

Rising Tenth Grade Summer 2025 Reading List

Required Book:

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley (1918 edition). The tale of the creation and subsequent “life” of a hideous monster, Shelley’s novel has literary, historical, and moral significance. Containing elements of the gothic novel, it is considered one of the earliest examples of science fiction. The book is also important because it reflects many of the themes of the Romantic age, a movement in the first half of the 19th century that was a reaction against the Enlightenment. More importantly, the novel examines the tendency of man to act beyond the natural order through scientific overreaching with devastating results. In this sense, *Frankenstein* provides rich discussion points on such theological ideas as the nature of man and human depravity.

NB: Please purchase the Penguin Classics; Clothbound Classics edition of the book: ISBN-13: 978-0141393391

10th Grade Summer Reading Assignment: Download this document for instructions on your *Frankenstein* summer reading assignment that is due the first week back at school.

[For help on annotating a work, download this document.](#)

The following is a list of recommended additional reading

Silas Marner by George Eliot

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad

Animal Farm by George Orwell

The Odyssey by Homer, translated by Emily Wilson (worthy of a second read, it is captivating)

The Road by Cormac McCarthy

Between Heaven and Hell by Peter Kreeft