

FRANKENSTEIN

3º & 4º SECONDARY EDUCATION



INDEX



BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE...

SESSION 1: SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS	2
ACTIVITY 1: SYNOPSIS	2
ACTIVITY 2: THE CHARACTERS	4
ACTIVITY 3: SEQUENCE OF EVENTS	6
SESSION 2: UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY	8
ACTIVITY 1: FILL IN THE GAPS	8
ACTIVITY 2: WHAT IS HAPPENING?	9
ACTIVITY 3: FAMOUS MONSTERS	11
SESSION 3: THE ENDING	12
ACTIVITY 1: CHOOSE THE CORRECT TENSE	12
ACTIVITY 2: WHAT DO YOU THINK?	13
ACTIVITY 3: FILL IN THE GAPS	14



AFTER THE PERFORMANCE...

SESSION 4: EXPRESS YOURSELF!	15
ACTIVITY 1: WHAT DID YOU THINK?	15
ACTIVITY 2: WRITE YOUR OWN REVIEW!	16
ACTIVITY 3: YOUR TURN!	17



SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

Activity 1. Synopsis



Before you read the synopsis of the play, match the correct word to the correct definition. Two of the words have the same definition.

WORDS	DEFINITIONS
1. CORPSES	<input type="radio"/> <i>to do something unintentionally</i>
2. CEMETERY	<input type="radio"/> <i>a woman who is going to get married</i>
3. GROTESQUE-LOOKING	<input type="radio"/> <i>dead bodies</i>
4. HIDEOUS	<input type="radio"/> <i>extremely scared</i>
5. TERRIFIED	<input type="radio"/> <i>problem</i>
6. ACCIDENTALLY	<input type="radio"/> <i>very ugly</i>
7. WIFE-TO-BE	<input type="radio"/> <i>a place where dead people are buried</i>
8. A CATCH	



SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**



• Synopsis

The play begins in the 18th century, when Victor Frankenstein, a passionate and eccentric scientist, defies the laws of life and death. In the shadows of his laboratory, using materials collected from the cemetery, Victor brings a creature to life that soon becomes his worst nightmare. Although he initially celebrates his success, reality turns darker when the grotesque being, rejected for its appearance, begins a desperate search for its place in the world.

The monster, filled with resentment over being abandoned by its creator and rejected by humanity, demands that Victor build him a companion to ease the loneliness consuming him. But the tragedies don't stop: his demand becomes a direct threat to those Victor loves most. Amid betrayals, deaths, and moral dilemmas, the scientist confronts the consequences of his actions, while the creature seeks vengeance and justice in a duel that drags them both toward ruin.

What is the price of playing God? Is the creator the real monster, or is it the creation? Between love, loneliness, and obsession, Frankenstein leaves us with a question that continues to resonate through time.



Can you use the high-lighted words from the text to make your own sentences?

corpses _____

cemetery _____

grotesque-looking _____

hideous _____

terrified _____

accidentally _____

wife-to-be _____

catch _____



SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

Activity 2. The Characters



After reading the synopsis, you already know about three of the main characters from the play – Victor Frankenstein, the Creature and Elizabeth. Below is a list of all the main characters:

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN: a scientist obsessed with defeating death.

THE CREATURE: Victor's grotesque creation seeking acceptance.

WILMA FRANKENSTEIN: Victor's sister and Henry's fiancée.

HENRY CLERVAL: Victor's friend and Wilma's future husband.

JUSTINE MORITZ: Wilma's helper, accused of murder.

PROMETHEUS: Wilma's dog, key to Victor's experiments.

MARY SHELLEY: narrator and author of the story.

R. WALTON: publisher reflecting Mary's struggles.

The following sentences provide information about each character.



• Write questions using the sentences as the answers. The information you need to ask for is highlighted in bold. Use the words - who, what, how, etc. Sometimes there is more than one possible answer. The first example has been done for you.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN: A young scientist
Victor Frankenstein has done a fateful experiment.

e.g. Who has done a fateful experiment?

SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

THE CREATURE: Victor's creation

The Creature **feels rejected** because of its grotesque appearance.

