

## 1 – Story of the Door

- Utterson is a lawyer who is loyal and ‘the last good influence in the lives of down-going men’.
- He and Enfield walk silently, enjoying each other's company.
- Happy town contrasted with ‘sinister block of building’.
- Enfield tells story of a man, Hyde, who ‘trampled calmly’ over young girl, before paying £100.
- There is something ‘wrong’ with Hyde's appearance, something ‘down-right detestable’.

## 2 – Search for Mr Hyde

- Utterson is troubled and re-reads the will, where Mr Hyde is the beneficiary.
- He visits Lanyon – a respectable scientist – who is ‘hearty’ and ‘healthy’, but Lanyon dislikes Jekyll due to his ‘unscientific balderdash’.
- Utterson has nightmares of Enfield's story with a man with ‘no face’.
- He searches for Hyde, who rushes back with a ‘savage laugh’.
- Utterson visits Dr Jekyll's house, he has gone out, and Utterson learns that Hyde has access to Jekyll's house.

## 3 – Dr Jekyll Was Quite at Ease

- 2 weeks later – a group is having dinner with Dr Jekyll and Utterson stays behind.
- Utterson is ‘liked well’ by everyone and he brings up the subject of the will, but Jekyll assures that the ‘moment’ he chooses, he can ‘be rid of Mr Hyde’
- Jekyll makes Utterson promise to take care of Hyde when he is gone.

## 4 – The Carew Murder Case

- 1 year later – a high status individual was murdered. We hear about the story through the witness, a maid, who describes Carew as ‘beautiful’ with ‘white hair’ and ‘the moon shone on his face’
- Mr Hyde brutally ‘audibly shattered’ Carew with his ‘heavy cane’ and ‘ape-like fury’.
- Utterson is very serious and calm and goes to Hyde's address in Soho. We learn Hyde stands to inherit ‘a quarter of a million sterling’.
- Everything is very messy, Utterson finds other half of cane and cheque book in fire.

## 5 – Incident of the Letter

- Utterson goes to Jekyll's house and waits in an anatomical lecture room. Jekyll is sitting by the fire ‘deadly sick’ and a change has come over him.
- Jekyll gives Utterson a letter from Hyde, which Mr Guest later examines as being the same, but differently sloped, handwriting as Jekyll. Utterson went home and ‘his blood ran cold’.

## 6 – Remarkable Incident of Dr Lanyon

- Utterson becomes calm about the situation and Jekyll begins to return to his old self. This lasted 2 months before he stops seeing his friends.
- Utterson goes to Lanyon who is ‘pale’ ‘bald’ ‘older’ and ‘tokens of a swift physical decay’.
- Utterson writes to Jekyll, who writes back that this ‘darkness’ he has brought upon himself.
- Lanyon dies and Utterson opens the letter, yet it has another inside that needs to be opened when Jekyll dies.

## 7 – Incident at the Window

- On their Sunday walk, Enfield and Utterson step into the courtyard of Jekyll's home.
- Jekyll is sitting with ‘an infinite sadness of mien, like some disconsolate prisoner’.
- Jekyll's face begins to change and a look of ‘abject terror’ comes over him.

## 8 – The Last Night

- Poole visits Utterson and tells him that something is happening with Dr Jekyll.
- They go round the back and a voice tells them they cannot come in.
- Poole explains that the person has been requesting medicine, wearing a mask.
- Poole takes an axe and Utterson a poker, they break in and see Hyde has killed himself.
- There were terrible things written in the margin of one of Jekyll's most admired book.
- Jekyll left everything to Utterson and tells him to read the letter Lanyon gave him.

## 9 – Dr Lanyon's Narrative

- Lanyon received a letter from Jekyll giving him instructions to take a vial, powders, and book.
- In the book, the dates ended ‘quite abruptly’ and the word ‘double’ written.
- Lanyon follows Jekyll's wishes and gives them to a man (Hyde) who gives Lanyon the option to stay or leave.
- Lanyon stays and witnesses Hyde turn into Jekyll and his ‘life is shaken to its roots’.

