

Frankenstein Literary Analysis Essay

Choose one of the following topics. If you do not understand a prompt, do not write on it.

1. Explain how Shelley uses **imagery** effectively in the novel.
2. Analyze Shelley's **treatment of women** in the novel.
3. Analyze the **theme of loneliness** in the novel.
4. Analyze Shelley's **use of weather** as a **symbol**.
5. Analyze the **theme of man playing God** in the novel. Does Shelley believe that man has steered away from righteousness?
6. Explain how the **settings** in the novel influence the action and plot.
7. The decisions people make often have a *significant* impact on their lives. Discuss **how Victor's decisions** positively or negatively impact his life and affect his identity and knowledge.

This essay is NOT a research paper. Do not use sources.

Specifications

- MLA heading
- Typed, Times New Roman 12, double spaced, one-inch margins
- Header with last name and page number (On Word, Insert/Page Number/Top of Page/Choice 3. Change the font to TNR 12.)
- Title the essay creatively.
- The completed product should be between 1,000 and 1,200 words.
- **Integrate one or two supporting quotations from the novel into each body paragraph. Use MLA format for all documentation and for the Works Cited page, which will include only the novel.**
- Use third person; analyze literature in the present tense and history in the past tense.
- Prefer strong diction and varied syntax.
- **Do not write a plot summary of the novel. Analyze the topic.**

Before beginning to write, **create an outline** of some kind: create an outline or some other type of map to lead your drafting. Choose the evidence from the text (quotes) that you will use at each level of development. As you start to **compose the essay**, remember that the first draft is your first thought. Take this time to get your ideas on paper. As you begin to **edit and revise**, change words, sentence order, structure, and content. Allow yourself more time at this level so that you are able to adequately clean up the document before submitting it for grading.

- In the **introduction**, present the relevance/importance of the novel. Offer a brief background and summary of the work, no more than two or three sentences. Conclude the introduction with a thesis that restates the prompt, though not verbatim.
- The **body** is the heart of the paper. In this section, present examples from the text and discuss their meaning to illustrate and support the thesis statement.
- The **conclusion** refers to the thesis and draws the body paragraphs together. It may explain how the work the novel fits into present society or culture.

The rubric with which the essay will be scored is on the next page. Read it carefully, especially before submitting the final draft on Turnitin.

English 1002 – McKay

Literary Analysis Essay Rubric	1	2	3	4
Thesis/Claims <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates awareness of audience and task Establishes and maintains a clear purpose Sustains a single point of view Exhibits clarity of ideas 	Confused focus	Vague focus	Clear focus	Sharp, distinct focus
Evidence and Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and details are specific to the topic Information and details are relevant to focus and are fully developed Clear textual evidence to support the thesis Meets minimum length requirement 	Superficial content	Content limited to a listing, repetition, or mere sequence of ideas	Specific and illustrative content	Substantial and illustrative content; sophisticated, particularly well-developed ideas
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains a logical order or sequence Paragraphs focus on one topic Uses logical transitions within/between sentences and paragraphs Effective introduction and conclusion 	Confused organization	Inconsistent organization	Logical and appropriate organization	Obviously controlled and/or subtle organization
Style <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Precise language Effective word choice Voice, tone, originality of language Variety of sentence structures, types, and lengths 	Lack of sentence and word choice variety	Limited sentence variety and word choice	Precision and variety in sentence structure and word choice	Writer's voice apparent in tone, sentence structure, and word choice
Conventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanics, spelling, capitalization, punctuation Usage (e.g., pronoun reference, subject-verb agreement, pronoun-antecedent agreement, etc.) Sentence completeness (no fragments, comma splices, run-ons) Do not use contractions or second person pronouns 	Mechanical and usage errors that seriously interfere with the writer's purpose (more than 16)	Repeated weaknesses in mechanics and usage (11-15)	Some mechanical and usage errors (5-10)	Few mechanical and usage errors (0-4)
Sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of quotations (no more than 20%) Quotes integrated into sentences Paraphrased citation of author and page number with no comma NOTE: Since this essay has only one source (the novel) use only the page number in the citation. Accurate Works Cited page 	No Works Cited page; quotations not cited parenthetically; quotations not integrated into the writer's sentences	Repeated errors (more than 10)	Some errors (5-10)	Few errors (0-4)