

**Use this extract to answer Question 7.**

***Frankenstein: Mary Shelley***

**In Chapter 4 Frankenstein explains how he learned to generate life.**

No one can conceive the variety of feelings which bore me onwards, like a hurricane, in the first enthusiasm of success. Life and death appeared to me ideal bounds, which I should first break through, and pour a torrent of light into our dark world. A new species would bless me as its creator and source; many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me. No father could claim the gratitude of his child so completely as I should deserve theirs. Pursuing these reflections, I thought that if I could bestow animation upon lifeless matter, I might in process of time (although I now found it impossible) renew life where death had apparently devoted the body to corruption.

These thoughts supported my spirits, while I pursued my undertaking with unremitting ardour. My cheek had grown pale with study, and my person had become emaciated with confinement. Sometimes, on the very brink of certainty, I failed; yet still I clung to the hope which the next day or the next hour might realize. One secret which I alone possessed was the hope to which I had dedicated myself; and the moon gazed on my midnight labours, while, with unrelaxed and breathless eagerness, I pursued nature to her hiding-places. Who shall conceive the horrors of my secret toil as I dabbled among the unhallowed damps of the grave, or tortured the living animal to animate the lifeless clay? My limbs now tremble and my eyes swim with the remembrance; but then a resistless, and almost frantic impulse, urged me forward; I seemed to have lost all soul or sensation but for this one pursuit. It was indeed but a passing trance that only made me feel with renewed acuteness so soon as, the unnatural stimulus ceasing to operate, I had returned to my old habits. I collected bones from charnel-houses and disturbed, with profane fingers, the tremendous secrets of the human frame. In a solitary chamber, or rather cell, at the top of the house, and separated from all the other apartments by a gallery and staircase, I kept my workshop of filthy creation; my eye-balls were starting from their sockets in attending to the details of my employment. The dissecting room and the slaughterhouse furnished many of my materials; and often did my human nature turn with loathing from my occupation, whilst, still urged on by an eagerness which perpetually increased, I brought my work near to a conclusion.

**Question 7 – *Frankenstein***

**7** (a) Explore how Shelley presents Frankenstein in this extract.

Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Frankenstein can only think about his work.

Explain the importance of obsession **elsewhere** in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- characters who are obsessive
- the effect of their actions on other characters.

(20)

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**(Total for Question 7 = 40 marks)**

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**TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS**

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7b. At the start of the book, Walton is ~~less~~ obsessed with getting to the ~~North~~ North Pole. "Nothing will prevent me of exploring the arctic." Walton is not going to let anything or anyone ~~from~~ stop him from getting to the North Pole, and is ~~less~~ obsessed with making it there.

Due to Walton's obsession, he risks his own life and the life of his crew ~~to~~ in order to get to the north pole. For example, when Walton's boat gets surrounded by ice, his crew tells him it is too dangerous to continue. However, Walton ~~thinks~~ ignores the risk as he is blinded with obsession.

Later in the novel, ~~the~~ the monster is obsessed with becoming friends with the ~~DeLacey~~ DeLacey family. He is so obsessed that he lives in a hovel ~~off~~ outside their house and watches them, to learn their language and ~~become~~ become ~~for~~ closer to them.

However, the monster's obsession drives him into mad madness. When the monster gets rejected by the DeLacey family, he gets very ~~mad~~ angry and resorts to violence. He burns down their cottage, ~~and~~ ~~with~~ killing its residents. He becomes so obsessed <sup>with getting a friend</sup> that he travels to another country on foot to get ~~revenge~~ revenge on his ~~own~~ creator.

After the monster still doesn't get a friend when Frankenstein refuses to make him a girlfriend, he goes on on a killing spree and kills Clerval, and others that ~~Frankenstein~~ Frankenstein loves. He is insane and resorts to violence due to his obsession with ~~having~~ ~~a~~ friend trying to get a friend, ~~exaggerate~~ which turns him evil.

One of the morals of the story is that obsession can lead to insanity. Walton was so obsessed with getting to the North Pole that he was willing to risk the ~~lives~~ lives of his crew. ~~the~~ The monster was so obsessed that he turned into a psychopath and tried to make Victor's life horrible. Mr Shelley is trying to say that ~~a~~ too much ~~dedication~~ dedication is a bad thing.



