Name: _____

Thesis and Outline Worksheet
Due at the end of class today

Thesis Statement:

A **thesis statement** is one sentence that will serve as the overall purpose of your essay. Thinking about the following items will help you craft your thesis statement:

1. What is your **broad abstract subject**?
For example: Frankenstein's monster and the issue of race

2. What **specific aspect** of the topic above will you be writing about?
Research from both literary criticism sources and modern sources detailing the way racial stereotypes and classifications are evident in Frankenstein *and how those fears and stereotypes continue to permeate Western views of racial 'others'*

3. Write **question(s)** about your topic that you will answer in the paper.
How has the treatment and perception of race changed from Mary Shelley's time to today? Can Frankenstein's monster be classified as a racial 'other'? Are there any similarities to the treatment of Frankenstein's monster and racial 'others' in the 21st century?

4. Write your **thesis statement**. Basically, your thesis will answer the prevailing research question: how is your novel relevant to modern society?
Use this format:
Title: *Frankenstein*
Author's full name: Mary Shelley
Genre: novel
Theme/research topic: fears associated with racial 'others'
Extension: connection between 18th/19th century and 20th/21st racial stereotypes

Author

Genre

Title

The monstrosity of Victor Frankenstein's creation in Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* is a manifestation of the irrational fears associated with racial 'Others'; furthermore, such fears permeate Western associations of migrants, immigrants, and refugees as uncontrollable, monstrous 'Others' that, like Frankenstein's monster, are determined to destroy civilized Western culture.

Theme/ Topic

Extension

semicolon + conjunctive adverb + comma
separates two parts of thesis

Outlining:
1. First, brainstorm! List the ideas you want to use in your paper. Organize those ideas by grouping similar ones together. You may make T-charts, webs, or random lists—whatever works for you! ☺

2. Topic Outline: A topic outline uses only words or phrases and does not include punctuation. At this point in the research process, I want a rough topic outline. Nothing is set in stone, yet. Use the following outline example as a guide, but write your own outline on notebook paper.

Topic/Idea Outline
(Example: *Frankenstein*)

I.   **Introduction**
    a. **Attention getter:** Racial discourse today (2016 election/Brexit)
    b. **Bridge:** Racial stereotypes and fears are nothing new
    c. **Thesis:** The monstrosity of Victor Frankenstein's creation in Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* is a manifestation of the irrational fears associated with racial 'Others'; furthermore, such fears permeate Western associations of migrants, immigrants, and refugees as uncontrollable, monstrous 'Others' that, like Frankenstein's monster, are determined to destroy civilized Western culture.

II.   **First Topic:** Racial 'Others' in 18th/19th Century Britain and Europe
    a. **Major Idea:** Blumenbach's race classifications
    b. **Major Idea:** Lawrence's moral characteristics by race classification

III.   **Second Topic:** Frankenstein's Monster as a Racial 'Other'
    a. **Major Idea:** Monster as African Slave
    b. **Major Idea:** Monster as Oriental/Mongol
    c. **Major Idea:** Monster as Liminal/Hybrid Being

IV.   **Third Topic:** Frankenstein's Monster and the Twenty-First Century Immigrant
    a. **Major Idea:** Connection between appearance and assumption of evil
    b. **Major Idea:** Racial profiling
    c. **Major Idea:** Potential for positive contribution to society

    *NOTE: You could have up to five topics related to your thesis
    *NOTE: For teach topic you will have 2-4 major ideas to explore

V.   **Conclusion**