Introduction:

Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* is considered the very first science fiction story. What does that mean and why is science fiction such an important part of our literary experience?

Why has the Frankenstein monster become a part of our collective understanding? Why are we so afraid of the monster?

Before we begin reading the novel, we need to develop our prior knowledge about Mary Shelley and the gothic style she uses. We need to understand some of the science behind the Frankenstein story. We need to explore the human fascination with death and our own desires to prolong life.

You will be working in a group to produce a power point presentation about one of these topics. Each group will become the expert on their topic and share the most important information with the class. The class will be responsible for all of the information presented. Completed webpages will be posted on my webpage for your reference.

Topics:
1. Mary Shelley
2. Gothic Literature
3. The science of the Frankenstein monster
4. The Prometheus Myth
5. Themes of Frankenstein
6. The Frankenstein Story
7. What is science fiction?

You will be given two days in the computer lab to gather information and produce a power point. You must include a list of sources with your power point. Any material directly copied must be cited in text.
Topics explained:

Mary Shelley is an unusual woman from an unusual family. Research her life and how the story of Frankenstein came about. What challenges did Shelley face in her life that might have influenced her writing. What was unique about her life that might have influenced her work? What is unusual about Shelley and her writing?

Suggested sources:
Books and Writers
The Literature Network
Image Results for Mary Shelley

Gothic Literature is a specific form of literature that lends itself to the Frankenstein story. Include information about the time period, writing style, conventions, and subject matter of the Gothic Novel.

Suggested sources:
The Gothic Experience
The Gothic Novel
Frankenstein as Gothic Novel

The Science of the Frankenstein Monster is based in the fact of the time. Research theories on the regeneration of life. For something to be science fiction there needs to be an element of possibility. The science is there to support the story. What science is the foundation of the novel Frankenstein? How do scientists view these concepts today?

Suggested sources:
Mary Shelley's Frankenstein Science or science Fiction
Frankenstein Science
Galvanism
A Monstrous Notion

The Prometheus Myth is Mary Shelley’s alternative title for the novel. Find out what the Prometheus myth is and how it might relate to Frankenstein’s monster.

Suggested sources:
Prometheus
Frankenstein and the Prometheus Myth
**Themes of Frankenstein.** A theme is a universal truth understood by all men. Examine possible themes suggested by Mary Shelley and explore how they are supported by the novel. What makes these themes universal?

Suggested sources:
- Major Themes in Frankenstein
- Themes in Frankenstein

**The Frankenstein Story** is really three stories, one inside the other. Discover the basic story line and main characters. Create a plot chart for the class.

Suggested sources:
- Frankenstein Book Notes Summary
- Frankenstein Study Guide
- Frankenstein Character List

**What is science fiction?** *Frankenstein* is the first science fiction story. What makes it science fiction? Develop a definition of science fiction and evaluate *Frankenstein* as a science fiction story.

Suggested sources:
- Introduction to Science Fiction
- Answers.com
- What is Science Fiction?

You may also go to the Falcon Media webpage to search images and additional information in the databases.

Falcon Media

Help with MLA Format

Citation Machine

**The Final Product:**
The final product will be a power point presentation for the class that is five to ten slides long. All group members will present the information. All direct quotes and pictures are cited using MLA. A list of sources is included as the last slide of the power point.
Print this paper and turn it in the day of your presentation along with a print out of your power point.
Group Names: ____________________________________

____________________________________

____________________________________

____________________________________

Class Period: ____________________________________

Rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Power Point:</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accurate Information</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation: Follows power point rules</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conventions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation: Eye contact, business casual dress, participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25 points possible ___________________