

## **C&T Paper 1**

### **Due Jan 29, 2007**

Write a 4-5 page paper on one of the following topics. Papers are due on Jan. 29 at 9:00 a.m. and must be turned in via the Digital Dropbox on Blackboard. Papers turned in after 9:00 a.m. on the 29<sup>th</sup> will be assessed a late penalty of one point per hour. Please include your name in the text of the file, so that the paper has your name on it when I print it out. You have *lots* of time to write this paper, so no one should have trouble turning the paper in on time.

Develop a thesis about one of the following topics. You do not have to address every question suggested in the topic, but you do need to have a clear thesis, and to support that thesis support that thesis using specific evidence from the text and clear, logical arguments.

1. Use Frankenstein as an analogy for a current situation in politics or world affairs. Develop the analogy using a “creator” and a “monster”.
  2. Are we justified in calling genetically modified food “franken-food”? Why?
  3. What is Shelley saying about pursuing research into creating and/or extending life? Should we pursue this knowledge, and if so how?
  4. Did the monster actually exist? Was it just a creation of Frankenstein’s deranged mind as he was counting the story of his murders to Walton?
  5. Develop an alternative story for the monster (using the *character* as described in Shelley’s novel). What kind of life *could* the monster have had?
- The opening paragraph should state the purpose of your paper and your own particular thesis. A description of the topic is not a thesis statement. Neither is a description of what you will do in the paper. The thesis contains the argument of the paper, i.e., what you are going to argue. A thesis must be a statement that is potentially false. The thesis is your proposition; the rest of the paper is the evidence supporting it.
    - Example of a thesis: Victor and the monster are similar because they both desire companionship.
    - Example of a thesis: Victor and the monster are very different; Victor desires fame and knowledge, while the monster desires only companionship.
    - Not a thesis: This paper will explore whether Victor and the monster are similar or different.
  - The paper should show overall logical development of its thesis. Each paragraph should develop one basic idea related to that thesis, and should have a clear topic sentence. Material that does not relate to your thesis does not belong in the paper.
  - Use evidence from the text to support your thesis. Your evidence may include short quotations or references to specific events. Give the page number for every direction quotation, as well as other important facts about the text. You do not need to use footnotes; just use parenthetical references.
    - Example: When the monster tries to introduce himself to the DeLaceys, Felix hits him with a stick (Shelley, p. 135).
  - Besides being clearly organized, your paper should demonstrate depth of thought and a good understanding of the text.
  - Revise. Do not turn in your first draft. The rough draft is a way for you to figure out what you want to say. Good writing requires the courage to change what you have written, even when it sounds good, in order to build a coherent and clear essay.
  - As college sophomores, you are expected to use correct spelling and grammar at all times.
  - Use the Writing Center. It exists to help you.