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Prose study coursework
'Frankenstein'

Mary Shelly wrote 'Frankenstein' in the year 1816. Mary Shelly wrote the novel at the tender age of just 19, when visiting Geneva with her partner Percy Shelly - a young poet - During their trip, Byron who they were staying with, suggested that they should all write a ghost story. This is of course when Mary Shelly came up with the idea of 'Frankenstein', which eventually got published two years later in 1818. Mary Shelly however, did not instantly know what her ghost story was going to entitle. In fact She struggled deeply to collect ideas on what to write. Then one night Mary Shelly had a dream, which shone light onto these magnificent ideas, which have swept our nation still centuries later. Also Mary Shelly suffered a great loss in her life, before it really begun: Her Mother died as a result of giving birth to Mary and was raised by her father and stepmother. I think this could have influenced the main theme of the story.

Her novel is about a scientist called Victor Frankenstein who has a deep obsession with bringing dead people back to life, which reflects on the her loss in her earliest years. After all Victor's research and heavy obsessing he eventually sparks off the creation of a monster. But did Victor know what he had let himself in for? The moral behind this story is exploring how science can interfere with nature and its results of doing such. This might have been influenced by what was happening in the 1800s in science, as in the 1800s the field of forensic science saw substantial progress. Also during this time period people were deeply religious. Up to the mid 1800s religion played a significant role in peoples lives, so at this time people strongly disagreed with science and felt that scientists were trying to take over and play the role of god. In this essay I will be focusing specifically on how Shelly's use of language portrays her own views of science and religion, with particular reference to Chapter 5 and Chapter 15.

We are first introduced to Frankenstein in Walton's letters at the start of Shelly's novel. Walton first met Frankenstein in the Arctic. The way Shelly brings Frankenstein into the story makes us weary of his presence from when he is first captured sight of by Walton. 'We perceived a low carriage, fixed on a sledge and drawn by dogs, pass on towards the north, at the distance of half a mile: a being which had the shape of a man, but apparently of gigantic stature, sat in the sledge, and guided the dogs.' It leaves us in wonder of who this strange man is. Yet following into the paragraph we are able to see how excited Walton is by a strange mans presence. 'This appearance excited our