7a. In the extract, Shelley presents Frankenstein as being extraordinarily <sup>enthusiastic</sup> ~~dedicated~~ to his work. "No one can conceive the variety of feelings which bore me on, onwards, like a hurricane, in the first enthusiasm of success." This quote implies that he was very enthusiastic about completing his work. By saying he was working "like a hurricane," it shows that he is relentless in trying to complete his work and ~~as~~ nothing can slow him down.

Also the extract also implies that ~~the~~ Frankenstein is trying to do it for glory: "No father could claim the gratitude of his child so completely as I should deserve theirs." This shows Frankenstein is interested in becoming the ~~pride~~ <sup>pride</sup> owner of all the life he ~~makes~~ creates. He is careless about how the life he is creating thinks, which implies he's doing it just to achieve something for himself.

~~The extract~~ also presents Shelley also presents Frankenstein as being regretful about what he is doing. "Who shall conceive the horrors of my secret toil as I dabbled among the unhallowed damps of the grave, or tortured the living animal to animate the lifeless clay?" By describing his work by using the noun "horrors," it shows that he has a sense of regret and guilt, as what he is doing might scare people and people ~~may~~ disapprove.

The second paragraph in the extract is long to ~~show~~ show how dedicated Frankenstein is in his work. By making the paragraph long, it shows Frankenstein has spent a very long time trying to accomplish his goals. ~~However, the length of the second paragraph also shows obsession.~~

However, the second paragraph also shows <sup>obsession</sup> ~~obsession~~ "My cheek had grown pale with study, and my person had become enfeebled with confinement." This shows that due to his dedication, he has ~~been~~ become ill. He has also described himself as being "emaciated with confinement," as he has deprived himself of being around people.



Question	Level – mark	Commentary
7a)	Level 3 – 12	The candidate explores how Shelley presents Frankenstein as being: ‘enthusiastic’, ‘trying to do it for glory’, ‘regretful’, ‘excited’ and ‘obsessive’. All points are supported by textual reference, although quotations are rather long at times. Subject specific terminology is used to consider how language and structure are used by Shelley – mention is made to the use of nouns and ‘making the paragraph long’.
7b)	Level 2 - 8	The response is fairly narrative, but there is some clear understanding and a personal response to the theme of obsession. The candidate makes reference to ‘Walton’s obsession...to get to the North Pole’; how ‘the monster is obsessed with becoming friends with the DeLacey family’ and how these obsessions lead to violence, insanity and destruction. There are a couple of references made to the text to support points made and there is evidence of a critical style but it is not always applied securely.

7a) Throughout this extract, we see Frankenstein presented in a variety of ways.

Towards the start of this extract, we see an idea of arrogance and need for glory presented by Mary Shelley. He says "A new species would bless me as its creator and source; many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me." In this quote, Victor is presented as someone who likes the idea of glory and power. "Owe their being to me". Implies that he loves the idea of having the power over a new breed of life, and that he would be owed and adored by this species for allowing them life. He also says "no father could claim the gratitude of his child so completely as I should deserve theirs" which implies that due to his idea and creation, he should deserve more credit for what he has done than anyone else in the world, which also supports the idea that he loves recognition and being superior.

However in the second paragraph we start to see him presented in a different way, as a hardworking intellectual human. The phrase "my cheek had grown pale with study" implies that he has spent a long time studying, trying to find out what would make the idea of creation be a reality and this is showing his commitment to making these discoveries and that he is willing to put the large amounts of effort in for the recognition he wants.



Again in this paragraph, he says "I Sailed, yet still clung to the hope which the next day or the next hour might realize". The fact that he said "clung to the hope" after failing his attempts shows his resilience and that he is presented as a strong resilient person in the way he will continue to try and create this being despite any problems he faces.

This extract, however, is from Chapter 4, just before the monster was created, and shows ~~the~~ dramatic change in the way Victor's character is presented before and after Chapter 5, when the monster was created. Before he ~~was~~ as seen in this extract, he was strong-minded and determined, but once the being ~~he~~ is created he is frightened and wants to give up on everything.

Throughout this extract, he also uses very long sentences very often, presenting Victor as an intelligent person and also showing the intricate details of what he has been working on, again showing how hard he works. The extract ends with "I brought my work to a near conclusion" which again backs up the idea of him being presented as a hard working person due to how much he completed in such a small amount of time, as he completed much of this very quickly considering the task he was performing.



