

VOCABULARY

Alchemy: a medieval branch of study and speculative philosophy aiming to achieve the transmutation of the base metals into gold, as well as the search for human immortality

Allusion: a literary device that refers to a well-known story, event, person, or object in order to make a comparison in the readers' minds

Alter Ego: a second self or different version of oneself: such as
A: a trusted friend
B: the opposite side of a personality

Autodidact: a self-taught person

Bell Jar: a bell-shaped glass vessel used for covering delicate objects or used in a laboratory, typically for enclosing samples

Clone: the aggregate of genetically identical cells or organisms asexually produced by or from a single progenitor cell or organism

Copyright: the exclusive legal right to reproduce, publish, sell, or distribute the matter and form of something (such as a literary, musical, or artistic work)

Creature: something created, either animate or inanimate

Doppelgänger: a double of a living person, possibly a spirit or ghost. In folklore to see your double is typically a forewarning of bad luck or death.

Dystopia: An imaginary place or condition in which everything is as bad as possible

Electrode: a conductor by means of which an electric current is made to enter or leave an object, substance, or region

The Enlightenment: a philosophical movement of the 18th century marked by a rejection of traditional social, religious, and political ideas

and an emphasis on reason and experience, as opposed to emotion and religious belief, as the basis for action

Feminism: the theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes

Frankensteinian: a monster who is a terror to his originator and ends by destroying him

Galvanism: a direct current of electricity especially when produced by chemical action

Gothic: of or relating to a style of fiction characterized by the use of desolate or remote settings and macabre, mysterious, or violent incidents

Homage: a work of art or entertainment which incorporates elements characteristic of another work or artist, as a means of paying affectionate tribute

Macabre: characterized by or suggestive of gruesomeness; grim, horrific, repulsive

Monster:
A. any imaginary creature that is large, ugly, and frightening
B. a malformed animal or plant
C. a person of repulsively unnatural character, or exhibiting extreme cruelty or wickedness as to appear inhuman

Natural philosopher: term used until the nineteenth century to describe those who study natural bodies and the phenomena connected with them; what would today be known as physical scientists

Occult: supernatural beliefs and practices with a secret or mysterious nature

Parody: a literary or musical work in which the style of an author or work is closely imitated for comic effect or in ridicule

Pneumatics: a branch of physics that deals with the properties of air and other gases

Presumption: the taking upon oneself of more than is warranted by one's ability; an act, instance, or state of arrogance or overconfidence

Prometheus: a character from Greek mythology who is eternally punished for stealing fire from the gods and giving it to humanity

Romanticism: a literary, artistic, and philosophical movement originating in the 18th century, characterized by an emphasis on the imagination and emotions, and marked especially in English literature by the use of autobiographical material, an appreciation of nature, a predilection for melancholy, and the use in poetry of older verse forms

Sublime: A. lofty, grand, or exalted in thought, expression, or manner
B. of outstanding spiritual, intellectual, or moral worth
C. tending to inspire awe usually because of elevated quality (as of beauty, nobility, or grandeur) or transcendent excellence

Sympathy: the act or capacity of entering into or sharing the feelings or interests of another

Vacuum: a space absolutely devoid of matter

Vacuum pump: a pump for exhausting gas from an enclosed space

Vindication: justification by proof or explanation



Josephine Turner (1909–2003) and Leland Crawford, reproduction of wig for Elsa Lanchester in *The Bride of Frankenstein*, 1935. Courtesy of Museum of the Moving Image, New York, gift of Josephine Turner and Leland Crawford. Courtesy of Universal Studios Licensing LLC © 1935 Universal Pictures Company, Inc.