In this chapter, the monster makes an observation while learning from the
inhabitants of the cottage. He wonders, “Was man, indeed, at once so
powerful, so virtuous and magnificent, yet so vicious and base? He
appeared at one time a mere scion of the evil principle and at another as
all that can be conceived of noble and godlike.”

What examples can you think of that demonstrate these opposing
aspects of the nature of man? Make two columns, and brainstorm to
create lists of people who represent each aspect – the good and the evil
of man. Then, write a paragraph to explain how you think people are
capable of both such amazing good and such disturbing evil acts.