

AP Literature 2020-2021

Summer Assignment:

Part 1

- Watch and take notes on the **BBC documentary *Frankenstein: Birth of a Monster***. At the time that I am writing this, it is available here on [YouTube](#). The documentary disappears and reappears. So far (crossing my fingers), I have always been able to find it. If the link doesn't work, do a Google search, and if you still can't find it, shoot an email to virginia.wyeth@lrsd.org. The documentary is a little cheesy, but it's got good background information.
- Be sure you take notes on the documentary.

Part 2

- ***Frankenstein* -- Norton Critical Edition.** Don't worry. The novel isn't as long as it looks. The book is mostly essays and other supporting material. It is important that you get this copy because 1) it is the 1818 version of Shelley's novel and not the 1831 version, and 2) we will read several of the essays in class. Read the Introduction, the Preface, and the novel itself.

Shelley, Mary W., and J P. Hunter. *Frankenstein : the 1818 Text, Contexts, Criticism*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co, 2012.

Available at this link on [Amazon](#).

- **Novel annotations:**
 - **Reading log** – The reading log is *not due when you return from the break*; it will be assigned once you return to school in the fall. The questions on the reading log should guide your annotations, so we are including them. Don't just mark these passages, by the way; flag them so that you can easily return to them. Do not feel like you need to answer the questions, but if you would like to start working on a draft, you certainly may do so.
- In addition:
- Note the role of nature/ how nature functions in the novel. Think of the archetypes you learned from Foster's *How To Read Literature Like a Professor*.
 - Note character doubling—how characters and their actions mirror each other.

Reading Log

Name of work: _____

Each section must be clearly labeled with the entire prompt you are answering (you will lose points for leaving this off). These prompts contain important instructions for receiving all the points possible.

1. Analyze the opening page of the work as a set of instructions for reading it. Don't just identify elements you find; explain what they reveal about the novel.
2. Select a key passage from the work. This is a *passage* not a quote; it should be lengthy enough to be "meaty" Put the *entire* passage in here, with page number. Do *not* explain the passage; analyze the stylistic devices the author uses. Relate the style analysis to theme. You must do **both** to receive credit.
3. List major (or even minor but interesting) characters in the novel and trace their development (timeline, bullet points, etc.). Do NOT just identify them. There should be a plot description that corresponds with an **explicit** description of a change in the character. This should start at the beginning of the character's development and go all the way through the end of the character's development. It doesn't have to hit every major moment in the novel, but **it does need to hit every major moment in the character's development**. "He was afraid" is not a character development; it is a response to an event. "He became anxious and paranoid" is character development.
4. List the major symbols in the work and explain the importance of each: 1) what does the symbol represent 2) give a couple of moments in the story and explain how the symbol is used.
5. Write 3-5 theme statements. These are complete sentences. "Love" is not a theme. "Love sucks" is a theme.
 - a. Select a 1-2 quotes that illustrate the theme. **Don't just pick any quote**. Imagine you are going to write an essay on this theme, and you only have ONE quote to really drive your point home.
 - b. Write a brief explanation of how the work accomplishes the theme.
6. List 2-4 issues that this work dealt with (even indirectly) which you might find interesting for further research. These do not have to be any kind of analysis about the novel/play. Write 1-3 sentences of explanation of each issue and what about it might be interesting to pursue.
7. Identify writing prompts from old AP exams that would apply to this work. Copy & paste the entire question; don't just put the prompt number. Be sure to include the date that is listed. On at least one, briefly write how you might answer the question.

[MsEffie's List of Open-ended Questions for Advanced Placement English Literature Exams, 1970-2019](#)

I hate to have to say this, but history tells me that I do. Remember, I know how to use Google, Sparknotes, Shmoop, and all the same stuff you do. If you cheat on this, I will follow the guidelines of the Honor Code.

All reading logs must be submitted to turnitin.com, and a one page receipt must be attached to the back of the reading log when you turn in the assignment in class.