



Classroom activities

Editing *Frankenstein*

Activity summary:

An unknown woman called Mary Shelley has come to you with drafts of a crazy new novel she's calling *Frankenstein*. You would like to help the young idealist, especially as her mother is a famous writer whose work you admire, so you suspect the novel will be good. You decide to take her under your wing. Go through the first couple of pages to give her corrections and feedback so that she can go away and improve the rest of the novel. You might like to compare any drafts of different versions of the text she gives you, so that you can suggest which the best versions are.

Suggested groups: Y11-12

Resources:

1-3 pages of the *Frankenstein* text, preferably double-spaced for annotation.

Pencils and rubbers / red pens / track changes functions on a word processor.

Learning Objectives:

*Enhance understanding of drafting processes.

*Increase self-editing capabilities and appreciation of marking criteria.

*Improve group discussion skills and ability to tailor language and comment to meet situation in hand.

AO and Syllabus links:

Aim to help students formulate, clarify and express their ideas by means of engaging sensitively and critically with the work of another.

Further information:

This could be done in class, allowing students to work in pairs / groups to discuss their decisions. Students could take the part of Mary Shelley to receive and respond to the criticism when it is offered. Teachers might also like to do their own version and discuss how they approach marking.