

## Cause and Effect: *Frankenstein*

A **Cause and Effect Essay** looks at an event or series of events and identifies the actions that caused it. This can be a challenging task if the event is too large in scale, so it's important to narrow the event by categories or subjects.

Another way to look at Cause and Effect is to consider Actions and Consequences.

### Questions to ask yourself while choosing a topic:

1. Why did Dr. Frankenstein decide to create a monster?
2. What does his creation say about his own humanity (or his perception of humanity)?
3. What responsibilities does Dr. Frankenstein take (or not take) once the monster is created?
4. How do isolation and obsession play a role in Dr. Frankenstein's decision-making?
5. What *could have* happened if Dr. Frankenstein made different decisions?
6. What decisions could the Monster have made to improve his *own* situation?
7. What choices - by either Victor or the Monster - might have produced a better outcome in their relationship?
8. What are the key moments in each Volume that could've resulted in a better situation for everyone?
9. Could lives have been saved? Whose lives? How?

What you're looking for are *turning points* in the story. What if Victor's dad hadn't been dismissive when he found out his son was studying natural philosophy? What if Henry had shown up to Victor's apartment before the Monster came to life? What if Victor had confessed to his creation at Justine's trial? What if the Monster hadn't killed William and framed Justine? What if Victor would've been more amiable to his creation? What if the De Lacey family hadn't rejected the Monster? **There are dozens of questions to ask. These are just a few.**

**Identify an equation of Causes/Effects** and give examples to show understanding. The essay should include an introduction, conclusion, and a *minimum* of three body paragraphs.

If A *had not* happened, then B and C could've been prevented.

If X and Y *had* happened, then Z could've been prevented.

If A, B, and C *had not* happened, then X, Y, and Z would've been successful.

**Word count and format:** *minimum* 1,200 words, Times New Roman, 12 pt, double-spaced, separate Works Cited page, proper heading, etc. Y'all should know this stuff now!