

**ang071: S/Ü "Introduction to the Critical and Scholarly Discussion of Literature"**  
**Assignment 3: "Analysing Fiction"**

**This assignment is a mandatory part of your portfolio and needs to be handed in on time. You can receive feedback upon request and, additionally, a sample solution will be published on the Institutswiki**

**Upload your assignment on Stud.IP in one single file. Every assignment must include a cover sheet and the statement on plagiarism. You may write up to three pages (tasks 1-7). Any text beyond the first three pages will be ignored. Then add the bibliography (see task 8) on a separate page and format it according to the specifications of our stylesheet.**

"London was our present point of rest; we determined to remain several months in this wonderful and celebrated city. Clerval desired the intercourse of the men of genius and talent who flourished at this time; but this was with me a secondary object; I was principally occupied with the means of obtaining the information necessary for the completion of my promise, and quickly availed myself of the letters of introduction that I had brought with me, addressed to the most distinguished natural philosophers. If this journey had taken place during my days of study and happiness, it would have afforded me inexpressible pleasure. But a blight had come over my existence, and I only visited these people for the sake of the information they might give me on this subject in which my interest was so terribly profound. Company was irksome to me; when alone, I could fill my mind with the sights of heaven and earth; the voice of Henry soothed me, and I could thus cheat myself into a transitory peace. But busy uninteresting joyous faces brought back despair to my heart. I saw an insurmountable barrier placed between me and my fellow-men; this barrier was sealed with the blood of William and Justine; and to reflect on the events connected with those names filled my soul with anguish." (Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. The 1818 Text. Oxford: OUP, 2020. 119. Print.)

**Formal and Media-specific Analysis**

(1) Narration

(a) Preliminary Contextualisation: On the basis of your knowledge of the entire text, please identify the three main narrators in Shelley's *Frankenstein* and categorise each narrator according to narrative level and extent of participation.

(b) Identify and categorize the narrator of this passage according to the typology of narrators and comment on the function of the narrative level.

(2) Focalization: Identify and comment on the use of focalization in the given passage.

(3) Characterization: Who is characterized by whom and with what techniques?

**Functional Analysis: Toward a Problem-oriented Sample Analysis**

Build your functional analysis on the data generated through your formal analysis and suggest a possible problem orientation:

(4) Formulate a research problem on the basis of your formal analysis and

(5) Produce a close reading of the passage that is sensitive to relevant contexts and references suitable secondary material.

**Comparison: Correspondence and/or Contrast**

(6) Suggest one other passage from the novel that corresponds and/or contrasts with the given passage in an aspect relevant to the research problem you have specified.

(7) Briefly discuss how both passages relate to this problem. Address potential differences in representation and their possible functions.

**Lecture**

(8) Use the MLA to compile a bibliography of six scholarly sources including journal articles, book chapters and monographs on Shelley's *Frankenstein* that are relevant for the research problem you have specified above. Format the sources according to our style sheet and attach the bibliography to your three-page assignment.

(9) Which subgenre(s) of the novel could be relevant for a reading of Shelley's *Frankenstein*?