## 10 – Henry Jekyll's Full Statement of the Case

- Jekyll was born into a wealthy family but began to hide his pleasures and regard them with a ‘morbid sense of shame’. He discusses the ‘dual nature’ of man and that ‘man is not truly one, but truly two’. He was in touch with both sides.
- When he discovered a way to split himself, he was worried it might kill him, but did it anyway. He felt ‘younger’ ‘lighter’ and ‘happier in body’. Hyde was all evil and Jekyll was afraid of this, so he returns to his own self. The power tempted him and he fell into addiction.
- He began to lose control, and he woke up transformed to Hyde, so he decides to remain as Jekyll. But his ‘devil had been long caged’ and ‘he came out roaring’, killing Carew. He again attempts to stay as Jekyll, but transforms overnight, so asks Lanyon to help. He frantically tries to get more powder but is unsuccessful.
- At the end he says that he does not care what happens to Hyde afterwards, as this is the hour of his death. ‘I bring the life of that unhappy Henry Jekyll to an end.’

QUOTATIONS: Top quotations from each chapter (quote, context, literary device)

Chapter 1:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'something wrong with his appearance; something displeasing, something down-right detestable... I scarce know why.' Enfield talking about Hyde	This shows us that he is an unidentifiable character that does not blend in with the rest of society. Hyde is deliberately described as vague and ambiguous to make the reader anxious about who this character is. The idea that Hyde evokes fear in the other characters, but there is a non-specific reason for this, builds tension for the reader, and leaves the reader to paint an image of Hyde that aligns to their own personal fears. Hyde poses as a mechanism to revive the inner terrors and sins that exist within us. The <b>repetition</b> of 'something' adds to this ambiguity and the fact that Enfield can feel the devil inside him, but not describe him reflects how evil can be sensed but not described.
'trampled calmly' Hyde	The <b>oxymoron</b> reflects the duality of Jekyll and Hyde. The verb 'trampled' suggests an act of violence committed out of fear and panic, but the fact that Hyde does this 'calmly', unaffected by the girl's 'screaming', is particularly shocking, suggesting sociopathic tendencies.
'damned Juggernaut' Hyde	This not only present Mr Hyde as an unstoppable wild animal and therefore separate from the polite society, but the noun 'Juggernaut' relates to practices in Hinduism, and this can symbolise Hyde as a member not accepted by the Christian God. This is further highlighted using the adjective 'damned', having the <b>biblical connotations</b> of Hell, which implies that Hyde is utterly removed from the respectable society. <b>The interpretation of 'Juggernaut' could evoke a feeling of disgust in the Victorian reader, who would find it disturbing that this 'creature' does not follow Christian expectations.</b>
'so ugly that it brought out the sweat on me like running' - Enfield 'sick and white with the desire to kill him' - Doctor	Hyde causes an extreme, <b>exaggerated physical reaction</b> in both Enfield and the doctor, making both have disease-like symptoms, suggesting that Hyde is not even an animal, but a disease which inflicts suffering. Furthermore, the fact that a doctor, who is meant to be kind, respectable and care for people, wants to kill Hyde, shows the great influence Hyde has on others. <b>Alternatively, Stevenson may be using these exaggerated, laughable reactions as a method to mock the respectable gentlemen that are blinded by the repressive society.</b>

Chapter 2:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'must rise and do its bidding'	Utterson dreams of Jekyll being, perhaps sexually, attacked by Hyde, suggesting that <b>all Victorian gentlemen have a voyeuristic attraction to violence</b> . Stevenson may add this idea to criticise the law that labelled homosexuality as 'gross indecency'. Alternatively, he may be simply stating the obvious that Hyde's sexuality is distressing, and he therefore may agree with Victorian decorum.
'at every street-corner crush a child and leave her screaming'	The <b>consonance</b> of the hard 'c' sound in this quotation gives rhythm to it and emphasises how this is a recurring nightmare for Utterson that haunts him.
'steps drew swiftly nearer, and swelled out suddenly' Hyde's	The <b>sibilance</b> gives connotations of a snake, linking Hyde to an animal and to the Satan in the Fall of Man. This technique also heightens the suspense and nervous anticipation the reader feels upon meeting Hyde.
'snarled aloud into a savage laugh' Hyde	This is the first time we hear a description of Hyde from this well-trusted character – Utterson – so the reader is further frightened. The adjective 'savage' implies he is a degenerate without morals, and he also moves like an animal would. The <b>sibilance</b> in this quotation also suggests that there is a sinister aspect to Hyde's character. <b>This connotes to the context of Darwinism, and the idea that humans could possibly degenerate into the inner savage if the veneer of society were removed.</b>