WILMA FRANKENSTEIN: Victor's sister and Henry's fiancée

Wilma **finds the engagement ring in Victor's laboratory.**

HENRY CLERVAL: Victor's friend

Henry is a romantic **who loves poetry and dreams.**

JUSTINE MORITZ: Wilma's helper

Justine **is accused of murdering Victor's brother.**

PROMETHEUS: Wilma's dog

Prometheus **dies in an accident during Victor's experiments.**

MARY SHELLEY: narrator and author

Mary Shelley **writes the story of Frankenstein inspired by her visions and personal losses.**

R. WALTON: editor

R. Walton **is surprised to discover that the author of the book is a woman.**



SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

Activity 3. Sequence of Events



• Now that you know the synopsis of the play and the characters, as a class, read the following extracts and number them in the correct order of events from 1 - 4 .

A. THE CREATURE AND VICTOR:

(The Creature kneels beside Victor.)

THE CREATURE: I didn't want this. I didn't want to hurt anyone, but you left me no choice. Your betrayal has turned me into this... monster.

(Victor stares at him, trembling, as the Creature lowers his voice.)

THE CREATURE: Now, Victor, you must pay for what you've done.

B. VICTOR: Agrippa once said: *'It is better to know nothing and believe by faith than to rise through science and fall into despair.'*

(Victor attaches the last electrode to the lifeless body on the table.)

This is it. Seven days of work. Seven days to create life. If this doesn't work, I'll have failed.

(Victor pulls the lever, and the room fills with electrical sparks. The body remains motionless. He sinks into despair as the light fades.)

C. WILMA AND THE CREATURE:

(Wilma practices her French lessons alone. The Creature emerges slowly from the shadows.)

WILMA: Who... who are you? Please, don't hurt me!

THE CREATURE: I've been watching your lessons. I've learned everything from the window. I want to belong here, with you, with Victor.

(Wilma stares at him in terror, stepping backward as the Creature approaches.)

D. THE CREATURE:

I am your creation, yet you've abandoned me! I have walked alone, cursed by your work. You owe me happiness, Victor. If I cannot have love, I will bring you misery. Make me a companion, someone like me. Someone as monstrous as I am.

(Victor hesitates, visibly torn, but he finally nods reluctantly.)



SESSION 2: UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY

Activity 1. Fill in the Gaps



• In the following extract, there are missing words. Complete the sentences using the correct form of the word in brackets.

Hint: After reading the text, think about what type of word you need to fill the gap – a noun, a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.

(Victor and the Creature are locked in a heated conversation in Victor's laboratory.)

CREATURE: Why do you insist on calling me a monster? I am not evil; I am just deeply _____ . (understand)

VICTOR: Misunderstood? You have caused nothing but pain to everyone around you. (painful)

CREATURE: I only wanted to feel accepted, but instead, I _____ and feared. How can you justify such _____ ? (reject)

VICTOR: You cannot blame me for how others treat you. Perhaps it is your own _____ that scares them. (appear)

CREATURE: My appearance may frighten them, but it is their actions that show true _____ . (cruel)

VICTOR: Enough of this! I am trying to fix the situation. If you keep threatening me, I will have no choice but to end this once and for all.

CREATURE: You call this fixing? Your _____ is a failure. Look at what you've done to me. (create)

VICTOR: I gave you life. You should be _____ for that. (grateful)

CREATURE: Grateful? For what? For a life of misery? For being the most _____ thing in existence? (want)

VICTOR: I admit it. Perhaps I was _____ to create you. But I cannot undo what has been done. (wrong)

CREATURE: Then, if you cannot undo it, you must take _____ for your actions. (responsible)



SESSION 2: **UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY**



Activity 2. What is happening?

- Read Act III of the play where and answer the following questions:

1. Why does the Creature confront Victor?

- He wants Victor to leave the house.
- He demands Victor create a companion for him.
- He accuses Victor of stealing from him.

2. What does Wilma do when she meets the Creature?

- She screams and runs away.
- She tries to calm him and talk to him.
- She warns Victor about the Creature.

