



## ISOLATION

! YOUR ESSAY MUST MEET ALL THE CRITERIA FOR THE INTRODUCTION, BODY PARAGRAPHS, AS WELL AS CONCLUSION; OTHERWISE, YOUR ESSAY WILL NOT BE MARKED! !



! COMPLETE THE COVER LIST BELOW TO ENSURE YOU HAVE MET ALL THE CRITERIA !

### Cover Checklist- ✓ Tick Each Section When Complete.

- ☒ PREP STEP - Make a copy of this document.
- ☒ PREP STEP - Share your essay outline template with your tutor.
- ☒ PREP STEP - Copy and paste the link for your essay outline into your study system.
- ☒ STEP 1 - Outline your 100% essay - **START WITH THE CONCLUSION & WORK BACKWARDS**
- ☒ STEP 2 - Use the TTECEA checklist for details
- ☒ STEP 3 - Revise your essay - check for coherence & cohesion, redundant repetition, clarity, vocabulary, etc.
- ☒ STEP 4 - Edit your essay.
- ☒ STEP 5 - Put your essay together as one complete piece.

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## QUESTION

Read the following extract from Letter 2, then answer the question that follows.

How slowly the time passes here, encompassed as I am by frost and snow! Yet a second step is taken towards my enterprise. I have hired a vessel and am occupied in collecting my sailors; those whom I have already engaged appear to be men on whom I can depend and are certainly possessed of dauntless courage.

But I have one want which I have never yet been able to satisfy, and the absence of the object of which I now feel as a most severe evil, I have no friend, Margaret: when I am glowing with the enthusiasm of success, there will be none to participate my joy; if I am assailed by disappointment, no one will endeavour to sustain me in dejection. I shall commit my thoughts to paper, it is true; but that is a poor medium for the communication of feeling. I desire the company of a man who could sympathise with me, whose eyes would reply to mine. You may deem me romantic, my dear sister, but I bitterly feel the want of a friend. I have no one near me, gentle yet courageous, possessed of a cultivated as well as of a capacious mind, whose tastes are like my own, to approve or amend my plans. How would such a friend repair the faults of your poor brother! I am too ardent in execution and too impatient of difficulties. But it is a still greater evil to me that I am self-educated: for the first fourteen years of my life I ran wild on a common and read nothing but our Uncle Thomas' books of voyages. At that age I became acquainted with the celebrated poets of our own country; but it was only when it had ceased to be in my power to derive its most important benefits from such a conviction that I perceived the necessity of becoming acquainted with more languages than that of my native country. Now I am twenty-eight and am in reality more illiterate than many schoolboys of fifteen. It is true that I have thought more and that my daydreams are more extended and magnificent, but they want (as the painters call it) keeping; and I greatly need a friend who would have sense enough not to despise me as romantic, and affection enough for me to endeavour to regulate my mind.

Q. Starting with this extract, examine how Mary Shelley portrays the theme of isolation.

Write about:

