhibits weak control over grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. The errors minimally affect the meaning of the writing.	The writing exhibits little to no control over grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. The errors greatly affect the meaning of the writing.	
Teacher Feedback:			{{Student Reflection on Back}}		Total Points Earned
					Score