FRANKENSTEIN
[Notes and Quotes]

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As an elective course, The Dark Days of Future Past touts the expectation that students are willing to read diligently and analytically. To become more comfortable with this heightened expectation of contemplative, active reading, we will finish *Frankenstein* by completing "Notes and Quotes," which will be submitted to the Google Group for our class on the day of the last reading assignment.

Although there are a variety of ways to construct "Notes and Quotes," please consider the following elements (with asterisked items being required).

Notes*
Take dutiful notes on the assigned text. The key is to focus on commentary rather than summary, effectively creating a space for working through some of your ideas. Your notes can take the form of direct reactions to quotations, "end of section reflections," or any other presentation which demonstrates depth of analysis.

Moreover, remember that this is your opportunity to document the thoughts inspired by the reading so as to make for easy reading later. As such, your note may take the form of prose/paragraphs, but bullet points may be more useful.

Quotations*
Record passages that you find particularly important, intriguing, confusing, or otherwise thought-provoking. Sometimes you might record excerpts that advance the plot, and other times you may want to document a bit of prose with which the author creates striking imagery.

Always cite the page numbers on which the quotations are found, as this will facilitate further analysis (discussion/writing). With few exceptions, you will want to add some sort of commentary for each quotation recorded.

Questions*
Your Notes and Quotes must contain at least two questions you have after completing the reading. As this material will be shared with classmates, this is an opportunity to seek the assistance of your peers. With that being said, the questions can certainly be open-ended in nature, perhaps pondering about different interpretations of a passage.

Literary Devices
If you believe that the assigned reading contains examples of the (almost sixty) literary devices with which you are familiar, take note of this! Identifying literary devices enables a reader to better understand an author's techniques and the content's implications.

Vocabulary
If you come across words that you do not understand, you may want to write them down and look up a definition. To make this process easier, keep some sort of dictionary accessible while you read. I suggest using the Dictionary.com app, but any up-to-date dictionary will work.

Connections
Perhaps the most important aspect of studying literature is gaining the ability to make connections to elements beyond the work itself. If you see parallels between the contents of the text and something else – real world scenarios, other literary works, movies, music, et cetera – document them within your Notes and Quotes.