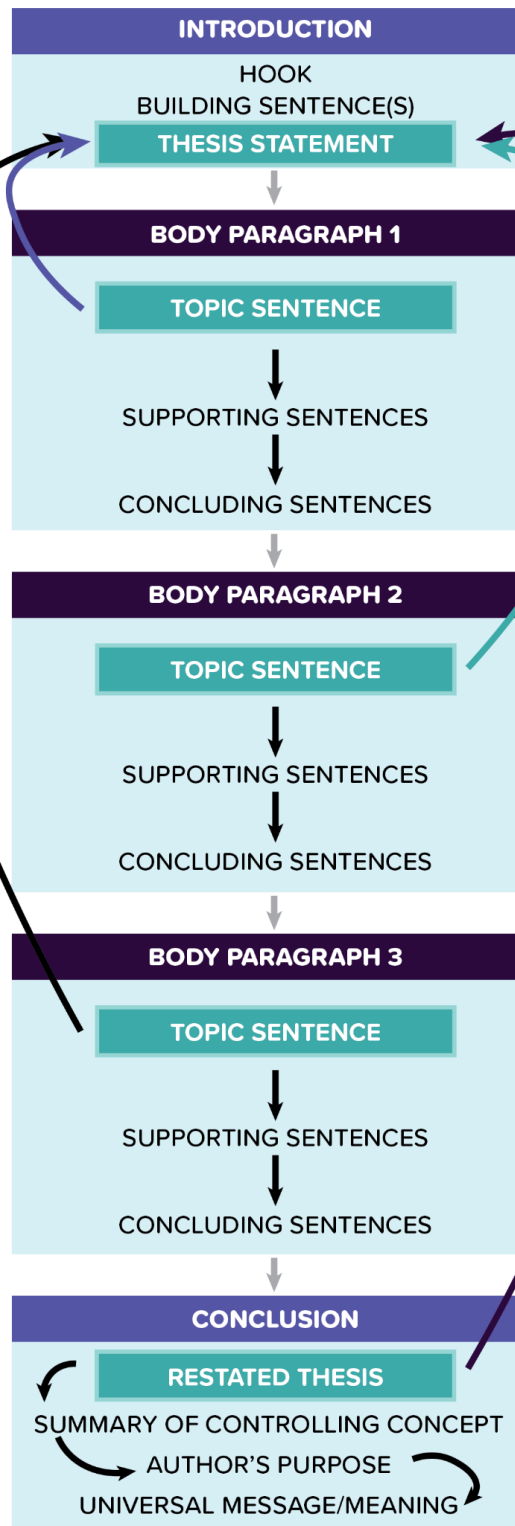
- How Mary Shelley portrays the theme of isolation at this moment in the novel.
- How Mary Shelley portrays the theme of isolation in the novel as a whole.





## 100% ESSAY STRUCTURE OVERVIEW





## ESSAY PLAN



#### I. Introduction

- A. Background on Mary Shelley's personal experiences with isolation
- B. Thesis: Analyse the theme of isolation in "Frankenstein" using narrative techniques, parallel storytelling, and evocative imagery

#### II. First-person narrative

- A. Heightens the sense of isolation felt by characters
- B. Develops empathy and connection between reader and characters
- C. Shelley's personal context informs her exploration of isolation

#### III. Parallel narrative structure and tragedy

- A. Intertwines stories of Victor, the Creature, and Walton
- B. Highlights universality of isolation
- C. Creates emotional connection between characters
- D. Encourages reader to consider commonality of human experiences and role of empathy

#### IV. Imagery and symbolism

- A. Desolate Arctic landscape as a metaphor for emotional and psychological isolation
- B. Contrast between isolation and connection (Geneva, De Lacey family)
- C. Importance of human relationships in combating loneliness and despair

#### V. Conclusion

- A. Recap of analysis on theme of isolation
- B. Connection to historical context and rapid advancements in science and technology
- C. Moral message on empathy, human connections, and responsibility in creation





