

***Frankenstein* Literary Comparative Analysis**

Writing Situation:

According to the critic Northrop Frye, "Tragic heroes tower as the highest points in their human landscape that they seem the inevitable conductors of the power about them, the great trees more likely to be struck by lightning than a clump of grass. **Conductors** may of course be **instruments as well as victims** of the divine lightning."

Directions for Writing:

In Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, a tragic figure functions as an instrument of the suffering of others. Your task is to write a comparative literary analysis in which you explain how the suffering brought upon other characters by that figure contributes to the tragic vision of the work as a whole, while also comparing that figure to another tragic figure from literature, another contemporary text, or the real world.

In other words you will identify the character who you feel is the tragic figure within *Frankenstein* and compare it to another person (fictional or not).

Think: What is a comparative literary study?

A *comparative literary study* is an essay in which you compare (or contrast?) two or more works or from the same time period or in the same form or from the same country.

Comparative Literature concerns itself with the relation between literature and other spaces of human activity, including history, politics, philosophy, or science.

Comparative Literature is a field whose practitioners study literature across national borders, across time periods, across languages, across genres, across boundaries (for example, novel vs. film), and across disciplines (literature vs. psychology, philosophy, science, history, architecture, sociology, politics, etc.).

Comparative Literature seeks examples of universal human truths based on the literary archetypes that appear throughout the literary works of all times and places.

Remember:

- Avoid summary only. Write with SPECIFICS from the texts.
- MLA format should be used throughout your essay.

DUE: November, 27, 2018 by 7:45 am to Turnitin!

Timeline:

- Annotated Bibliography 25 pts Writing
- Outline (with text evidence) 25 pts Writing
- Full Rough Draft due IN CLASS Monday, November 26th
- Final Draft due 7:45 am November 27th (100 pts Writing)

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Organizer #1

<p>Thesis/Argument Statement:</p> <p>Both _____ [Text 1] and _____ [Text 2] deal with _____ [TOPIC/THEME], but they do so in different ways.</p>

What are the different parts of the argument that your essay must prove?

CONTRAST: How does Text 1 deal with the topic/theme? Explain with 2-3 fully-explained pieces of evidence.	CONTRAST: How does Text 2 deal with the topic/theme? Explain with 2-3 fully-explained pieces of evidence.	COMPARE: What do both texts have in common regarding their approach to the topic/theme? Explain with 2-3 fully-explained pieces of evidence.
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.

<p>Conclusion: Ultimately, both texts help us see/realize _____ [punchy insight].</p>
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Organizer #2

Compare and Contrast Graphic Organizer

Item #1	Item #2
How are they ALIKE?	
How are they DIFFERENT?	