Chapter 3:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'The large handsome face of Dr Jekyll grew pale to the very lips, and there came a blackness about his eyes'	At this moment, Jekyll is petrified that Utterson will find out his secret that he has been hiding for so long now, and it causes Jekyll to feel panicked. Alternatively, Hyde may be attempting to reveal himself to Utterson or have the temptation to attack him, as he represents Jekyll's desires.
'the moment I choose, I can be rid of Mr Hyde'	This is <b>ironic</b> because Jekyll means that he can simply drink the potion to 'rid' himself of Hyde; however, the modern reader may know (because J&H is a very well-known story) that later he must commit suicide to 'rid' himself of Hyde.

Chapter 4:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
Fog being described as a 'chocolate-coloured pall' and as 'brown as amber'	London experienced terrible, thick, poisonous fogs throughout the second half of the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries, caused by air pollution. Stevenson uses the fog to make the setting particularly sinister. <b>In reality, the fog did provide cover for criminals, including Jack the Ripper who killed at least five women two years after the publication of the novella.</b> As the fog comes, there is an eerie sense of what is unseen. When there are breaks in the fog, 'a district of some city in a nightmare' is revealed.
'broke out in a great flame of anger'	Fire represents fury and power
'And next moment, with ape-like fury, he was trampling his victim under foot'	Hyde is making himself known for trampling. The fact that he trampled a young girl and now an old man supports the idea that he is merciless. Having his 'victim under foot' displays his dominance and power over him. 'Ape-like fury' links to <b>Darwin's theory about the origin of species, that Hyde is not quite human. The Victorians were very troubled by Darwin's theory, and the idea that we are descended from primitive life forms.</b> In the novella, Jekyll lost his control over Hyde and remained as Hyde till the end. <b>This brings about the idea of devolution- where people could revert to their primitive selves.</b>
'Haunting sense of unexpressed deformity'	Stevenson created suspense - Hyde cannot be found, described, Hyde is all of us, our repressed, evil in us. The reason people cannot describe Hyde is because they can't describe that our inability to describe the very thing that most threatens us at all is our destructive instincts.
'the bones were audibly shattered'	The use of the onomatopoeia creates a sense of horror as you could hear the bones breaking, conveys the extent of Hyde's power.
'the body jumped upon the roadway'	Interesting choice of words, not fallen or fell but 'jumped'. Shows how extreme and violent Hyde is, how much tremendous force he is using. The maid is undermined by the description of her joy of telling everyone about the brutal murder – this is a way that Stevenson is making fun of female and accusing them of delighting in violence. He does this by exaggerating the event of the murder. The maid also is said to have 'fainted' to make fun of the fragile and dependent women. Stevenson is mocking the maid's description as she describes Hyde to be both 'trampling' and the body to be 'jumping'.
'a dingy street' 'many ragged children'	<b>Hyde's house in Soho, a part of London that was associated with crime and immoral living in the Victorian period, has characteristics of poor areas of London at the time.</b> The area seems ideally suited to Hyde's character- a dark place, full of crime and despair. It is in sharp contrast with Jekyll's pleasant house described in chapter 3.

