

Name _____

Date _____

Mary Shelley - Answer Key

Use the text to answer each question below.

1. **An excerpt from Chapter 5 of *Frankenstein* ** How can I describe my emotions at this catastrophe, or how delineate the wretch whom with such infinite pains and care I had endeavored to form? His limbs were in proportion, and I had selected his features as beautiful. ^^Beautiful!—Great God^^! His yellow skin scarcely covered the work of muscles and arteries beneath; his hair was of a lustrous black, and flowing; his teeth of a pearly whiteness; but these luxuriances only formed a more horrid contrast with his watery eyes, that seemed almost of the same color as the dun white sockets in which they were set, his shriveled complexion and straight black lips.

In context, what does the underlined phrase most likely mean?

- A. This is the most perfect creature I have ever seen!
- B. Thank God, my gorgeous creation came to life!
- ☒ C. Handsome! Nothing could be further from the truth!
- D. I can't believe I worked so hard for nothing!

The narrator describes how the “beautiful” features he had selected “only formed a more horrid contrast with his watery eyes...his shriveled complexion and straight black lips.”

2. **An excerpt from Chapter 17 of *Frankenstein*. The monster speaks first, and Dr. Frankenstein speaks second.** “You must create a female for me, with whom I can live in the interchange of those sympathies necessary for my being. This you alone can do; and I demand it of you as a right which you must not refuse to concede.” The latter part of his tale had kindled anew in me the anger that had died away while he narrated his peaceful life among the cottagers, and, as he said this, I could no longer suppress the rage that burned within me. “I do refuse it,” I replied; “and no torture shall ever extort a consent from me. You may render me the most miserable of men, but you shall never make me base in my own eyes. Shall I create another like yourself, whose joint wickedness might desolate the world! Begone! I have answered you; you may torture me, but I will never consent.”

What is the conflict in this passage?

- A. The monster demands Dr. Frankenstein’s daughter come live with him in the woods, and Dr. Frankenstein is horrified.
- B. Dr. Frankenstein orders the monster to find a wife, and the monster says he doesn’t know how.
- C. The monster demands affection from Dr. Frankenstein, and Dr. Frankenstein insults him instead.
- ✓ D.

The monster wants Dr. Frankenstein to create a female monster, and Dr.

Frankenstein declines.

The monster tells Dr. Frankenstein, “You must create a female for me.” Dr. Frankenstein replies, “I do refuse it,” and says he “will never consent.”

3. **An excerpt from Chapter 24 of *Frankenstein* ** My present situation was one in which all voluntary thought was swallowed up and lost. I was hurried away by fury; revenge alone endowed me with strength and composure; it molded my feelings, and allowed me to be calculating and calm, at periods when otherwise delirium or death would have been my portion... I provided myself with a sum of money, together with a few jewels which had belonged to my mother, and departed. And now my wanderings began, which are to cease but with life. I have traversed a vast portion of the earth, and have endured all the hardships which travelers, in deserts and barbarous countries, are wont to meet. How I have lived I hardly know; many times have I stretched my failing limbs upon the sandy plain and prayed for death. But revenge kept me alive; I dared not die and leave my adversary in being.

Which of the following best describes Dr. Frankenstein in this passage?

- ✓ A. Determined
- B. Frantic
- C. Bored
- D. Gleeful

Dr. Frankenstein explains that “revenge alone endowed me with strength and composure... and allowed me to be calculating and calm.” Later, he declares that “revenge kept me alive.”

