

Rising Tenth Grade Summer 2020 Reading List

Required Book:

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley (1831 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: Mary Shelley wrote two editions of *Frankenstein*, one in 1818 and the other in 1831. Students should read the 1831 edition (ISBN: 0451532244).

The following is a list of recommended additional reading

Silas Marner by George Eliot

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

Lord Jim by Joseph Conrad

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë