MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN

WebQuest Description: After reading this classic, students will go further deep into the main topic and create their own tales book.
Grade Level: College / Adult
Curriculum: Foreign Language
Keywords: FRANKENSTEIN
Published On: 2015-05-11 13:14:21
Last Modified: 2015-05-10 13:23:02
WebQuest URL: http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=283273

Introduction

You are working for the most prestigious literature publishing house of Europe. In two years time the world will be celebrating the anniversary of the first edition of Frankenstein, and the chairman wants you to prepare a special edition to pay tribute to Shelley's most famous work. The book won't have the same text as the first edition. We will honour the original book making a new one. This will be your main task. For being able to do your task, you need to explore different aspects on the novel, the period and the main themes.

Tasks

How are you going to deal with all these things? You will be working in five different groups (the publishing house sections). Each group has to cover the following tasks. Read carefully all the information.

GROUP 1: &nbsp;SCIENCE FICTION

Task 1: Frankensteins the first science fiction story. You have to explore and investigate to come up with a definition of the genre and two more examples in literature and in cinema. You also have to evaluate Frankenstein as a science fiction book.

Task 2: After you have developed a definition on the genre, write your own science fiction tale.

GROUP 2 &nbsp;GOTHIC LITERATURE

Task 1: Gothic Literature is a specific form of literature that lends itself to the Frankenstein story. Develop a definition for this genre and evaluate and explain why Frankenstein is considered a Gothic novel.

Task 2: Now that you know all about this specific literature genre, write your own Gothic tale using all the elements you have learnt.

GROUP 3: &nbsp;PROMETHEUS MYTH

Task 1: The Prometheus Myth was Mary Shelley's alternative title for the novel. Find out what the Prometheus Myth is and how it might relate to Frankenstein’s monster.

Task 2: Be ready to tell about all the elements, different parts and issues needed to make a tale be considered a myth.

GROUP 4: THE ROMANTIC MOVEMENT

Task 1: Many of the main ideas behind the Romanticism can be seen in Frankenstein. Although the darker motifs of Mary Shelley's work may not seem to conform the brighter tones of her contemporary friends, search and discover everything about this literary movement in England. Find out relevant authors, works and its main characteristics to develop a definition and a general overview on the movement.

Task 2: Think and write your own myth tale using all the elements you have learnt.

GROUP 5: SCIENTIFIC BACKGROUND

Task 1: Victor Frankenstein studies the nature of human life until he is able to create the life of his monster. Now, you will assume the role of a scientist to research and engage the process of creation. Study the topic of raising from dead during Mary Shelley’s period. Evaluate the scientific contest in Frankenstein, pointing out the main elements.

Task 2: Since you have researched the secrets of creating and altering life, you now have the power to create your own monster.

Process

You have to prepare a power point or a prezi to be presented in front of the class, adding all the information in a consistent and understandable way. This presentation shouldn't be longer than 6 minutes. You will need: laptops, headphones, a pen/a pencil, a notebook... Here are some tips and useful links to develop your tasks.

GROUP 1 - SCIENCE FICTION

Define science fiction, identify the title of at least 2 additional science fiction novels from Mary Shelley period and describe briefly their plots. Identify the scene fiction elements in Frankenstein and how are they used in the novel.

Find some relevant examples in nowadays literature and cinema. Contrast and compare them with Frankenstein.

GROUP 2 - GOTHIC LITERATURE

Define Gothic fiction, identify the title of at least 2 additional Gothic novels from Mary Shelley period and briefly summarize their plots. Identify and evaluate the Gothic elements in Frankenstein.

GROUP 3 - PROMETHEUS MYTH

Summarize the Prometheus Myth and explain how Victor is the 'modern Prometheus'. Identify and explain the different elements of a myth: tell about its origins, its period and its importance. Relate it to Frankenstein.

GROUP 4 - THE ROMANTIC MOVEMENT

Define Romantic Movement. Describe its origins, but develop the movement only in England. Name some relevant authors (2 poets, 2 novelists...) and summarize their works. Explain the Romantic elements in Frankenstein.
**Frankenstein**

**Category and Score**

- Standards
- Credits
- Other

**Evaluation**

Your project will be evaluated as a group effort. Although individual categories may reflect individual roles, each group member is expected to participate in all aspects of creation and production. Motivation, participation, responsibility, collaboration, interest, good use of language both orally and writing, will be taken into account. Rubric will be given for each student in order to follow personal supervision.

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**Conclusion**

'This was then the reward of my benevolence! I had saved a human being from destruction, and as a recompense I now withered under the miserable pain of a wound which shattered the flesh and bone. The feelings of kindness and gentleness which I had entertained but a few moments before gave place to hellish rage and gnashing of teeth. Infamed by pain, I vowed eternal hatred and vengeance to all mankind. '

**Teacher Page**

- Standards
- Credits
- Other