## STEP 1: OUTLINING - Complete Your 100% Essay Outline

Criteria	Status	INTRODUCTION - Do not make this too detailed.
<a href="#">Hook AO1</a>  <div>fact/statistic ▾</div>	<div>Complete ▾</div> (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	Born to radical parents, Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin, Shelley's life was marked by the death of her mother shortly after her birth, leaving her to navigate the complexities of her father's remarriage and the resulting emotional distance.
<a href="#">Building sentence(s) AO3</a>  <div><input type="checkbox"/> counter-argument</div> <div>OR</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> some contextual info</div>	<div>Complete ▾</div> (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	As she grew older, her relationship with the famed poet Percy Bysshe Shelley further contributed to her sense of isolation, as the couple faced social ostracism due to their extramarital affair and unconventional lifestyle.
<a href="#">Thesis statement AO1</a>  <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> key-idea-1</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> key-idea-2</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> key-idea-3</div>	<div>Complete ▾</div> (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	Consequently, this essay will analyse the theme of isolation in "Frankenstein," with a focus on Shelley's use of narrative techniques, parallel storytelling, and evocative imagery to explore the profound effects of isolation on the human psyche, emphasising the universal need for connection and empathy to foster emotional well-being.
Criteria	Status	BODY PARAGRAPH 1 - only focus on KEY IDEA #1
<a href="#">WHAT? Topic sentence AO1</a>  <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> key-idea-1</div>	<div>Complete ▾</div> (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	One of Shelley's most prominent techniques in "Frankenstein" is her use of first-person narrative, which serves to heighten the sense of isolation felt by the characters, ultimately aiming to convey the profound effects of isolation on the human spirit.
<a href="#">HOW? Supporting sentences AO2</a>  <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> terminology</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> evidence</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> close analysis</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effects*</div>	<div>Complete ▾</div> (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	By allowing the reader to intimately experience the thoughts and emotions of Victor, the Creature, and Walton through their own words, such as Victor's lament, "I have no one near me... whose tastes are like my own, to approve or amend my plans," Shelley elicits a sense of empathy and understanding for their plight, fostering a deeper connection between the reader and the characters. In particular, the phrase "approve or amend my plans" is interesting because it underscores Victor's recognition of the value of having a confidant who could provide guidance or challenge his ideas, which might have prevented the tragic repercussions of his experiments. Shelley's purpose in highlighting isolation is to emphasise the importance of companionship and the consequences of isolation. Additionally,





		Shelley's decision to centre on the theme of isolation is significantly influenced by the context of her own life, as she grappled with feelings of isolation and abandonment due to her complicated relationships and personal tragedies.
<p><a href="#">WHY? Concluding sentence(s) AO2/AO3</a></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> author's purpose</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (final thought / context about the key idea)</p>	<p>Complete ▾</p> <p>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</p>	This personal context thus informs Shelley's exploration of isolation in "Frankenstein," imbuing the narrative with a sense of authenticity and emotional resonance that encourages readers to deeply engage with the characters and their experiences, while simultaneously urging them to reflect on the universal need for connection and empathy in their own lives.
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>BODY PARAGRAPH 2 - only focus on KEY IDEA #2</b>
<p><a href="#">WHAT? Topic sentence AO1</a></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> key idea 2</p>	<p>Complete ▾</p> <p>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</p>	Furthermore, Shelley employs a parallel narrative structure together with tragedy to intertwine the stories of Victor, the Creature, and Walton, thereby underscoring the all-encompassing nature of isolation and its effect on the human psyche.
<p><a href="#">HOW? Supporting sentences AO2</a></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> terminology</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> evidence</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> close analysis</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effects*</p>	<p>Complete ▾</p> <p>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</p>	Each character's isolated journey is depicted through a series of embedded narratives, wherein each individual recounts their experiences, creating a sense of connection between the reader and the characters. For instance, the Creature's heartrending confession encapsulates his loneliness: "I am alone and miserable; man will not associate with me." This poignant statement not only reveals the Creature's anguish but also mirrors Victor's solitude, as he laments, "Solitude was my only consolation - deep, dark, deathlike solitude." In a similar vein, Walton expresses his loneliness during his Arctic expedition, stating, "I bitterly feel the want of a friend." By presenting these narratives in parallel, Shelley highlights the shared experiences of isolation across different contexts, emphasising the theme's universality. Furthermore, the parallel narrative structure creates a deep emotional connection between the characters, transcending their physical separation, by illustrating their shared struggles and experiences with isolation. This interconnectedness among Victor, the Creature, and Walton highlights the common thread of loneliness and yearning for companionship that runs through their individual stories.





