



# Language Paper 1 Reading

19<sup>th</sup> Century Literature

**1. From paragraph 1, identify the phrase that explains what the narrator has been trying to achieve. 1 mark**

It was on a dreary night of November that I beheld the accomplishment of my toils. With an anxiety that almost amounted to agony, I collected the instruments of life around me that I might infuse a spark of being into the lifeless thing that lay at my feet. It was already one in the morning; the rain pattered dismally against the panes, and my candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the half-extinguished light, I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open; it breathed hard, and a convulsive motion agitated its limbs.

**2. From paragraph 2 give two reasons that show the monster is disfigured. You may use your own words or quotation from the text. 2 marks**

How can I describe my emotions at this catastrophe, or how delineate the wretch whom with such infinite pains and care I had endeavoured 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 colour as the dun white sockets in which they were set, his shrivelled complexion and straight black lips.

### 3. In paragraph 3, how does the writer use language and structure to show that Victor's mood is erratic and not normal? 6 marks

- Put the annotation on the part of the text which you think it describes

Further events which occur as a consequence of Victor's actions

Explains what Victor had given up to complete his project

Describes Victor's reaction on finishing the project

What Victor tries to do to calm himself

Whether or not Victor deals responsibly with the situation

Explains just how long Victor had spent on his project

Whether Victor is successful in calming himself

The different accidents of life are not so changeable as the feelings of human nature. I had worked hard for nearly two years, for the sole purpose of infusing life into an inanimate body. For this I had deprived myself of rest and health. I had desired it with an ardour<sup>1</sup> that far exceeded moderation; but now that I had finished, the beauty of the dream vanished, and breathless horror and disgust filled my heart. Unable to endure the aspect of the being I had created, I rushed out of the room, continued a long time traversing my bed chamber, unable to compose my mind to sleep. At length lassitude<sup>2</sup> succeeded to the tumult I had before endured; and I threw myself on the bed in my clothes, endeavouring to seek a few moments of forgetfulness. But it was in vain: I slept, indeed, but I was disturbed by the wildest dreams. I started from my sleep with horror; a cold dew covered my forehead, my teeth chattered, and every limb became convulsed: when, by the dim and yellow light of the moon, as it forced its way through the window shutters, I beheld the wretch -- the miserable monster whom I had created. He held up the curtain of the bed and his eyes, if eyes they may be called, were fixed on me. His jaws opened, and he muttered some inarticulate<sup>3</sup> sounds, while a grin wrinkled his cheeks. He might have spoken, but I did not hear; one hand was stretched out, seemingly to detain me, but I escaped, and rushed down stairs. I took refuge in the courtyard belonging to the house which I inhabited; where I remained during the rest of the night, walking up and down in the greatest agitation, listening attentively, catching and fearing each sound as if it were to announce the approach of the demoniacal corpse to which I had so miserably given life.

### **3. In paragraph 3, how does the writer use language and structure to show the change in Victor's mood?**

Explains just how long Victor had spent on his project

Explains what Victor had given up to complete his project

Describes Victor's reaction on finishing the project

What Victor tries to do to calm himself

Whether Victor is successful in calming himself

Further events which occur as a consequence of Victor's actions

Whether or not Victor deals responsibly with the situation

### **Why do you think the text is structured in this way?**

### 3. In paragraph 3, how does the writer use language and structure to show that Victor's mood is erratic and not normal?

The passage begins when Victor tells the reader that he had worked hard for the last two years for “the sole purpose of infusing life into an inanimate body”. The \_\_\_\_\_ sole tells us that Victor had done nothing else except work and this makes him seem \_\_\_\_\_. By telling us this at the beginning of the passage, it implies that the \_\_\_\_\_ of Victor's actions will be \_\_\_\_\_ because nothing good can come of an obsession.

A brief \_\_\_\_\_ is then used to show that Victor's plan to create life was \_\_\_\_\_ but he has only now \_\_\_\_\_ it. He says that his desire “far exceeded moderation” which suggests that he had gone beyond what is \_\_\_\_\_ and is therefore clearly in the \_\_\_\_\_. The passage is also \_\_\_\_\_ so that Victor's aims are also \_\_\_\_\_ with their outcome in order to \_\_\_\_\_ just how mistaken he was to try create life. The \_\_\_\_\_ between the “beauty” of his dream and his “breathless horror and disgust” upon finishing makes the latter have much greater \_\_\_\_\_. The fact that Victor uses the adjective “breathless” also implies that his horror is so \_\_\_\_\_ that it has a \_\_\_\_\_ effect on him and this further suggests how wrong he was to try to create life.

### 3. In paragraph 3, how does the writer use language and structure to show that Victor's mood is erratic and not normal?

- Complete this answer by using words which you think would be appropriate for answering the question.
- flashback
- consequences
- great
- acceptable
- emphasise
- terrible
- contrast
- wrong
- adjective
- physical
- obsessed
- realised
- juxtaposed
- impact
- structured
- misguided



### 3. In paragraph 3, how does the writer use language and structure to show that Victor's mood is erratic and not normal?

The passage begins when Victor tells the reader that he had worked hard for the last two years for “the sole purpose of infusing life into an inanimate body”. The adjective sole tells us that Victor had done nothing else except work and this makes him seem obsessed. By telling us this at the beginning of the passage, it implies that the consequences of Victor's actions will be terrible because nothing good can come of an obsession.

A brief flashback is then used to show that Victor's plan to create life was misguided but he has only now realised it. He says that his desire “far exceeded moderation” which suggests that he had gone beyond what is acceptable and is therefore clearly in the wrong. The passage is also structured so that Victor's aims are also juxtaposed with their outcome in order to emphasise just how mistaken he was to try create life. The contrast between the “beauty” of his dream and his “breathless horror and disgust” upon finishing makes the latter have much greater impact. The fact that Victor uses the adjective “breathless” also implies that his horror is so great that it has a physical effect on him and this further suggests how wrong he was to try to create life.