

Name: _____ Date: _____

Close-Reading Questions

Frankenstein

1. In Scene 2, why does Victor hesitate before he opens the door of his building? (inference)

2. In Scene 4, Victor says, “I am the author of a terrible evil.” What does he mean?
(interpreting text)

3. In Scene 6, Mr. De Lacey says, “Most people are friendly—unless they are blinded by prejudice.” What kind of prejudice do people have against the creature?(key ideas)

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Critical-Thinking Questions

Frankenstein

1. Is Victor right to refuse to make a companion for the creature?

2. The creature says that he's evil because he's unloved. In your opinion, is being treated poorly a valid excuse for the creature's crimes?

3. How might advances in science and technology have inspired Mary Shelley?

4. Should scientists conduct research that could lead to harm as well as to good?

5. What do Frankenstein's creature and the Hulk have in common?

6. Why do you think this story is still popular 200 years later?

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Close-Reading Questions

“This Robot Wants to Help You”

1. Think about the statement “You are my creator, but I am your master.” In the editorial, Kristin Lewis calls these words “chilling.” What does she mean? (interpreting text, synthesis)

2. What concerns does Lewis express about artificial intelligence? (key ideas)

3. The fifth paragraph contains several questions. Why might Lewis have included these questions? (author’s craft)

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Critical-Thinking Question

"This Robot Wants to Help You"

1. Do you think humanity should continue to develop super-smart artificial intelligence? Why or why not?