Chapter 5:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'Once crowded with eager students and now lying gaunt and silent'	Contrast between the past and the present reinforces the grimness of the laboratory now, since it used to be full of life but is now empty.
'Light falling dimly through the foggy cupola'.	A cupola is supposed to allow a lot of light in, but the fact that it is "falling dimly" makes it more eerie.
'Tables laden with chemical apparatus, the floor strewn with crates and littered with packing straw'	The messy room filled with apparatus and crates can indicate that Dr Jekyll is busy with some sort of scientific task.
'The fog still slept on the wing above the drowned city, where the lamps glimmered like carbuncles'	<b>Personification</b> in the 'fog still slept'. A carbuncle is a glowing coal, or a fiery-coloured precious stone- but it is also a large boil or abscess that leaks pus. This description combines the appealing imagery of a warm, glowing light and the idea of sleeping on the wing (like a migrating bird) with the repellent "drowned" city studded with boils. This is another example of duality associated with Jekyll.

Chapter 6:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'visibly balder and older; and yet it was not so much these tokens of a swift physical decay that arrested the lawyer's notice'	This description of Lanyon when he is about to die is a <b>direct contrast</b> with the earlier description of him in Chapter 2 as a 'hearty, healthy, dapper, red-faced gentlemen', showing how much the transformation and Hyde has influenced Lanyon.
'You must suffer me to go my own dark way'	Jekyll feels sorry for himself and is in denial of the guilt he feels for giving into his desires.
'If I am the chief of sinners, I am the chief of sufferers also' Jekyll	Stevenson writes 'chief of sinners' first showing that Hyde's transgressions cause Jekyll to suffer with the guilt and shame of them.

Chapter 7:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'middle one of the three windows was half-way open'	Freud's theory of alter-egos state that there are three within each person, the superego, the ego and the id; Jekyll, in his ego, seems to be battling against his id – Hyde – and his superego – the respectable Jekyll who feels shameful and guilty. This idea is demonstrated when Utterson and Enfield see Jekyll in 'the middle one of the three windows' symbolising the three alter-egos.
'an infinite sadness of mien, like some disconsolate prisoner' Jekyll	The <b>hyperbole</b> of 'infinite' heightens Jekyll's depression and makes the reader feel sympathy towards him and the adjective 'disconsolate' illustrates that nothing can be done to cure this state of illness. <b>Victorian society has imprisoned him, so that he 'dare[s] not' go outside.</b>
'very low...very low. It will not last long, thank God'	The <b>repetition</b> of 'very low' adds emphasis on how Jekyll is losing control of himself and Hyde is taking over his body. This also compares him to a drug addict who relies on the drug to keep him sane, when in fact it is making him worse. His thanking God, <b>foreshadows</b> that he will die soon.
'the smile was struck'	Here, the reader can see that Hyde is forcefully pushing through the respectable façade and causing an extreme physical reaction in Utterson and Enfield. The <b>sibilance</b> quickens the pace and the visual image of a gentle 'smile' with the <b>juxtaposing</b> and violent verb 'struck' mirrors Jekyll and Hyde's relationship.

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'hair stood upon my head like quills...cry out like a rat' Poole about Hyde	A rat is a horrid creature associated with the slum conditions in poorer areas of London, separating Hyde from the respectable society – making him an outcast. Rats are also survivors, relating to the theory of Darwinism that Hyde is a man of reversed evolution, and therefore he is also a survivor – this humanizes Hyde along with the verb 'cry'. The simile to 'quills' heightens the extremity of the physical reaction.
'maladies that both torture and deform the sufferer' Utterson about Jekyll	Maladies were also illnesses that Christian Victorian society believed were the consequences of such carnal indulgences, so Utterson is suggesting that Jekyll gave into the deadly sin of lust. Utterson is denying all possibilities of a supernatural event and trying to come up with justification to explain it rationally; this reflects the ignorance of Victorian gentlemen. Moreover, the 'maladies' may suggest a homosexual relationship between Jekyll and Hyde that is why Hyde may be blackmailing Jekyll. Stevenson structures the novella so that their true relationship is discovered only at the end, so that the reader gets the opportunity to speculate about their homosexuality.
'tall, fine build of a man and this was more of a dwarf' