Finding & Using Sources
FREN*2520

See the FREN*2530 LibGuide

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Outcomes

- Discuss MLA citation use, formatting, and placement
- Practice paraphrasing
- Find and evaluate sources
Try it!

- Examine the paragraph.
- Discuss where you think citations should be and why.
Shelley's Frankenstein

Terry W. Thompson

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Long a dedicated and prolific reader of the ancient Greek and Roman literatures, Shelley read the complete *Metamorphoses* of Ovid (in Latin) in 1815, just a year before commencing work on her modest ghost story, which would gradually, during a damp and dismal summer in Switzerland, evolve into the best-known Gothic novel of all time. It is no surprise that the most obvious of the mythological allusions scattered throughout *Frankenstein* have been described at great length by Shelley’s many admirers and critics. However, the subtle and quite poignant parallels between the death of the young and handsome Narcissus and that of the young and gruesome creature have received much less attention.
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Before arriving at the De Lacey cottage, the creature had been puzzled when everyone reacted to him with disgust and hate, just as Narcissus was stunned when greeted with spontaneous love and adoration at every turn. When the monster finally sees his reflection, he confesses that he did not immediately recognize the gruesome image that peered back at him from the pool: “At first I started back, unable to believe that it was indeed I who was reflected. . . and when I became fully convinced that I was in reality the monster that I am, I was filled with the bitterest sensations of despondence and mortification. Alas! I did not yet entirely know the fatal effects of this miserable deformity.”
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Write an Effective Paraphrase in 5 Steps
READ the source as many times as you need to
However, as the consequences of osteoporosis are not immediately evident, many young adults do not perceive themselves as being at risk; as a result, many young adults will therefore not practice preventative lifestyle habits such as participating in weight-bearing physical activity or consuming adequate amounts of calcium and vitamin D.

Preventing osteoporosis is difficult because of the low awareness of the disease among young people, most of whom do not realize that their diet and exercise habits can have an impact on their bone health later in life (Johnson et al., 2008).

Optimizing peak bone mass during the early years is thought to be a key factor in preventing osteoporosis later in life.

One important way to combat osteoporosis is to encourage young people to build bone mass (Johnson et al., 2008).

Check the original for **ACCURACY**
CITE the source where the paraphrase appears.
Use the 5 steps:

1. Read the original until you fully understand it
2. Put the ideas in a different order
3. Use your own words
4. Check for accuracy and thoroughness
5. CITE!
“In *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley’s subtle reference to the ancient Narcissus myth, her faint yet telling echo of the timeless Greek tale of the incredible power of physical appearance, be it lovely or ghastly, adds even more poignancy and pathos to the tragic plight of Victor Frankenstein’s misshapen progeny,” (Thompson 24).
Preparing to paraphrase:

What is the main idea?
What are the key details?
How could you change the order of ideas?
How can you change the words?
Both Narcissus and Frankenstein’s monster experience devastating outcomes because of how they look, and Shelley’s allusions to the Narcissus myth deepen readers’ understanding of how perceptions of beauty and ugliness have destructive power (Thompson 24).
MLA Works Cited format

Takeaways:

◎ Use citations to tell us where the author’s ideas end and yours begin.

◎ Paraphrase and cite as you go.

◎ Get the details right--use a guide!
Questions?
Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

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