7b) Throughout the novel, we see the idea of obsession shown in many places by many of the characters, Victor Frankenstein being the main example due to his obsession with his creation, but he is also an example of the dangerous results of obsession, as the minute he sees his monster for the first time he says "Great God - This is horrendous!" Showing how him being so obsessed with the creation has led to horrible things and him creating this awful being. ~~and~~ ~~the~~ It also has a strong effect on others as the monster he is so obsessed with creating goes on to kill members of his family such as William, which also leads to the execution of Justine and the murder of Henry Clerval, his best friend, so it shows the negative impacts it can have as it stops the sanity and rational thoughts as the obsession, in this case the monster is being prioritised over everything else, including the safety of the people he knows.

However in the novel, we also see obsession from Robert Walton in his different ~~his~~ hobbies he has pursued. He mentions many things in the past, for example when he was obsessed with poetry and wanted to be a poet, that shows his phases of obsession, and this led to his obsession with exploring new places and making great discoveries. This also shows the effects it has, as he spent all the money he had on exploring, left his family for it, and also became obsessed with the glory associated with making the new discoveries, and it shows the dangers due to how it consumes you and leaves effects on your friends/family members.



Another character effected by obsession is Elizabeth. For the period he lives creating the monster for, he blanked out his family and neglected them, and this caused Elizabeth to develop her own obsession with Victor and his wellbeing as she is unsure if he is well or not, so this again shows the effect of Victor's obsession with the monster having effects on his family members.

We also see obsession with revenge from the monster, as he is determined to get revenge on Victor for neglecting him and making him unhappy, and for not agreeing to the monster's plea for another being that he can communicate with. The monster begins to become obsessed with revenge, and this leads on to effects on others such as the death of William and Henry, and the effects on Victor as he does not know how to cope with this and these emotions, and leads effects of grieving on the other family members and close friends of the victims of the monster's ~~my~~ need for revenge. This also links to ideas of obsession in "Paradise Lost" which has close links to Frankenstein, as it shows Lucifer's obsession for revenge on God for neglecting him, and this is also reflected in Frankenstein as the monster is obsessed with getting the same kind of revenge.

The book is also subtitled "The modern Prometheus" which may have links to the monster's revenge, as Prometheus got punished by a bird everyday and everyday some form of revenge for or retaliation is targeted at Victor by the monster causing suffering.

Question	Level – mark	Commentary
7a)	Level 3 - 12	The candidate has produced a detailed response to analyse the character of Frankenstein and how he ‘loves having the power,’ has a ‘hardworking intellectual’ and the ‘resilience’ to continue despite any obstacle. The second paragraph on page 2 is not relevant, as it goes out of extract and the quotations selected are rather long at times. Mention is made to the use of sentence structures; however, more focus on language, form and structure is needed to place this higher up the levels.
7b)	Level 3 - 11	The candidate makes a range of points in connection with the theme of obsession: Frankenstein’s obsession in making the monster; Walton’s obsessions with discovering new places; Elizabeth’s obsession with Victor and the obsession of the monster to seek revenge. There is a relevant personal response soundly related to the text. Focused comments are made with a number of references to the text to support ideas. The style is a little informal at times “he blanked out his family”; however, the response is generally critical in style.



Shelley's presentation of Frankenstein in this extract

Shelley uses a simile to present Victor Frankenstein's motivation for knowledge. Shelley says 'like a hurricane' which describes Frankenstein's desire for success. A hurricane has connotations of being unstoppable which later foreshadows Frankenstein's craving for success and knowledge - no one can stop him. So at the start Shelley emphasises Frankenstein's extreme passion for knowledge. In addition, a hurricane also leaves a path of destruction whilst hitting which again hints at later events in the novel.

Shelley again emphasises Frankenstein's passion for success and ambition for knowledge through light and dark. 'Pour a torrent of light into our dark world'. So Shelley gives us a image that Frankenstein is trying to benefit the rest of mankind from his works. As light has connotations of hope and happiness, so we get an impression that Victor is trying to bring new discovery to help the world. However, this also creates a sense of self-centredness as Victor wants to be recognised for his success.

Shelley also gives the idea Frankenstein is obsessed with his ambition and gives obvious signs of this. 'Grow pale with study' and 'emaciated with confinement'. This suggests that physical aspects of his ambition are beginning to occur. Shelley foreshadows later events as Victor

becomes ill which implies that the creation and this ambition is bad.