3. What does Victor say when Wilma suggests helping the Creature?

- "I will never help this monster!"
- "Maybe we should listen to him."
- "Wilma, stay out of this!"

4. How does the Creature explain his loneliness?

- "I am alone because I am different."
- "You abandoned me, Victor, and now everyone else does too."
- "It is better to be alone than hated."

SESSION 2: **UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY**

5. What does Wilma realize about the Creature?

- He is dangerous and must be destroyed.
- He feels pain and longs for connection.
- He is a machine incapable of emotion.

6. How does the Creature describe humans?

- "They are kind and understanding."
- "They hate what they don't understand."
- "They are all like Victor."

7. What does Victor blame the Creature for?

- You killed William and destroyed my family."
- "You ruined my experiment."
- "You lied to me."

8. What does the Creature want Victor to do?

- Leave him alone forever.
- Create a companion for him.
- Let him live in the laboratory.



SESSION 2: **UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY**

Activity 3. Famous Monsters



- Can you name these famous monsters or monstrous characters?



Dracula



Werewolf



Frankenstein



Zombie



Mummy



- Can you think of any other famous monsters?



- Now it's your turn!

Imagine you are a brilliant scientist like Victor Frankenstein, and can create a monster of your own. How would you bring your monster to life? What materials would you use to create it? Think about how it would look, speak and move. Also consider where it would live, what it would do – would it terrorise people, or would it be a friendly monster? In groups, brainstorm some ideas and present them to the rest of the class.



SESSION 3:

Activity 1. Choose the correct tense



- In the following extract complete the sentences using the verb in brackets. You must choose between the following tenses - Present Simple / Present Continuous / Future Simple. The first example has been done for you.

(The Creature watches as Victor works tirelessly on the lifeless body lying on the table.)

CREATURE: You (1. promise) _____ me she would be ready weeks ago. How much longer (2. it take) _____?

VICTOR: I (3. work) _____ as fast as I can, but I need silence. This process (4. require) _____ precision.

CREATURE: Silence? Do you think silence (5. fix) _____ your failure? You (6. waste) _____ time while I remain alone.

(Victor pauses, glancing at the Creature, his frustration growing.)

VICTOR: She (7. be) _____ perfect, but perfection (8. take) _____ time. If you (9. want) _____ me to finish, let me work!

(The Creature steps closer, its voice trembling.)

CREATURE: And if she (10. not love) does not love me? If she (11. hate) _____ me as much as the rest of the world? What (12. happen) _____ to me then?

(Victor sets his tools down, his hands shaking slightly.)

VICTOR: Then we (13. find) _____ a way to make it work. But you (14. need) _____ to trust me.

CREATURE: Trust you? The last time I trusted you, you (15. abandon) _____ me.

(Victor sighs deeply and resumes working.)



SESSION 3: THE ENDING

Activity 2. What do you think?



- As a class, read this dialogue between the Creature and Victor. The dialogue takes place after the Creature sees the wife that Victor has created for him.

(The CREATURE approaches the unfinished body Victor is working on, his anger barely contained.)

CREATURE: Is this what you promised me? A pile of bones and half-finished work?

VICTOR: It's not ready. Perfection takes time.

CREATURE: Perfection? You think this is perfection? She doesn't even look like me. How do you expect her to understand me?

VICTOR: You asked for a companion. That's what I'm giving you. What more do you want?

CREATURE: I want someone who won't hate me. Someone who will see me as an equal. But you don't care about that, do you?

VICTOR: You've gone too far, Creature. If you can't accept my work, perhaps you don't deserve a companion at all.

(The CREATURE steps closer, his voice trembling with anger.)

CREATURE: If I cannot have love, I will bring you misery. You will pay for what you've done.

(VICTOR hesitates, then looks away as the CREATURE storms out of the room.)



- Who do you feel more sympathy for in this scene? Victor or the Creature? Why?
- Who do you see as the victim in their relationship? Victor, the Creature, or both?
- Do you think the Creature's anger is justified? Why or why not?
- If you were Victor, how would you handle the Creature's demands?
- Do you think Victor's creation of the companion is an act of responsibility or guilt?

