

By the end of studying **Chapter 11** I need to know:

**Plot:** The monster starts to tell the story of his life; how he is met with horror and disgust by all humans and his journey to the forest of Ingolstadt where he comes across the De Lacey family. He observes them, doesn't fully understand the meaning of their actions but begins to feel emotions about their interactions.

**Ideas:** The monster's narrative begins fully. The reader begins to understand the story from the perspective of the monster and sympathise further with him. The reader sees the nature of mankind through the treatment of the monster.

<b>Vocabulary</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Hovel - a small shed for sheltering animals or storing supplies</td> <td>deformity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Offals - refuse or rubbish</td> <td>despondance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pandemonium - The capital of Hell in Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i></td> <td>anticipation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tapers - long thin wax candles, used to light larger candles</td> <td>multiplicity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Enchanted</td> <td>impervious</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paradise</td> <td>benevolent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bleak</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Perpetual</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Hovel - a small shed for sheltering animals or storing supplies	deformity	Offals - refuse or rubbish	despondance	Pandemonium - The capital of Hell in Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i>	anticipation	Tapers - long thin wax candles, used to light larger candles	multiplicity	Enchanted	impervious	Paradise	benevolent	Bleak		Perpetual	
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<b>Context (To inform interpretation)</b>	<p><b>Romanticism</b> - The early memories of the monster are presented through his confusion over the contrast of light and temperature, 'A strange multiplicity of sensations seized me...' He also describes this contrast through his perception of mankind, describing them as 'dark and opaque bodies', in direct contrast to the more rustic and ideal De Lacey family, which is more often praised by Romantic writers. He later begins to appreciate the way in which nature is surrounding him, emphasised by his attempt to 'imitate the pleasant songs of the birds but was unable.'</p> <p>We see the influence of the 'Father of Romanticism', Jean Jacques Rousseau, in this chapter as he believed that man was born good but corrupted by society. This is prevalent in the way in which the monster is treated by the villagers before he goes further into the forest directly contrasted with the presentation of the De Lacey family - the farmer and labourer being very much celebrated and seen as the best in man rather than the aristocracy, which is the heritage of Victor.</p>																
<b>Themes</b>	<p><b>Family</b> - In this chapter we are presented with the ideal of the De Lacey family. They are described by the monster as behaving with love and respect towards each other: 'It was a lovely sight, even to me, poor wretch who had never beheld aught beautiful before.' The description of the De Lacey family demonstrates to the reader that this is the ideal, both for the monster and for Shelley as the writer.</p> <p><b>Prejudice</b> = The monster experiences prejudice simply due to the way he looks rather than on his inner worth. This in turn has made him prejudiced towards others as we see in his language towards Victor in the previous chapter. This again furthers the importance of the Romantic belief of Rousseau.</p> <p><b>Isolation</b> = The monster begins his chapter having been obviously isolated by Victor, his creator, then the villagers resulting in him being attacked and then with the De Lacey family. Despite the affection with which he speaks of the De Lacey's, it should be remembered that throughout the whole chapter, the monster is the permanent outsider observing the family's interactions, rather than being involved in them. He lives life vicariously through their day-to-day interactions, therefore ensuring more sympathy from the reader as the monster still hasn't been accepted by mankind.</p>																
<b>Deeper understanding</b>	<p>This chapter sees the firm shift from Victor to the monster as narrator, giving us the third voice in the novel. The reader develops further sympathy for the monster, moving away from sympathies for Victor, as he is clearly a victim of abandonment by Victor and the rest of society. The description of the attack by the villagers where the monster is 'grievously bruised by stones and many other kinds of missile weapons' emphasises the vulnerability of the monster, who is at this point, only in his infancy. The reader is also reminded that the monster doesn't have the ability to understand what is being said as he '...knew nothing of the science of words and letters.' This further demonstrates his vulnerability as he still doesn't understand all that is happening to him. Shelley wants the reader to see that the monster is worthy of being understood.</p>																
<b>Quotes and references</b>	<p>'A strange multiplicity of sensations seized me, and I saw, felt, heard, and smelt at the same time'</p> <p>'felt sensations of a peculiar and overpowering nature; they were a mixture of pain and pleasure, such as I had never before experienced, either from hunger or cold, warmth or food; and I withdrew from the window, unable to bear these emotions.'</p> <p>'it presented to me then as exquisite and divine a retreat as Pandemonium appeared to the demons of hell after their sufferings in the lake of fire.'</p> <p>'I was enchanted by the appearance of the hut;'</p>																

**Reading:**

Read to the punctuation.

**Links across the text:**

The prejudice of Victor towards the monster in Chapter 5 reflects the reaction of the villagers in this chapter. This can also be compared to the way in which Victor responded to his first sighting of Elizabeth.

	<p>'...fearfully took refuge in a low hovel, quite bare, and making a wretched appearance after the palaces I had beheld in the village.'</p> <p>'they were a mixture of pain and pleasure, such as I had never before experienced.'</p>
<b>Terminology</b>	<p><b>Narration</b> - The monster is developing his description of the early part of his life. The reader needs to remember that this is his voice, being recalled by Victor and retold to Walton with it being read by Margaret.</p>