Shelley in this extract also emphasises that too much ambition and desire for knowledge is no good. As Victor slowly becomes isolated and trapped from society whilst he is proceeding his ambition. At 'hiding place' which implies he is so driven on knowledge and success he forgets society and slowly becomes alone. This foreshadows again later events as Victor neglects his family and slowly becomes isolated. This again reflects his selfishness as he is conspiring himself and just to achieve his ambition.

Shelley towards the end of the extract emphasises how Victor is driven by success and hope. 'still urged on by an eagerness' and 'hope'. This foreshadows later events as we find out hope isn't such a good idea.

Overall Shelley uses a variety of language devices to present Victor Frankenstein, this is evident throughout. As a reader we see a clear picture of Victor, he is presented as a self-obsessed man who is driven on by success and knowledge.



The idea of ~~too~~ obsession appears at the start of the novel and then appears again in the later stages of the novel. Shelley uses 2 characters to express the dangers of obsession, Robert Walton and Victor Frankenstein whom both seek glory and fame.

Firstly at the start of Frankenstein, we see clearly through Shelley's use of words & choices that Robert Walton is obsessed in finding knowledge in his quest to the North Pole. ~~the~~ Shelley uses phrases like 'external glory' and 'Success shall crown my endeavours'. Robert is obsessed with finding <sup>new</sup> knowledge and being remembered. Shelley however uses this idea of obsession and ~~uses~~ foreshadows events later which become important.

Robert soon becomes isolated and longs for a friend which is important as it emphasises the idea that obsession will lead to loneliness. In addition Shelley also uses death as a warning to Walton that ambition is an extremely dangerous thing.

Later in the novel Shelley introduces Victor Frankenstein whom is obsessed with the idea of new knowledge which leads him eventually to create a monster. The idea of obsession is important to characters like Victor who are driven on Success.



Shelley throughout the novel hints that obsession is bad thing. For example Victor becomes extremely 'pale' and ~~grows~~ becomes ill.

Victor results of his obsession are terrible, he creates a monster. 'Great God what is this Catastrophe'. Later Shelley ~~is~~ uses the Monster against Victor as the monster kills Frankenstein loved ones. For example the monster kills William (Victor's youngest brother) which shows ~~innocence~~ a loss of innocence and the Monster has no morals. The monster then goes on to kill Henry and Elizabeth however doesn't kill Victor. This ~~is~~ mirrors the Ancient Mariner where the overall concept is the same, Victor has to see loved ones die around him and because of him which is a kind of torture.

Shelley also brings the idea of trying to imitate God you will get punished. Shelley uses the story of the Modern Prometheus that no one can have Gods power. Victor tries to take Gods power however he fails and gets punished for it like the Modern Prometheus.

Question	Level - mark	Commentary
7a)	Level 5 – 18	Although the candidate makes reference to areas outside the extract, they do assist in supporting and developing the points made about the character of Frankenstein. The response is a cohesive evaluation of the interrelationship between the character of Frankenstein and how Shelley uses language, form and structure to explore the impact on the reader. The candidate discusses the use of a simile 'like a hurricane' to illustrate Frankenstein's unstoppable pursuit of success and the use of colour symbolism: 'light and dark' to reflect Frankenstein's desire to 'benefit the rest of mankind'. Relevant terminology is integrated and precise.
7b)	Level 3 - 12	A relevant personal response, which is soundly related to the text. Key areas of obsession within the novel are considered, including Victor's, the monster's and Walton's obsessions. A number of points made are supported with close reference to the text and there is a critical style throughout.

① Mary Shelley presents Frankenstein as being very inquisitive and philosophical. 'Life and death appeared to me ideal bounds... a new species would bless me as its creator'. These show that he wants to uncover secrets (the creation of life) and wants to discover things that no-one has previously. The verb 'bless' implies that he wants to be loved by this species and ~~obeyed~~ obeyed and that he is not doing this just to help man but for the glory which is quite selfish. Mary Shelley presents him like this because she doesn't believe that the creation of life should be attempted by man so portrays Victor as a ~~bad~~ bad character in a way.

The quote 'yet I still cling to the hope which the next day or the next hour might realize' shows that he is dedicated towards his project and that he doesn't give up easily as he is waiting and working until he makes a breakthrough. The ~~word~~ <sup>noun</sup> ~~hope~~ <sup>hopeful</sup> implies that he wishes that he is going to make a breakthrough.

The quote 'I pursued nature to her hiding places' again ~~shows~~ shows that he is trying to uncover nature's secrets. The verb 'pursued' implies that he is chasing and hunting these secrets.



which ~~shows~~ implies that he is a determined character.

He goes to 'the slaughterhouse' to collect body parts for his creation which shows his dedication and obsession to the creation. If he is willing to collect parts from a slaughter house then he must really want and desire to create a being.

- ⑥ Before we even meet Frankenstein, Walton shows obsession and some of the dangers. He is obsessed with discovering the North Pole <sup>and he says 'I do not deserve to achieve some great thing'</sup> and he even says that he'd risk his and his fellow sailors lives just to <sup>achieve</sup> ~~achieve~~ this. This leads to ~~then~~ his ship being trapped by icebergs. When Victor meets ~~he~~ him and notices this obsession ~~as~~ and this is why he tells him his story to try and convince ~~that~~ Walton to stop what he is doing.

Frankenstein first shows ~~signs~~ signs of obsession when he first meets Elizabeth. He always wanted to be with her and even eventually, agrees to marry her.

He is obsessed with creating a new life form. This makes him ~~it~~ ~~very~~ ~~very~~



had grown pale  
'my cheeks' with study.' And it isolates him from others. For example, he is away from home for years and he stops writing letters to Elizabeth and the rest of his family. His family are upset by this. \*

The creature has an obsession with finding a friend. When ~~he~~ <sup>after</sup> he has learnt to ~~be able~~ <sup>begin</sup> speak to try and interact with humans, he attempts to speak to the blind man from the De Lacey family. This leads to him being ~~that~~ beat up by Felix.

Frankenstein becomes stubborn and obsessed with not giving in to the monsters threats and doesn't want ~~to~~ to create another lifeform. This then results in the death of his best friend, Clerval and his family and ~~that~~ this tortures him.

I think that in the novel, Mary Shelley is trying to get the message across that obsession and too much of anything is dangerous. This, I believe, is one of the morals of the story.

\* For this I think that Mary Shelley was inspired by ~~Paradise Lost~~ <sup>Prometheus</sup>. Because in ~~Paradise Lost~~ <sup>Prometheus</sup> the ~~Devil~~ <sup>Prometheus</sup> took ~~god~~ <sup>god</sup> powers that only God should have into his own hands and was punished by being

tortured. In Frankenstein Victor tries to create life, what God supposedly does and ultimately is tortured by the death of his family.



Question	Level – mark	Commentary
7a)	Level 3 – 12	The candidate's response makes reference to a number of language features to explore how Shelley presents the character of Frankenstein. Mention is made of the use of the verb 'bless' and the noun 'hopeful' to present Frankenstein as someone who is determined to succeed in his attempt to 'uncover nature's secrets'. The analysis is a little repetitive at times; however, the subject specific terminology is relevant and appropriate.
7b)	Level 3 - 12	A number of key sections of the novel are discussed in connection with the theme of obsession. The candidate shows a sound understanding of Frankenstein's obsession with creating his 'creature'; the creature's obsession with 'finding a friend' and Walton's obsession with 'finding the North Pole'. The response is a little narrative at times but there are some elements which are of a personal critical style.

a) In this extract we see that Shelley has tried to portray Victor as desperate yet also it could be said quite dedicated too. The whole extract - which is taken from Victor's part of the novel - focuses on his passion and desire to complete his task to its fullest potential and now he has chosen to have his mind fully set on the task and the work only.

The extract instantly opens with a ~~little~~ dramatic sentence which instantly engages the reader into Victor's mind set. It says 'No one can conceive the variety of feelings which bore me onwards'. Here, Shelley has chosen Victor to feel like nothing can stop him and that this is the most important thing that he will ever do and all he wants to do is progress onwards. The quote then continues on to say 'like a hurricane, with the haste and enthusiasm of my success'. The use of a simile to describe his emotions like a whirlwind of knowledge and enthusiasm that is on going at a constant speed shows how Shelley is constantly pushing the idea of how easy and pleasure Victor is and by saying that it is his 'first enthusiasm' shows how he has never felt so ambitious before.

Shelley has chosen to portray Victor as feeling very proud and not just eager to complete his work but also eager for success and to impress people; getting to be the first person to do something so he feels more important.

Throughout the extract - predominantly the first paragraph - we see how Victor ~~has~~ attempts to stand himself or put himself higher than everyone else and how he sees himself as desiring to be the best and of more importance. He says 'A new species ~~of~~ would bless me as its creator and source; many happy excellent natures would owe their being to me'. Here, we see how Victor is in a way comparing himself to God and acting as if he is taking the role of God upon.

which  
can also  
he rebel  
and repeat  
them from  
heels such  
as 'frank  
Partridge  
lost' and  
how he  
also the  
role and  
importance  
of Dr. Moreau  
upon him-  
self.

himself and as a result, everyone should create him like  
this. This could be the highest point of Victor's confidence  
and ego being rejected off of his ambition and ambition  
to complete his job and accomplish his task so that he  
can gain glory out of it and he has ~~become~~ become  
so attached to this idea that he has become obsessed  
as a result.

Shelley also chooses to present Victor as overly obsessed  
and in a way - unhealthy eager to accomplish his  
task. During the second ~~para~~ paragraph, Victor says:  
'My limbs now tremble and my eyes smother with the  
remembrance', but then a restless, and almost frantic  
impulse, urge me forward; 'seemed to have lost all sense  
or ~~sense~~ sensation but for this one pursuit.' Here,  
we see signs of Victor actually recognizing his obsession  
and the way he describes it makes it out like some  
sort of drug that he has become addicted to which he  
then can't stop or resist even though it is almost  
killing him and causing him to burn brightly  
inside. The way Shelley has described his urge as being  
like a 'frantic impulse' shows how he feels the  
urge of him to do this, as in his blood that he  
has to complete this and become successful therefore  
showing ~~an~~ an extreme amount of obsession  
and eagerness to complete the task.

Shelley has fully ~~presented~~ presented the text that a ~~next~~  
dear way following the description. The way it is  
laid out in ~~the~~ two - one especially - rather long  
paragraphs show how Victor ~~feels~~ feelings are  
an ongoing obsession. The extract also includes a  
lot of semicolons and commas to make sentences



longer ~~and more~~ show how Victor's ideas are constantly  
flourishing and his mind and how he is so keen and  
eager to get all of his words out.

At one stage in the text he reveals and admits that  
why Victor is feeling the way he is expressing and  
why he feels so eager which could be given as an explanation  
for why Shelley has chosen to portray him as so eager and  
obsessive. At one point, he says 'I might be in possession  
of some... renewed life where death had apparently denied  
the body to corruption'. This can be related to his mother's  
death and his feelings and how he may have  
~~been~~ been so upset by the death and loss of  
his mother that it has in a way caused him to  
become, slightly insane which is why he has expressed  
his feelings of obsession and why he is so eager to  
accomplish his wish.

b) Obsession is often brought into the story of Frankenstein  
and the classic line come out of knowing obsessed  
by someone is ~~obvious~~ a key element that makes  
up the book from the different characters that he is  
introduced to.

A key example of where Shelley has successfully  
represented the idea of obsession and its impact  
importance of it in the book is through the character  
Robert Walton. Walton is quite clearly obsessed  
with glory and consequently throughout the  
novel from his point of view he sees how it is  
literally all he cares about. For example, he  
says 'Do I not desire to accomplish some great  
good? ~~I preferred glory~~ ... I preferred glory'.

Here we see a clear argument of nearly knight Walton's obsession and why he is so obsessed and why he is so obsessed. ~~His need~~ His need for a need of achieving success and ~~for~~ gaining glory is a common sign of obsession as his whole ~~expedition~~ expedition he does is based on him simply doing it for glory; nothing else. However, along the way Walton comes across that obsession can result in ~~him~~ ~~him~~, and how his eagerness can slowly turn to misery. During a letter to his sister, at one point he says 'I desire the company of a man who can sympathise with me; whose eyes can reply to mine' as he has feelings of loneliness and sadness during his ~~expedition~~ expedition and what his obsessions have led him to feel.

