

Frankenstein Journal

Due: next four Wednesdays (see below)

- ✚ For the works we read during the school year, I ask that you complete the journal *as you read* the text – *not* when you finish reading the work. Part of your grade will be based on whether the entry is written while you read or afterwards – and it’s easy to determine. Make it a part of your ritual.
- ✚ Journal responses must be typed and submitted to [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com). For each of the chunks of novel listed below, select two quotations and respond with both a **critical** and a **personal** response .
 - Due September 19th by 7:05 am: **Walton’s Letters – Chapter 4**
 - Due September 26th by 7:05 am: **Chapters 6 – 12**
 - Due October 3rd by 7:05 am: **Chapters 13 – 20**
 - Due October 10th by 7:05 am: **Chapter 21 – Walton, in Continuation**
- ✚ The **Critical Response** portion of your responses will be graded for depth of **analysis** (connecting *what the author did to how she did it*) and **focus** (higher horsepower, not spinning rims) with point deductions for **mechanical errors**. Be sure that your analysis is always genuine and not suckled from elsewhere.
- ✚ The **Personal Response** portion of your responses will be graded for **expressive, genuine style** and the believable **establishment of a personal connection** to the text.
- ✚ For each chunk of the journal, select **one** of your two responses as your **best** and submit it in **bold face** type; I will read it the most closely. You will eventually be asked to bring some of your best journal entries to class (printed in hardcopy) for an upcoming class session. [I may ask you to read a particular journal entry as part of a discussion.]
- ✚ I am looking for quality, not quantity. Plot vomit, word-waste, and senseless rhetoric have no place in a journal response. Get elbow-deep in the text with consistency.
- ✚ Be sure to include the quotation from the text, the chapter or section and page number the quotation is pulled from, your critical response, and your personal response. Please use the following format as a basic guide (columns are now optional, vertical stacking is now okay) for each of your entries:

Text: “Record the text you’ve selected from *Frankenstein* in this space. Do not use the ellipsis mark before or after the quotation, and I would prefer that you not use it in the middle of the quote either. If the quotation is important enough to comment on, then quote it all. Don’t forget to include the chapter and page number (as it is in your copy) after the quote.” (Chapter/Section, Page Number)

Critical Response:

In this space you are to analyze Shelley’s use of language and her narrative techniques that you’ve noted. Write in third person as you would in an academic essay. Do not be overly concerned with using proper terminology; that comes in a distant second to good thinking. Feel free to use your work on the ‘Theme Log’ as a starting point for some quotes, but doing so isn’t required. Elements to consider include diction, detail, imagery, syntax, etc.

Personal Response:

In this space, please express your personal response. Convey how the text or events surrounding this quote make you feel. Write in first person here. The response in this column might be similar to what you write in the weekly ‘Poetry Responses’: you may make connections to your life, to other works of literature or non-fiction that you have read, songs, etc. Be genuine while really grappling with the literature. [It is imperative that both of these things happen, otherwise this will be tedious and come out silly.]