<p><u>WHY? Concluding sentence(s) AO2/AO3</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> author's purpose</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (final thought / context about the key idea)</p>	<p>Complete ▾</p> <p>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</p>	<p>Thus, by employing the parallel narrative structure to showcase the individual struggles with isolation faced by Victor, the Creature, and Walton, Shelley encourages the reader to consider the commonality of human experiences and the vital role empathy plays in mitigating feelings of loneliness.</p>
<p><b>Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Status</b></p>	<p><b>BODY PARAGRAPH 3 - only focus on KEY IDEA #3</b></p>
<p><u>WHAT? Topic sentence AO1</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> key-idea-3</p>	<p>Complete ▾</p> <p>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</p>	<p>Shelley also utilises powerful imagery and symbolism throughout "Frankenstein" to underscore the theme of isolation and its impact on the human spirit.</p>
<p><u>HOW? Supporting sentences AO2</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> terminology</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> evidence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> close analysis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> effects*</p>	<p>Complete ▾</p> <p>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</p>	<p>One such striking example is the desolate landscape of the Arctic, which serves as a metaphor for the emotional and psychological isolation experienced by the characters, particularly Victor and the Creature. As Walton describes the region in his letters to his sister, "We are still surrounded by mountains of ice, still in imminent danger of being crushed in their conflict." The barren and inhospitable setting, characterised by its vast expanses of ice and snow, effectively mirrors the characters' inner turmoil and estrangement from society, evoking feelings of despair and desolation in the reader, while the "mountains of ice" can be seen as a metaphor for the emotional barriers that separate the characters from one another. This chilling imagery serves not only to emphasise the severity of their isolation but also to demonstrate the toll it takes on their emotional well-being. Importantly, Shelley juxtaposes this stark and unforgiving landscape with the warmth and companionship of family and friendship found in other parts of the novel, such as Victor's close bond with his family in Geneva or the tender relationship between the Creature and the blind De Lacey.</p>
<p><u>WHY? Concluding sentence(s) AO2/AO3</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> author's purpose</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (final thought / context about the key idea)</p>	<p>Complete ▾</p> <p>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</p>	<p>By highlighting the stark contrast between isolation and connection, Shelley compels the audience to reflect on the importance of human relationships in combating loneliness and despair, and underscores the devastating consequences of alienation.</p>







Criteria	Status	CONCLUSION - <u>CRUCIAL!</u>
<u>Restated thesis AO1</u>  (Re-write your thesis statement in different words.)	Complete ▾  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	In conclusion, the analysis of the theme of isolation in "Frankenstein" has demonstrated that Shelley's use of narrative techniques, parallel storytelling, and evocative imagery explores the effects of isolation on the human psyche, underscoring the universal need for connection and empathy to nurture emotional well-being.
<u>Summary of controlling concept AO1</u>  How does your thesis link to the central theme of the text?	Complete ▾  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	Therefore, "Frankenstein" can be seen as an exploration of the consequences of pursuing knowledge and power without considering the ethical and moral implications, leading to isolation and suffering for both the creator and the created. This theme resonates with the rapid advancements in science and technology during the Industrial Revolution, which brought about significant social and environmental changes, often with unforeseen consequences. For instance, the widespread use of coal to power steam engines led to increased air pollution and environmental degradation, while urbanisation and the growth of factories resulted in overcrowded living conditions and labor exploitation.
<u>Summary of author's central purpose AO1/AO3</u>  How does the controlling concept reflect the MAIN reason that the author wrote the text?	Complete ▾  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	The concept of unforeseen consequences is explored through the experiences of Victor Frankenstein and his creature, with Shelley suggesting that empathy and human connections are not only crucial for fostering emotional well-being, but also for "approving or amending our plans".
<u>Universal message AO1</u>  (What is the MAIN message of the text? Focus on the end.)	Complete ▾  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	Furthermore, the novel serves as a cautionary tale, urging readers to consider the responsibility that comes with creation and the potential dangers of playing God.