Another character similar to Walton in his obsessions and the danger they ~~are~~ bring upon to is Frankenstein himself. In this extract especially, we see how Shelley has shown obsession and how it impacts towards future within the novel. For example, in the extract it says 'often did my human nature turn with loathing ~~from~~ from my creation, which, still urged on by an eagerness which perpetually increased'. There we see how Frankenstein's obsession has ~~constant~~ did how it was constantly increasing and becoming more and more dangerous, even during dark times for him he wanted ~~knows~~ of how obsessed he had become. However, where the impact of obsession is shown and how his obsessions were needed to make the rest of the story what it then becomes is the result of Victor's obsessions. Once proud with his creation, Victor says 'But now I feel ~~the~~ pain.



the beauty of my dream vanished and breathless horror and disgust ~~has~~ filled my heart. Here we see the realisation that Victor has now been hurt with & now his obsessions had in part overpowered him so much so that as a result he has now ~~made~~ produced feelings of despair, sadness and utter shock. It is almost as if he cannot believe himself what he has done as he begins to question why he has made himself both physically and mentally ill over this one obsession which he has had his mind so fully set on therefore showing how ~~Shelley~~ Shelley has successfully shown the importance of obsession in the novel.

Not only have the obsessive characters been affected by their obsessions. Characters in the novel, but other characters have also been affected by their obsessions too. For example, following Victor's obsessions which resulted in him endangering his creature on death and such as his own actions, other characters become affected by Victor's obsessions and as a result, even face death. One example of a character being affected by Victor's actions is the monster (Victor's creation) himself, ~~and~~ the monster receives a severe amount of grief and despair as a result of Victor's obsessions and even says to Victor 'you, my creator, abandon me'. The monster never has a real insight or real idea of what life is actually like and he is never taught how to do things and as a result receives grief and faces it the hard way. An example of this is when the monster is unaware of his ~~own~~ <sup>his</sup> image and the difference between himself and other people due to ~~Victor's~~ <sup>his</sup> lack of upbringing. ~~denies~~ his appearance as 'the whole thing'

raised

them; some fed; some attacked me; and  
graciously received by some and the hands of  
noble weapons I fled to the open country. 'Then  
we see the true sadness and reality of what the monster  
led to experience as a result of violent possessions and  
the reader then is led to sympathise for the  
monster and then despair heeded on roads  
into. Characters such as Justine and William  
who were killed ~~by the monster~~ as a result  
of violent possessions also are an example of  
what possessions can lead to and the  
extents and damage they go through as a result.  
For example during Justine's trial she  
says 'I confessed; but I confessed all' showing  
the extent and despair she had to go through  
and the sacrifice she had to make for  
her possessions.



Question	Level – mark	Commentary
7a)	Level 4 – 15	A focused response clearly evaluating the sustained use of language, form and structure to present the character of Frankenstein as an ‘obsessive’ and ‘dedicated’ man. Close reference is made to the use of punctuation and similes and points made are fully supported by reference to the text.
7b)	Level 5 - 17	A detailed and developed personal response with an engagement fully related to the novel and the theme of obsession. The critical style is sustained, supported by reference to the text and with a developed interpretation. Consideration is made to the obsession of Frankenstein and his determination to create his creature at the expense of his relationships and family. The creature’s obsession is also explored in detail and how he gradually sinks into insanity and violence.

## Frankenstein

Question Number	Indicative Content
<b>7 (a)</b>	<p>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explore how Shelley presents Frankenstein in this extract. Responses may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frankenstein admits that he is confused and driven by a 'variety of feelings' that are described with a simile: 'like a hurricane'</li> <li>• he speaks of binary opposites: 'life and death', 'light into our dark world'</li> <li>• he considers himself to be a creator of life, whose subject would be grateful to him and happy: 'bless me as its creator', 'happy and excellent natures'; Frankenstein is both disillusioned and naive</li> <li>• Frankenstein immerses himself in his work and becomes obsessed: 'unremitting ardour', making himself ill: 'pale with study', 'emaciated with confinement'</li> <li>• Frankenstein is a romantic, personifying the moon and nature: 'the moon gazed on', 'I pursued nature to her hiding-place'</li> <li>• Frankenstein loses his sense of humanity and becomes secretive when he speaks of the 'horrors of my secret toils', when he 'dabbled amongst the unhallowed damps of the grave' or 'tortured the living animal'</li> <li>• he describes himself as being full of nervous stress with the use of alliteration and a metaphor: 'My limbs now tremble', 'my eyes swim', 'resistless, and almost frantic, impulse'</li> <li>• Frankenstein recognises that his work is 'unnatural'; he is in self-exile: 'In a solitary chamber, or rather cell...'</li> <li>• he loses concern for both himself and his environment: 'I kept my workshop of filthy creation; my eye-balls were starting from their sockets'</li> <li>• the extract is written in first person narrative and past tense; Frankenstein recounts his experiences.</li> </ul> <p>Reward all valid points.</p>



