

# Frankenstein

Victor Frankenstein had always been curious.

As a boy, he preferred storms to sunshine and books to games. While other children chased each other across the fields, Victor studied old science texts filled with impossible ideas: how life began, why creatures moved, and whether death was truly the end.

His teachers called his interests *unhealthy*. Victor called them *necessary*.

Years later, at university, his curiosity grew into obsession.

He no longer wanted to understand life — he wanted to create it.

Working alone in a silent laboratory, he gathered parts from many sources. Night after night, while the city slept, he stitched and assembled until his eyes burned and his hands trembled. He told no one what he was doing. Even he was unsure whether he felt excitement or dread.

At last, on a cold November evening, the moment came.

Lightning flashed.

The machine sparked.

The figure on the table breathed.

Victor froze.

The creature's dull yellow eyes opened slowly. Its fingers twitched. Its chest rose and fell in a stiff, unnatural rhythm.

This was not what he had imagined.

The being was enormous — taller than any man — but its face was strangely childlike, confused rather than frightening. It looked at Victor, almost as if it expected a greeting.

Victor ran.

He fled down the corridor, his heart pounding louder than the thunder outside. Only hours before he had dreamed of success; now he wished the experiment had never happened.

The next morning, Victor returned cautiously.

The laboratory was empty.

For a moment he felt relief — until he noticed the open window.

The creature had gone into the world.

Days passed. Then weeks.

Reports began to spread of a silent figure seen at the edge of forests and villages. Some claimed it watched people from a distance. Others said it tried to approach but fled when noticed. Wherever it appeared, fear followed.

One winter evening, Victor heard a knock at his door.

Standing outside was the creature.

It did not attack. It did not roar. Instead, it spoke — slowly, painfully, as though language itself was heavy.

“I learned by listening,” it said. “I wished to belong.”

The creature explained it had hidden near a family’s cottage, secretly observing them. From them it learned words, kindness, and warmth — yet when it revealed itself, they screamed and drove it away.

“I was good,” it said quietly. “But no one saw goodness.”

Victor realised then that he had not just created life — he had abandoned it.

“You made me,” the creature continued. “You left me alone in a world that hates me.”

Victor could not answer.

For the first time, he understood his experiment had not failed because the creature lived.

It had failed because he had refused responsibility for what he had brought into existence.

Outside, snow began to fall — soft and silent — covering footprints until neither creator nor creation could be easily followed.

# Comprehension Questions

**1. What does the word *obsession* most nearly mean in the passage?**

- A) A powerful and unhealthy focus
- B) A brief moment of curiosity
- C) A pleasant hobby
- D) A forgotten interest

**2. Why does the writer describe the creature's face as "childlike"?**

- A) It is tiny
- B) It looks innocent and confused
- C) It cannot speak properly
- D) It is smiling

**3. What does Victor feel immediately after the creature comes to life?**

- A) Pride in his success
- B) Curiosity about the result
- C) Shock and fear
- D) Anger at the storm

**4. Why does Victor run away?**

- A) The creature attacks him
- B) He suddenly regrets what he has done
- C) Someone enters the laboratory
- D) The machine explodes

**5. What can we infer about the creature watching the family?**

- A) It wanted to understand human life
- B) It planned to frighten them
- C) It needed warmth only
- D) It wanted to take their home

**6. Why do villagers fear the creature?**

- A) They are told it is dangerous
- B) It damages buildings

- C) Its appearance is unfamiliar and frightening
- D) It steals from them

**7. What does the creature mean by “I was good, but no one saw goodness”?**

- A) It changed its behaviour
- B) People judged its appearance, not its actions
- C) It could not communicate clearly
- D) It lied to Victor

**8. What is Victor’s real mistake?**

- A) Creating life
- B) Building the machine incorrectly
- C) Leaving the creature without care
- D) Letting it escape

**9. What does the snowfall at the end symbolise?**

- A) A coming storm
- B) The creature’s death
- C) A fresh beginning
- D) The past being hidden

**10. What is the main message of the story?**

- A) Knowledge should be avoided
- B) Responsibility follows creation
- C) Science always causes harm
- D) Curiosity is dangerous

# Answers

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. C
7. B
8. C
9. D
10. B