

Frankenstein Packet Week One

Directions: All questions must be answered thoroughly and using complete sentences. When appropriate, apply a quotation to your answer.

1. Who is Robert Walton? What is he searching for? What is his attitude toward his quest? What do these details suggest to you about his character?
2. In this letter to his sister, what does Walton say he longs for? Why do you think Walton feels lonely even though he is on board a ship with a full crew?
3. Why is the poem *The Ancient Mariner* important to Walton (and to Shelley)? How is the stranger similar to the ancient mariner? What mood does Shelley create by alluding to this poem?
4. Urged by her husband, Percy Shelley, to expand her ghost story into a novel, Mary Shelley added Walton's letters as a frame to Frankenstein's tale. Do you believe the letters are an effective device for drawing readers into the story? What did you learn about the stranger? Why do you think Shelley chose to lead into the stranger's story by starting with a frame story about Robert Walton?
5. Briefly describe how Victor Frankenstein's parents came to be married.
6. Briefly describe how Elizabeth came to be part of the Frankenstein family.
7. What are some similarities between the situations Victor's mother and Elizabeth come from?
8. Describe Victor's unique relationship with Elizabeth. What does their relationship tell you about Frankenstein's values and personality?
9. Victor studies Cornelius Agrippa, Paracelsus, and Albert Magnus. Research them and tell me who these men are. (double point question)