Level	Mark	Descriptor – Bullets 1 and 2 – AO2 (20 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
<b>Level 1</b>	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is simple and the identification of language, form and structure is minimal.</li> <li>• Little evidence of relevant subject terminology.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 2</b>	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is largely descriptive. There is some comment on the language, form and structure.</li> <li>• Limited use of relevant subject terminology to support examples given.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 3</b>	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response shows an understanding of a range of language, form and structure features and links them to their effect on the reader.</li> <li>• Relevant subject terminology is used to support examples given.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 4</b>	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is focused and detailed. Analysis of language, form and structure features and their effect on the reader is sustained.</li> <li>• Relevant subject terminology is used accurately and appropriately to develop ideas.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 5</b>	17–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is a cohesive evaluation of the interrelationship of language, form and structure and their effect on the reader.</li> <li>• Relevant subject terminology is integrated and precise.</li> </ul>

Question Number	Indicative Content
<b>7 (b)</b>	<p>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explain the importance of obsession <b>elsewhere</b> in the novel.</p> <p>Responses may include:</p> <p><b>Characters who are obsessive:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victor Frankenstein is in pursuit of knowledge in his attempt to go beyond accepted human limits and access the secret of life</li> <li>• Frankenstein is obsessive during the creation of the monster and later when he wants it destroyed; his obsessive hatred of the monster drives him to his death; he chases the monster obsessively</li> <li>• Robert Walton is obsessive about surpassing previous human explorations by endeavouring to reach the North Pole; we follow Walton's obsession through his letters to his sister in which he tries to justify his motives; Walton confides in Frankenstein when he tells him about his desire to reach and explore the North Pole</li> <li>• the monster is obsessed with finding his creator; the monster's loneliness leads him to seek knowledge, but he is rejected by those he meets; through the monster's obsession with finding Frankenstein, he kills Frankenstein's brother and wife; the monster is desperate for Frankenstein to make him a companion and, when this possibility is destroyed, the monster kills Clerval</li> <li>• both the monster and Frankenstein are obsessed with the destruction of each other</li> <li>• some candidates may consider other characters to be obsessive, such as Elizabeth and her obsessive love for Frankenstein.</li> </ul> <p><b>The effect of their actions on other characters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frankenstein's obsession with the creation of life alienates him from his loved ones; his obsession with the act of creation eventually results in the destruction of everyone dear to him;</li> <li>• Walton's obsession leads his crew into danger and lives are lost; he pulls back from his treacherous and own obsessive mission, having learned from Frankenstein's example how destructive the thirst for knowledge can be</li> <li>• the monster's obsession to find his creator leads to the deaths of several characters</li> <li>• the obsessive nature of these characters has resulted in the loss of many lives throughout the novel and suggest there is danger in the acquisition of knowledge.</li> </ul> <p>Reward all valid points.</p> <p>Candidates will be rewarded if they make relevant textual references or use short quotations from elsewhere in the novel. This includes relevant paraphrasing.</p>

In responses to the following question for AO1, examiners should be aware of the different ways candidates may structure their responses. There should be sufficient evidence of a personal response and a critical style to meet the criteria for each level.

Level	Mark (20 Marks)	Descriptor — Bullets 1, 2 and 3 – AO1 (20 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
<b>Level 1</b>	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response is simple with little personal response.</li> <li>• There is little evidence of a critical style.</li> <li>• Little reference is made to the content or themes of the text.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 2</b>	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response may be largely narrative but has some elements of a personal response.</li> <li>• There is some evidence of a critical style but it is not always applied securely.</li> <li>• Some valid points are made, but without consistent or secure focus.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 3</b>	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response shows a relevant personal response, soundly related to the text.</li> <li>• There is an appropriate critical style, with comments showing a sound interpretation.</li> <li>• The response is relevant and focused points are made with support from the text.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 4</b>	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The response has a developed personal response and thorough engagement, fully related to the text.</li> <li>• The critical style is sustained and there is well-developed interpretation.</li> <li>• Well-chosen references to the text support a range of effective points.</li> </ul>
<b>Level 5</b>	17–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an assured personal response, showing a high level of engagement with the text.</li> <li>• A critical style is developed with maturity, perceptive understanding and interpretation.</li> <li>• Discerning references are an integral part of the response, with points made with assurance and full support from the text.</li> </ul>