

By the end of studying **Chapter 13** I need to know:

Plot: Safie, a Turkish woman and Felix's lost love, is welcomed into the family. Safie speaks very little English. The De Lacey's teach her. The monster learns to speak whilst he watches this happen. He learns to read as well. He questions his own origins and parentage.

Ideas: The monster is learning more about human society and mankind through books and his observations of the De Lacey's with Safie. He realises that he is more isolated and different due to his origins and parentage. Books have a large influence on the monster, just like they do on Victor.

Vocabulary	Gratified Periodically Countenance Ravished Dissipates Cadence	Purport Chivalry Squalid unsullied vagabond lichen	sallies
Context (To inform interpretation)	<p>Romanticism - Shelley explores the Rousseau concept of man becoming evil through experience in more detail through this chapter. She also explores the use of knowledge for 'good' reasons - in this case, to learn about the world around you. This is in stark contrast to that of Victor's use of knowledge to create the monster and all that happens as a result.</p> <p>Religion - Shelley presents the paradox of man as contrasts. She comes back to the Bible and Paradise Lost as she questions the existence of good and evil in all mankind: "Was man, indeed, at once so powerful, so virtuous and magnificent, yet so vicious and base? He appeared at one time a mere scion of the evil principle and at another as all that can be conceived of noble and godlike."</p>		
Themes	<p>Family - The monster questions his own origins and existence through his observations of the De Lacey's and how they welcome Safie.</p> <p>Prejudice = The monster sees that Safie is welcomed despite the differences in her appearance and culture. This is stark contrast to how he has been treated by mankind, where he has experienced rejection, hatred and physical abuse. This in turn leads him to believe that there is hope of acceptance if he were to reveal himself to the family. The fact that old De Lacey is blind makes this a stronger likelihood for him.</p> <p>Knowledge - The monster develops his knowledge a lot in this chapter. We see him become educated in how to speak and read. His learning of information from the book develops his understanding of the history of mankind and society.</p>		
Deeper understanding	<p>Shelley asks the philosophical question of the impact of knowledge through the monster's experiences 'Of what strange nature is knowledge? It clings to the mind when it has once seized on it like lichen on the rock.' Again, she is exploring the concept of use of knowledge for good reasons. However, the more the monster learns about society, the less he knows about himself: 'I tried to dispel them, but sorrow only increased with knowledge'. Through this chapter the reader questions how much knowledge is 'good' knowledge. Readers could pose the question about 'ignorance is bliss' for the monster as he becomes further upset through his developed understanding. He realises that he has no money, property, family or friends. He then questions 'what was I?' showing that he is developing self-awareness of his own difference and exclusion.</p>		
Quotes and references	<p>Volney's Ruins of Empires - A book written in 1792. It was a source of inspiration for free thinkers in the late 18th and early 19th Centuries about the world's most important religions, the corruption of the Christian Church, wealth, rank and poverty. It also analyses the fall of ancient civilisations.</p> <p>'Felix seemed ravished with delight when he saw her, every trait of sorrow vanished from his face, and it instantly expressed a degree of ecstatic joy, of which I could hardly have believed it capable.'</p> <p>'...he raised her and embraced her affectionately.' (he = Old De Lacey)</p> <p>'...he was endeavouring to learn their language; and the idea instantly occurred to me that I should make use of the same instructions to the same end.'</p> <p>'...I began to comprehend most of the words uttered by my protectors.'</p>		

Reading:

Read to the punctuation.

Links across the text:

The arrival of Safie differs greatly to how the monster is received by Victor and the villagers.

The description of Safie shows some similarities to what Victor wanted to create in the monster - raven black hair and good looks.

Both Safie and the monster are disempowered by not understanding the language of the people they are surrounded by.

	<p>'Was man, indeed, at once so powerful, so virtuous and magnificent, yet so vicious and base? He appeared at one time a mere scion of the evil principle and at another as all that can be conceived of noble and godlike.'</p> <p>'And what was I?' (repeated again towards the end of the chapter)</p> <p>'I cannot describe to you the agony that these reflections inflicted upon me; I tried to dispel them, but sorrow only increased with knowledge.'</p> <p>'It clings to the mind when it has once seized on it like a lichen on the rock.'</p> <p>'But where were my friends and relations?'</p>
Terminology	<p>Character development - The character is developed further for the reader as we see the monster grow.</p> <p>Narration - The reader should not forget that this is the monster telling his account.</p> <p>First person</p>