Discuss your ideas as a class, giving reasons for your opinions.

Use the following phrases to help you...

In my opinion...

From my point of view...

I believe that...

The way I see it...



SESSION 3: THE ENDING

Activity 3. Fill in the Gap



In the following scene, the Creature confronts Victor in the lab after discovering his creation is incomplete. Complete the gaps by using the words below.

Tip: First decide what type of word you need to fill each gap — for example, a noun, a verb, or an adjective.

**TRUST - ANGER - COMPLETED - SORROW - REGRET - DANGER -
FEAR - ESCAPE - GUILT - PROMISE**

(The Creature storms into Victor's lab, furious at the incomplete companion on the table.)

CREATURE: You (1) _____ me, Victor. You said you would finish her.

VICTOR: I didn't (2) _____ this. I only wanted to create something beautiful.

CREATURE: Beautiful? Look at her! She is not (3) _____. She is nothing more than a shadow of what I need.

VICTOR: You don't understand. If I continue, it could put us all in (4) _____.

CREATURE: You don't care about my (5) _____, Victor. You care only about yourself.
(Victor turns away, his face filled with (6) _____.)

VICTOR: I thought I was doing what was right. But now... now I feel only (7) _____.

CREATURE: I will not wait any longer. If you will not help me, I will find a way to (8) _____ this pain myself.

VICTOR: I (9) _____ you, Creature, I will fix this. Just give me time.

CREATURE: Time? Time will not heal this. Time will only make my (10) _____ grow.



SESSION 4: Express Yourself!

Activity 1. What did you think?



Now that you have seen the play, let's talk about the experience....

1. What was your general impression of the play?

I thought it was

funny
exciting
boring
entertaining
clever
inspiring
enjoyable

because...

2. What did you like the most?

The best part was...

The funniest part was...

The most entertaining part was...

The most enjoyable part was...



SESSION 4 : Express Yourself!

Activity 2. Write your own review!



• Imagine you are a journalist for your local newspaper. You need to write a review of the play giving your opinion about the following ...

- The plot
- The actors
- The script
- The costumes
- The scenery
- The music

Below is the opening paragraph of the review. Continue with your own thoughts and ideas.

Last night I was lucky enough to be invited to the premier of "Frankenstein". The theatre was buzzing with excitement as the curtain went up, the audience ready to be entertained! ...



SESSION 4: Express Yourself!

Activity 3. Your turn!



- As a class, read the ending of the play again. Now, in groups, pretend you are the writers of the play and invent your own ending. Write your own script and act out your new endings for your class mates.

(The monster rises and moves toward Victor, who tries to defend himself by raising his weapon, but the monster grabs his arm. The creature throws him to the ground. Victor slowly raises the weapon again, struggling against the monster's strength.)

VICTOR: You are a monster, and you deserve to die.

CREATURE: We had a deal. You were supposed to create a woman for me. You owed me. I am your miserable creation; I have the devil inside me...

(Victor fires, and the monster collapses to the ground.)

(Victor stands next to Henry as the scene shifts.)

ACT V

(The scene changes to an editorial worker sitting on a chair, reviewing books that have passed or failed review.)

R. WALTON: No... No... No... Mmm... The Vampyre, YES! A story by Lord Byron. Wait!

(A letter falls out of the book.)

R. WALTON: "In the presence of the editor, I strongly request that this book be renamed in favor of the author, John William Polidori, whose words were absolutely written by this person. Yours sincerely, J. W. Polidori."

OTHER SHOWS

3º & 4º Secondary Education

Lucky Day (*In English*)

Notredame de Paris (*En Français*)

La isla del tesoro

El Quijote

Tres sombreros de copa

Frankenstein

Didactic Project elaborated by
Elena Valero Bellé



Something big is about to happen and you can see it live at the theatre! With this musical, based on the brilliant book by Mary Shelley, your English classes will come to life at last. Specially adapted to your students' level, they will have a ball with the most beastly show of the season.

