

BARE BONES WORKSHOP

(UNBC, ASC)

Pretend that you have to proofread a research essay about Mary Shelley's

***Frankenstein*. You have been given the student's thesis statement...**

ELIMINATE REPETITION! DESTROY REDUNDANCY!

Cut the meaty flesh from this paragraph to reveal the bones of the thesis!

In support of the main argument of this paper, the following paragraphs will draw support from articles and books that discuss the impact of Dr. Victor Frankenstein's egregious neglect of the Creature and how this shocking mistreatment of the Creature leads to the Creature becoming a true monster. When Dr. Victor Frankenstein could have been being a nurturing caretaker to the creature, he instead spends his time being in denial about the consequences of his actions: the great neglect that he inflicts upon the Creature. It is this egregious neglect that leads to consequences not just for the Creature but also for Dr. Victor Frankenstein, who loses his beloved wife (who is also his adopted sister) to the Creature's righteous anger. The fact that Dr. Victor Frankenstein's neglect of the Creature can lead to such devastating consequences for not just himself but also his family members hints at the fact that neglect or mistreatment of one family member can often lead to terrible results for the rest of the family. This means that, as social creatures, humans must be careful to anticipate the ripple effect of trauma, which can make monsters out of otherwise perfectly reasonable people and tends not to be a solitary experience.

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Here is one potential revision of the monstrous paragraph:

Frankenstein creates a monster but is immediately revolted by it and rejects it. Ultimately, the monster exacts its vengeance against Frankenstein by slaying his wife. The entire Frankenstein family is devastated by an act meant to hurt just one person, revealing that trauma is a shared experience that can expose the interconnected nature of humanity.

=55 words