

# FRANKENSTEIN ACTIVITY - HENRY CLERVAL - THE DIARY EXTRACT

## Learning Outcome:

How can we use evidence from the play to create a diary extract, written from the perspective of one of the characters we have met so far?

Who is Henry Clerval? Time to go all detective again & try to add to your character analysis that you completed on the Character Study Worksheet. Remember source key words & quotes from the play to back up your analysis.

Clerval:

Clerval is fascinated and disgusted with what he sees in Frankenstein's laboratory.

Why does Clerval feel like this?

What will Clerval do when he wakes up after being knocked out?

Why might Clerval be afraid of Frankenstein's science?

Now sum up Clerval's opinion in one sentence to the following.

What does Clerval think about Frankenstein?

What does Clerval think about Elizabeth?

What does Clerval think about the experiment?

## Creative Writing: Planning my Diary entry.

### Quick Task 1

Change the following sentences into more interesting versions using simile, metaphor, hyperbole (exaggeration) and multiple adverbs/adjectives (Two or three next to each other).

#### Metaphor

The monster's eyes were....

#### Multiple adjectives

The oak door was...

#### Simile

My mind felt like it was filled with...

#### Metaphor for her appearance.

Elizabeth was a ...

#### Hyperbole.

Frankenstein's eyes were wider than....

### Quick Task 2: Building a Vocabulary.

A synonym is a word that means something similar to another word. List alternatives for each of these:

Scared

Odd

Crooked

Ugly

Disease

Building your vocabulary and using similes, metaphors etc. is key for creative writing.  
Look at the sentence below, could you do better?

“The old oak door opened and the monster came through angrily.”

E.g.

*The oak door was like a rotting disease, spreading splinters everywhere like an infection. The monster burst through with brutal force.*

*The ancient oak door that had hung for centuries was creaking sinisterly in the deathly dark night as the howling wind came through the crooked window.*

When writing instead of telling me about a feeling, object, or movement, bring it to life!  
Instead of “I was scared” try a simile or a metaphor:

*My skin turned as pale as moonlight as the monster rose up...*

*My heart turned to ice, my mouth became a desert, and my brain spun at a dizzying pace.*

Now try your own – do not use emotion words!

“The monster was angry”.

“Frankenstein showed Clerval a hand attached to a machine”.

“Clerval discovered a horrible monster”.

# Diary Language & Structure Guide Sheet

## Language

- First person
- Past tense
- Simile and metaphor
- Strong imagery – interesting vocabulary and describe in detail – focus on lots of little descriptions to build a picture. For example – nose, eyes, lips, ears, hair – not just “ugly face”!
- Vary sentence length – long and short for tension and surprise!
- Hyperbole - exaggeration

**“Dear Diary, I am troubled by what I have seen and learnt today from my work with Dr Frankenstein....”**

## Structure

1. Opening describing how Clerval feels.
2. What happened and how Clerval felt when Frankenstein showed him the hand and the machine (Describe the hand – yellow, rotten, etc.).
3. Clerval’s reaction to finding out where Frankenstein got the body parts (describe the bloody rucksack).
4. What happened when Frankenstein left Clerval alone?
5. Clerval’s reaction to Elizabeth.
6. Describe the moment Clerval discovers the monster (describe the monster)
7. Describe the struggle with Frankenstein and the moment the creature comes to life.
8. What Clerval is feeling now and what he will do?

## The Diary Extract Task

Using this Guide sheet complete your diary extract for Clerval making sure you use all the devices covered.

Think back to the 'Act 1 Stage Plan Worksheet'. How would you use this diary extract if you was the Stage director.  
E.g. Monologue, Voiceover. Also consider stage direction, lighting & stage position. Describe below your idea.