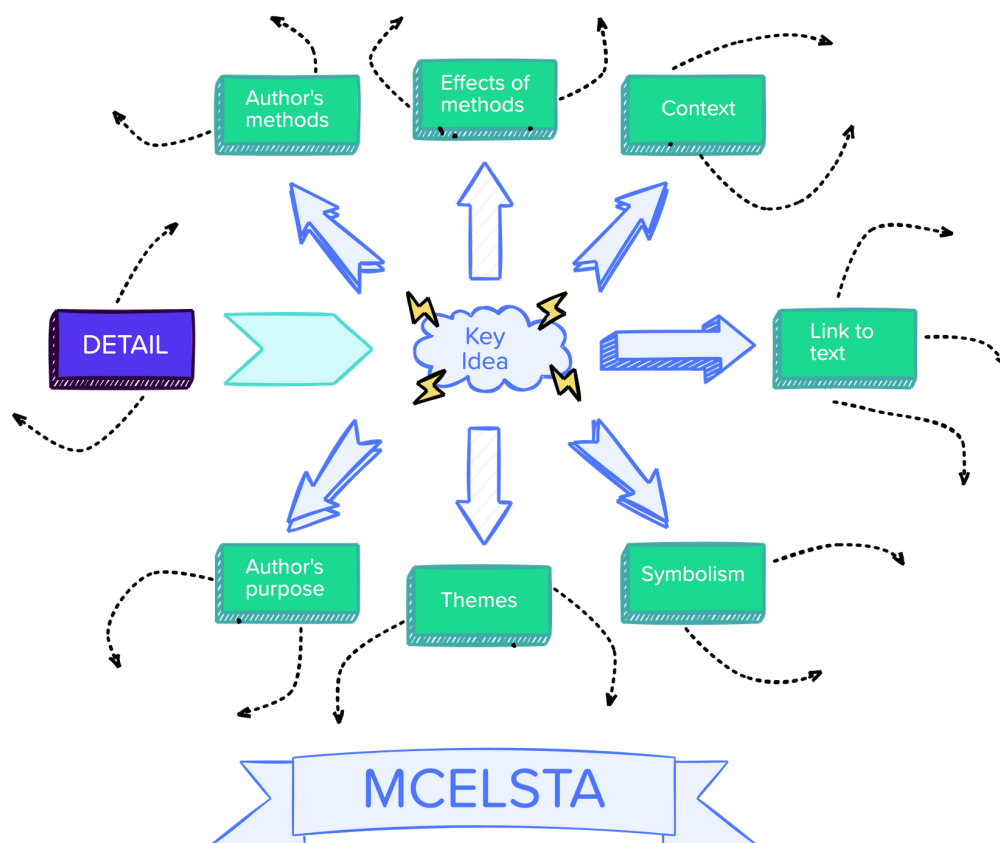




## STEP 2: ADDING DETAIL-Complete the *TTECEA* Checklist for Detail

1. To achieve a grade 9 level of detail, ensure that you link your key idea in each of your body paragraphs to as many of the elements of the *TTECEA* mnemonic as possible (aim to write about 650-950 words maximum for the entire essay)
2. You do not need to have each of the *TTECEA* elements in each paragraph, but make sure you have all of them in the entirety of your essay.
3. Each item on the checklist should only have 2 main purposes:
  - a. **to link to your key idea in each paragraph**
  - b. **and support your argument.**

- ✓ **TOPIC SENTENCE**: Introduce the key idea of your body paragraph.
- ✓ **TECHNIQUE**: Select a key technique the author uses (one you can explore in detail, eg, metaphor, simile, etc).
- ✓ **EVIDENCE**: EMBED a quote to back up your ideas.
- ✓ **CLOSE ANALYSIS**: Break the technique into smaller pieces, zoom in and analyse them PERCEPTIVELY.
- ✓ **EFFECTS ON THE READER\***: Explore what the author's method makes us focus on, feel (emotionally) or think.
- ✓ **AUTHOR'S PURPOSE**: Explore why the might want to make us feel a certain way about certain ideas.





