**Frankenstein**

*Comprehension Check Questions Chapters 17-24*

**Chapter Seventeen**

1. Tell how Victor first responds to the creature’s demand.

2. Discuss how the creature convinces Victor to make him a mate.

3. Examine how the creature believes companionship will help his temperament.

4. Explain how the creature plans to stay abreast of Victor’s progress.

5. Compare the creature’s feelings to those of Captain Robert Walton at the beginning of the novel.

6. Recommend whether Victor should or should not create a mate for the creature. What are the advantages; what are the drawbacks?

**Chapter Eighteen**

1. Tell why Alphonse Frankenstein thinks Victor is depressed.

2. Summarize why Victor feels that he cannot marry Elizabeth at this time.

3. Demonstrate how Victor manipulates his father so he has the time and liberty to create a female creature.

4. Analyze why Victor feels that his family will be safer if he leaves Switzerland.

5. Generalize how the setting and scenery of his journey finally affect Victor’s mind and spirits.

6. Assess how Victor feels about Clerval’s friendship and companionship.

**Chapter Nineteen**

1. Quote the passage(s) that tells how Victor views his life in regards to the monster and his demand.

2. While Clerval and Victor are in London, how does Clerval occupy his time?

3. Describe how Victor views the process of creating a female creature.

4. To what is Shelley alluding in Victor’s assertion: “But I am a blasted tree; the bolt has entered my soul; and I felt then that I should survive to exhibit what I shall soon cease to be—a miserable spectacle of wrecked humanity, pitiable to others, and intolerable to myself”? What does Victor mean?

5. Detail why Victor cannot bear to hear Henry speak of Chamounix.

6. Explain why Victor sometimes fears for Henry’s life while on their journey.

7. What does Victor ask of Henry? What does Victor wish to do on his own?

8. Formulate how Victor’s selection of the Orkney Islands mirrors his feelings about the task he plans to complete there.

9. Judge Victor’s emotional state as he begins to create a female monster.

**Chapter Twenty**

1. What are Victor’s concerns about creating another monster?

2. Explain why Victor destroys the creature he is forming.

3. Examine how the creature conveys the power he believes he has over Victor.

4. Infer what the monster means when he tells Victor, “I shall be with you on your wedding-night.”

5. Generalize how Victor feels after the monster threatens him.

6. Evaluate Victor’s decision not to create a female monster. Do you think he is making the right decision? Why or why not?

7. What does Victor do with the remains of the female creature?

8. Describe what Victor does when he becomes tired while sailing.

9. Predict why the people in the village think Victor is responsible for the death of a gentleman in the town.

**Chapter Twenty-One**

1. How does the dead body’s appearance relate its cause of death?

2. Summarize why the townspeople think Victor is the murderer.

3. Who has been murdered?

4. Show how Victor responds to Clerval’s death upon seeing his body and how he behaves while in jail.

5. Explain how Mr. Kirwin helps Victor.

6. Formulate what “destiny of the most horrible kind” Victor thinks “hangs over” him.

7. Explain how Victor is acquitted of Clerval’s murder. How long was Victor incarcerated?

8. Discuss Victor’s emotional response to his acquittal.

**Chapter Twenty-Two**

1. Examine Victor’s assertion, “William, Justine, and Henry—they all died by my hands.”

2. Discuss the meaning of Victor telling his father, “A thousand times would I have shed my own blood, drop by drop, to have saved their lives; but I could not, my father, indeed I could not sacrifice the whole human race.”

3. Show why Elizabeth thinks Victor is depressed and troubled.

4. Infer what Victor thinks will occur between him and the monster on his wedding-night. What other outcomes does Victor fail to consider?

5. Devise a plan for Victor to tell Elizabeth about the monster.

6. Predict what Victor foreshadows in his comment, “But, as if possessed of magic powers, the monster had blinded me to his real intentions; and when I thought that I had prepared only my own death, I hastened that of a far dearer victim.”

7. Tell how Victor tries to protect himself from the monster.

**Chapter Twenty-Three**

1. How does Shelley utilize nature to foreshadow ominous happenings at the beginning of this chapter?

2. Describe how the monster is with Victor on his wedding-night.

3. Show how Elizabeth’s death intensifies Victor’s concern for his other loved ones.

4. How does the creature inadvertently kill Alphonse Frankenstein?

5. Formulate how Elizabeth and Alphonse’s deaths change Victor’s focus in life.

6. Explain why the magistrate does not think that he can offer much help to Victor.

7. Assess how Victor’s comment that the creature “may be hunted like the chamois, and destroyed as a beast of prey” relates to his perception of his creation.

8. What is ironic about Victor’s statement: “…how ignorant are thou in thy pride of wisdom”?

**Chapter Twenty-Four**

1. Tell where Victor travels. Where is he going, and why?

2. How does Victor feel as if he is being guided by a “spirit of good”?

3. Describe how Victor and the creature’s roles have reversed.

4. Point out why the creature leaves Victor hints and marks regarding his trail.

5. Infer the creature’s meaning when he tells Victor, “My reign is not yet over. . . you live, and my power is complete.”

6. Generalize the creature’s state of mind and how he views humans while on his journey.

7. Evaluate Victor’s sanity and ability to make rational decisions as he pursues the creature.

8. What natural event threatens Victor’s safety?

9. Interpret Victor’s thoughts when he repeatedly refers to “guiding spirits.”

**Continuation**

1. Why are Felix and Safie’s letters important to Walton?

2. Summarize the situation aboard Walton’s ship.

3. Relate how Walton has spent most of his time since Victor boarded the ship.

4. Summarize Frankenstein’s speech to the crew.

5. How does Victor’s speech parallel his quest for the creature?

6. Analyze why Walton decides to take the ship south.

7. Assess Victor’s statement, “In a fit of enthusiastic madness I created a rational creature, and was bound toward him, to assure, as far as was in my power, his happiness and well-being.” Why is this statement surprising?

8. If Victor had not died, what do you think he would have done?

9. Who does Walton find with Victor?

10. Discuss how the monster feels now that Victor is dead.

11. Examine the creature’s belief, “I was the slave, not the master, of an impulse which I detested, yet could not disobey.”

12. Infer why the creature leaves Walton’s ship.