

***Frankenstein* – Introduction, Preface, Letters**

1. Why did Mary Shelley write *Frankenstein*?
2. What discussions influence the development of her idea?
3. In the preface, what does the author say she is trying to preserve?
4. What is the structure, or form, of the novel?
5. Who is writing the letters?
6. To whom are the letters written?
7. Where is the writer of the letters, and why is he there?
8. How does he meet Victor Frankenstein?
9. How does Robert feel about his guest?
10. Why is Frankenstein in the Arctic?

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1. Why did Mary Shelley write *Frankenstein*?
She wrote it as a response to a challenge by Lord Byron to think of a ghost story.
2. What discussions influence the development of her idea?
She was listening to her husband, Shelley, and Lord Byron talk about the nature of life, and the possibility of creating a creature.
3. In the preface, what does the author say she is trying to preserve?
She is trying to “preserve the truth of the elementary principles of human nature.”
4. What is the structure, or form, of the novel?
It is an epistolary novel. This means it is written as a series of letters.
5. Who is writing the letters?
They are written by Robert Walton.
6. To whom are the letters written?
They are written to Walton’s sister, Mrs. Margaret Saville, in England.
7. Where is the writer of the letters, and why is he there?
He is in the Arctic, exploring unknown regions.
8. How does he meet Victor Frankenstein?
He and the crew find Frankenstein stuck on a large piece of ice. They rescue him and bring him aboard their vessel.
9. How does Robert feel about his guest?
He likes Frankenstein, and hopes they will become friends.
10. Why is Frankenstein in the Arctic?
He is pursuing the creature.