## STEP 3: REVISING - Revise Your Essay

Ensure you have revised the following aspects of your essay:





- ☒ Removed/replaced ALL redundant repetition.
- ☒ Replaced ALL instances of the word 'shows' with more accurate and specific verbs for inferring effects of the author's methods (check toolkit).
- ☒ Revised essay for coherence: are the ideas in each of the paragraphs clearly connected to each other?
- ☒ Revised essay for cohesion: check the toolkit for help.
- ☒ Removed all instances of the following words and replace them with specific details of the topics you are exploring:
  - How
  - Shows
  - Some
  - Something
  - Thing
  - This
  - Way
  - What
- ☒ Your vocabulary is academic – no informal language unless quoting directly.
- ☒ Revised essay for clarity – is your essay easy to read? Ask a peer to read it and give you feedback.





## STEP 4: EDITING - Edit Your Essay

Ensure you have edited the following aspects of spelling, punctuation, and grammar:

- ☒ All words are spelt correctly.
- ☒ All sentences and names begin with a capital see guidelines below 
- ☒ All sentences end with a full stop.
- ☒  No sentences are separated with a comma  
- ☒ I used a comma before and after the following words or phrases:
  - for example,
  - however
- ☒ I have used ellipses to indicate missing words in quotes.
- ☒ I have used at least one semi-colon to separate or join closely related sentences.
  - The language paper focuses on various forms of writing; the literature paper focuses primarily on academic essay writing.
  - There are five keys to a grade 9 essay: structure, conceptualisation, context, detail, and convincing evidence.
- ☒ I have used a colon to introduce a quote, phrase, word, etc.

### HOW TO REMEMBER CAPITALS - **ABLE PRINTS**:

- **Abbreviations:** **U.K., USA, UAE**
- **Beginnings of sentences:** **N**obody saw it coming.
- **Languages:** **F**rench, **S**panish, **I**talian, **A**rabic,
- **Emphasis** - **I LOVE CHEESE!** (avoid this)
  
- **Places:** **A**frica, **M**ecca, **L**ondon, **Z**imbabwe
- **Religions and words related to them:** **I**slam/**M**uslim, **C**hristianity/**C**hristian, **J**udaism/**J**ewish, **H**induism/**H**indu
- **I**, as in me
- **Names (specific) of people, places, businesses, e.g.,** **S**hakespeare, **A**pple, **L**ondon.
- **Titles of books, movies, or programmes, e.g.,** **T**he **L**ion **K**ing, **M**acbeth,
- **Special days:** **E**id, **C**hristmas, **D**iwali

### SPAG RULES

<https://www.grammarly.com/blog/category/handbook/>





## **STEP 5: COMPLETE - Put Your Essay Together as One Complete Piece**

Born to radical parents, Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin, Shelley's life was marked by the death of her mother shortly after her birth, leaving her to navigate the complexities of her father's remarriage and the resulting emotional distance. As she grew older, her relationship with the famed poet Percy Bysshe Shelley further contributed to her sense of isolation, as the couple faced social ostracism due to their extramarital affair and unconventional lifestyle. Consequently, this essay will analyse the theme of isolation in "Frankenstein," with a focus on Shelley's use of narrative techniques, parallel storytelling, and evocative imagery to explore the profound effects of isolation on the human psyche, emphasising the universal need for connection and empathy to foster emotional well-being.

One of Shelley's most prominent techniques in "Frankenstein" is her use of first-person narrative, which serves to heighten the sense of isolation felt by the characters, ultimately aiming to convey the profound effects of isolation on the human spirit. By allowing the reader to intimately experience the thoughts and emotions of Victor, the Creature, and Walton through their own words, such as Victor's lament, "I have no one near me... whose tastes are like my own, to approve or amend my plans," Shelley elicits a sense of empathy and understanding for their plight, fostering a deeper connection between the reader and the characters. In particular, the phrase "approve or amend my plans" is interesting because it underscores Victor's recognition of the value of having a confidant who could provide guidance or challenge his ideas, which might have prevented the tragic repercussions of his experiments. Shelley's purpose in highlighting isolation is to emphasise the importance of companionship and the consequences of isolation. Additionally, Shelley's decision to centre on the theme of isolation is significantly influenced by the context of her own life, as she grappled with feelings of isolation and abandonment due to her complicated relationships and personal tragedies. This personal context thus informs Shelley's exploration of isolation in "Frankenstein," imbuing the narrative with a sense of authenticity and emotional resonance that encourages readers to deeply engage with the characters and their experiences, while simultaneously urging them to reflect on the universal need for connection and empathy in their own lives.

