

**MODULE A- COMPARATIVE STUDY OF TEXTS**  
**FRANKENSTEIN AND BLADE RUNNER**

Text	Theme	Quote	Technique/ Explain
Frankenstein  Blade Runner	Nature and the surrounding environment.	<p><i>My spirits were elevated by the enchanting appearance.'</i></p> <p><i>'It was a most beautiful season'</i></p> <p><i>'drenched by the rain which poured from the black and comfortless sky'</i></p> <p><i>'The leaves began to bud forth on the trees. Happy, happy earth.' ...</i></p> <p><i>'I soon felt the rain coming slowly in large drops, but its violence quickly increased.'</i></p> <p><i>'I saw with surprise and grief, the leaves decay and fall.'</i></p>	<p>-Victor often ran away to the mountains and comfort of nature to find consolation and peace within himself. The influence of nature on mood is evident throughout the novel.</p> <p>- While he was making the creature he was excited and happy, this is reflected in how he describes the nature.</p> <p>- However after the creature has been created nature takes quite a different turn.</p> <p>-descriptions of the environment reflect the emotions that Victor is feeling</p> <p>- while from chapter to chapter Victor's mood can change, one thing that does stay constant is the use of the nature to act as a foreboding of up and coming events. This quote</p> <p>-As the monsters feelings and emotions progress so too do the seasons.</p> <p>-Towards the end of the novel nature acts as a perpetual punishment, as it forms the backdrop of the harsh conditions which Victor must endure in his attempts to reclaim and destroy what he created.</p>

Blade Runner		<p><i>'the seat of frost and desolation; it ever presents itself to my imagination as the region of beauty and delight.'</i></p> <p>Visual image of rain</p>	<p>-At the beginning when Walton sees the icy landscape is thinks it is beautiful. However this parrels with the emotions and feelings that Victor feels for the creation of his creature, however when he creates it he realises how terrible it really is and this is similar to the death and destruction that the icy landscapes presents when Walton and his crew get there.</p> <p>Rain represents the natural worlds power over man. The repetitive theme of rain falls as a punishment to the moral faults of humanity. In the bible the deluge is to the wash the bad things off the earth and this can be related to Blade Runner as trying to wash the man made replicants away. Consequently while nature in Frankenstein forebodes events and represents Victors moods, in Blade Runner nature is used to represent the overall themes and ideas that the film is trying to communicate as a whole.</p>
	Memories	<p>Image of eye (opening scene and for the replicant test)</p> <p><i>'memory brought madness with it.'</i></p>	<p>-memory and recollection of past events form the backbone of the entire storyline.</p> <p>-just as the recurring motif of photographs (symbolizing memories) which occur throughout the film Blade Runner linking scenes together</p> <p>Eyes are incredibly important throughout Blade Runner, just as the eye just as the eye has been cliamed to be the 'window to the soul', it can also be claimed to be the window to humanity.</p>

			<p>Eyes are one of the prerequisites to memory formation and while memories in Blade Runner are implanted in the replicants to humanise them, memories of Frankenstein's happy past form his perpetual torment, that consequently dehumanises him, as he becomes obsessed with his desire to attain revenge</p>
	<p>Disrespecting religion</p>	<p><i>'The Fall'-When man disobeyed God (Genesis 3:1-24)</i></p>	<p>The main idea is that only God has the power of creation, yet both Frankenstein and Tyrell try to imitate and consequently disrespect God by creating life themselves;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-fire is a recurring visual image seen throughout the film Blade Runner and symbolises a foreboding of bad events which are to come, due to God being disrespected.</li> <li>- In Frankenstein the presence of fire brings to mind the Greek God Prometheus who gave the knowledge of fire to humanity and was then severely punished for it, in turn with Frankenstein, who was attempting to become a modern Prometheus, unlike fire, his gift to humanity is the knowledge of the creation of life, however this remains a secret but Frankenstein still gets punished for it.</li> <li>- Consequently it can be deduced that both Shelley and Scott warned people of the dangerous grounds which you will find yourself in if you dare to play God.</li> <li>-Extract from Bible highlights this connection</li> </ul>

- Frankenstein is the oldest of the two texts, having been published in 1818, and consequently the idea of violating religion (disobeying God) had a greater impact on the audience at the time and would in addition be more apparent to the audience as one of the wrongs that Frankenstein committed, however, if we compare this with the context of Blade Runner, which was released in 1982, the idea of the violation of religion becomes a more a conceptual idea that only becomes apparent to the audience if one chooses to contemplate and almost study the film, the reason for this is that religion no longer hold as much power and importance over society as it once did, therefore this has to be taken into account when considering the impact that it has.

-We see the usurpation of God through Tyrell, 'the god of biomechanics'.

-There are religious connotations throughout Tyrell's speech to Roy, 'you are the prodigal son', in addition, the church organ music in the background of Tyrell's death scene suggest that Tyrell's corporation have replaced religion.

- Scott communicates that's as Tyrell's ambition to dominate and control nature, he has completely overturned the natural process of life and consequently, it leads to his death.

	<p>Man and the natural world.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Humanity has abused the natural world</li> <li>-Its absence has affected the world and how everybody lives</li> <li>-Natural world has been replaced by technology</li> <li>- The replicants have evolved to be more human than humans</li> <li>- The replicants work in the off worlds however this is the place that human are going too to be closer to the natural world.</li>   <li>- Earth is presented as polluted, dark deary place massive buildings overpowering the sky.</li> <li>- Scott warns people of what the world is going to look like.</li>   <li>##The excessive use of advertising throughout, enforces how the large cooperations haves dominated society, just as their presence has dominated the sky.</li>   <li>## Man attempts to control the natural world in both texts however man also attempts to control the manmade-world that they created. This is seen through Tyrell who states that the replicant, Rachel, is merely an experiment, nothing more. Tyrell states that, <i>'you give them past, you give them cushions for their emotions.'</i> However Tyrell seems to be lacking in the human emotions himself, he is very detached</li> </ul>
--	-----------------------------------	--	--

			<p>from the replicant and seems to take no responsibility for her, however attempts to control her through the emotions he has given her.</p> <p>## While the characters in 'F' seems to embrace nature, particularly Victor, within Blade Runner people have replaced the natural world with edifices such as the Tyrell building . With nothing natural, we see the people of BR appear isolated and focussed on themselves. JF Sebastian is brilliant but alone. Deckard is alone, as is Tyrell. People on the street seem hurried and alienated, struggling to survive.</p>
	Pursuit of knowledge		<p>- The society in BR is dominated by commercialism, globalisation and consumerism. This is symbolised through the electronic advertisements that dominate the skyline.</p> <p>-Consumerism in the 1980's had caused great concerns regarding moral issues of religion.</p> <p>-The pursuit of scientific knowledge by Tyrell is shown to the audience through the opening sequence which is dominated by technology and high rise buildings. The advances have been made at the detriment of the natural and human environments.</p>
	Replacing religion		<p>Science and technology have created much but also taken away from the quality of the individual's</p>

	Pursuit of knowledge		- The society in BR is dominated by commercialism, globalisation and consumerism. This is symbolised through the electronic advertisements that dominate
--	----------------------	--	--

!!!!!! Themes reflect the ideas present in the context of the time