
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Frankenstein

4: Creature meets creator



BBC
LEARNING
ENGLISH

NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript

Language point: comparatives & superlatives

TODAY - IN THE ARCTIC

Viktor Frankenstein

Hello. I'm Viktor Frankenstein. I've been telling you about how my young brother was murdered and his nanny was executed for the crime. But she was innocent! I felt guilty because I think the boy was killed by my creature. Yes, I've created the most evil creature on Earth! Nobody knew about it. I was so sad and lonely. I missed those days when I didn't worry so much. One morning I decided to go alone to the top of Montavert, where I had an unexpected meeting...

IN THE PAST - ON TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN

Viktor Frankenstein

Oh... this was a steep climb. But I finally reached the top... Oh, what a view! It's fantastic! The air is so fresh! **I feel so much better now!**

A NOISE IN THE BUSHES

Viktor Frankenstein

Who's there?

Creature

Oh... Here I am.

Viktor Frankenstein

It's you, monster!

Creature

I came to talk to you.

Viktor Frankenstein

I hate you! Don't you fear I might hurt you? Go away! If you stay here I'll kill you! I wish I could bring back the people you killed just by... just by killing you!

Creature

I expected this welcome. Everybody hates me. **You, my creator, hate me the most.** But if you do your duty towards me, I'll do mine towards you and all the other people – all men and women.

Viktor Frankenstein

Duty?!

Creature

Yes. I'll leave everybody in peace if you do one thing for me; but if you refuse, I'll kill your friends and family.

Viktor Frankenstein

Horrible monster! I will kill you first!

FRANKENSTEIN TRIES TO ATTACK THE CREATURE

Viktor Frankenstein

Running from me, you coward? Come here. I'm gonna catch you!

Creature

Be calm! Haven't I suffered enough? My life is difficult but it's important to me and I'll fight for it. **Remember that I am stronger than you.**

Viktor Frankenstein

Well, I have to admit that you are.

Creature

Oh Frankenstein, don't be like all the others who are hostile to me. **Remember, that I'm your creature, and at the moment, the saddest creature of all.** I see people happy everywhere. I feel rejected. I'm very lonely.

Viktor Frankenstein

Because you are disgusting!

Creature

It's not my fault. I was good and had a kind heart; suffering made me bad. Make me happy, and I'll be good again.

Viktor Frankenstein

What do you want me to do?

Creature

Follow me and hear my story.

TODAY - IN THE ARCTIC

Viktor Frankenstein

He led the way and I followed him. I kept thinking about what he had just said... Well... he had a point. I had created him. I was feeling sorry for him but I was also curious and... and wanted to know if he had really killed my brother. Maybe he didn't. We went into a hut. I sat by the fire to listen to his story. He looked happy to see me there.

IN THE PAST - IN THE CREATURE'S HUT

Creature

Well.

Viktor Frankenstein

Well, here we are.

Creature

It's difficult for me to remember my first moments. I was so confused. Light hurt my eyes and I realised it was the sun. I was hungry and thirsty...

TODAY - IN THE ARCTIC

Viktor Frankenstein

Yes, the Creature was like a child when I left it all alone in my laboratory. I ran away in fear when it woke up. Maybe I had a duty towards it. The Creature was left to find its way in the world for itself. It learnt how to survive in the forest, and... it had its first contact with man. How did it go? I'll let the Creature itself tell you all about it. That's what you'll hear next time...

Vocabulary

evil

bad, cruel and unpleasant

duty

things that you have to do, often for a job or because of moral obligation

coward

someone who is afraid of everything

suffered

felt bad because life has been very hard

hostile

someone or something unfriendly

rejected

not accepted and loved by others, not included in tasks or activities

disgusting

very unpleasant

hut

a very small wooden building, usually for keeping things in, not for living in