Furthermore, Shelley employs a parallel narrative structure together with tragedy to intertwine the stories of Victor, the Creature, and Walton, thereby underscoring the all-encompassing nature of isolation and its effect on the human psyche. Each character's isolated journey is depicted through a series of embedded narratives, wherein each individual recounts their experiences, creating a sense of connection between the reader and the characters. For instance, the Creature's heartrending confession encapsulates his loneliness in chapter 16: "I am alone and miserable; man will not associate with me." This poignant statement not only reveals the Creature's anguish but also mirrors Victor's solitude, as he laments, "Solitude was my only consolation - deep, dark, deathlike solitude." In a similar vein, Walton expresses his loneliness during his Arctic expedition, stating, "I bitterly feel the want of a friend." By presenting these narratives in parallel, Shelley highlights the shared experiences of isolation across different contexts, emphasising the theme's universality. Furthermore, the parallel narrative structure creates a deep emotional connection between the characters, transcending their physical separation, by illustrating their shared struggles and experiences with isolation. This interconnectedness among Victor, the Creature, and Walton highlights the common thread of loneliness and yearning for companionship that runs through their individual stories. Thus, by employing the parallel narrative structure to showcase the individual struggles with isolation faced by Victor, the Creature, and Walton, Shelley encourages the reader to consider the commonality of human experiences and the vital role empathy plays in mitigating feelings of loneliness.

Shelley also utilises powerful imagery and symbolism throughout "Frankenstein" to underscore the theme of isolation and its impact on the human spirit. One such striking example is the desolate landscape of the Arctic, which serves as





a metaphor for the emotional and psychological isolation experienced by the characters, particularly Victor and the Creature. As Walton describes the region in his letters to his sister, "We are still surrounded by mountains of ice, still in imminent danger of being crushed in their conflict." The barren and inhospitable setting, characterised by its vast expanses of ice and snow, effectively mirrors the characters' inner turmoil and estrangement from society, evoking feelings of despair and desolation in the reader, while the "mountains of ice" can be seen as a metaphor for the emotional barriers that separate the characters from one another. This chilling imagery serves not only to emphasise the severity of their isolation but also to demonstrate the toll it takes on their emotional well-being. Importantly, Shelley juxtaposes this stark and unforgiving landscape with the warmth and companionship of family and friendship found in other parts of the novel, such as Victor's close bond with his family in Geneva or the tender relationship between the Creature and the blind De Lacey. By highlighting the stark contrast between isolation and connection, Shelley compels the audience to reflect on the importance of human relationships in combating loneliness and despair, and underscores the devastating consequences of alienation.

In conclusion, the analysis of the theme of isolation in "Frankenstein" has demonstrated that Shelley's use of narrative techniques, parallel storytelling, and evocative imagery explores the effects of isolation on the human psyche, underscoring the universal need for connection and empathy to nurture emotional well-being. Therefore, "Frankenstein" can be seen as an exploration of the consequences of pursuing knowledge and power without considering the ethical and moral implications, leading to isolation and suffering for both the creator and the created. This theme resonates with the rapid advancements in science and technology during the Industrial Revolution, which brought about significant social and environmental changes, often with unforeseen consequences. For instance, the widespread use of coal to power steam engines led to increased air pollution and environmental degradation, while urbanisation and the growth of factories resulted in overcrowded living conditions and labor exploitation. The concept of unforeseen consequences is explored through the experiences of Victor Frankenstein and his creature, with Shelley suggesting that empathy and human connections are not only crucial for fostering emotional well-being, but also for "approving or amending our plans". Furthermore, the novel serves as a cautionary tale, urging readers to consider the responsibility that comes with creation and the potential dangers of playing God.

