

Grade

9

English Language Arts

Assesslet

Narrative

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Directions

- Read all the directions for each question carefully and think about the answer.
- This Assesslet contains one passage and five items. Questions 1, 2, and 3 are selected-response items where you choose the one **BEST** answer. Answer each question by filling in the circle **on your answer document**.
- Question 4 is a constructed-response item. Write your answer on the lines provided **on your answer document**.
- Question 5 is an extended writing prompt. Use the scratch paper provided to plan your writing. Then, write your essay on the lines provided **on your answer document**.
- Be sure to write your answers in the spaces provided **on the answer document**.

Excerpt from “Frankenstein” by Mary Shelley

Winter, spring, and summer passed away during my labours; but I did not watch the blossom or the expanding leaves—sights which before always yielded me supreme delight—so deeply was I engrossed in my occupation.

Sometimes I grew alarmed at the wreck I perceived that I had become; the energy of my purpose alone sustained me: my labours would soon end, and I believed that exercise and amusement would then drive away incipientⁱ disease; and I promised myself both of these when my creation should be complete.

It was already one in the morning; the rain pattered dismally against the panes, and my candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the half-extinguished light, I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open; it breathed hard, and a convulsive motion agitated its limbs.

but these luxuriances only formed a more horrid contrast with his watery eyes, that seemed almost of the same colour as the dun-white sockets in which they were set, his shrivelled complexion and straight black lips.

The different accidents of life are not so changeable as the feelings of human nature. I had worked hard for nearly two years, for the sole purpose of infusing life into an inanimate body.

succeeded to the tumult I had before endured, and I threw myself on the bed in my clothes, endeavouring to seek a few moments of forgetfulness. But it was in vain; I slept, indeed, but I was disturbed by the wildest dreams. I thought I saw Elizabethⁱⁱ, in the bloom of health, walking in the streets of Ingolstadtⁱⁱⁱ. Delighted and surprised, I embraced her, but as I imprinted the first kiss on her lips, they became livid^{iv} with the hue of death; her features appeared to change, and I thought that I held the corpse of my dead mother in my arms^v; a shroud enveloped her form, and I saw the grave-worms crawling in the folds of the flannel.

where I remained during the rest of the night, walking up and down in the greatest agitation, listening attentively, catching and fearing each sound as if it were to announce the approach of the demoniacal corpse to which I had so miserably given life.

Oh! No mortal could support the horror of that countenance.

could not have conceived.

ⁱ developing; just beginning

ⁱⁱ Dr. Frankenstein's fiancé

ⁱⁱⁱ city in Germany

^{iv} blue

^v In this passage, Dr. Frankenstein is dreaming about his fiancé morphing into his deceased mother

1. Which of the following **BEST** describes the narrator's reaction to the creation?

- A. The narrator is anxious while working but angry about the final creation.
- B. The narrator is anxious while working but disgusted at the final creation.
- C. The narrator is proud while working but ashamed of the final creation.
- D. The narrator is proud while working but disappointed by the final creation.

2. What is the meaning of the word **endeavouring** as it is used in the text?

He spent **endeavouring** to create a new world, a new world of his own, and he spent hours at the end of the day, endeavouring to seek a few moments of forgetfulness.

- A. absentmindedness
- B. **endeavouring**
- C. outrageousness
- D. tiredness

3. What effect does the **secretly given about the** have on the story?

- A. **It creates the atmosphere.**
- B. It introduces a plot twist.
- C. It builds tension.
- D. It adds mystery.

4. Mary Shelley wrote Frankenstein to express her fear of humanity tampering with nature. **The passage you read in 3 shows the narrator discussing the**

with nature in this passage. Use at least two details from the passage to support your answer.

Write your answer on the lines provided **on your answer document.**

5. The passage was written from Dr. Frankenstein's perspective. How would the events be different if the Monster were speaking?

Rewrite the portion of the passage when the Monster wakes up from its perspective.

Use the scratch paper provided to plan your writing. Then, write your story on the lines provided **on your answer document**.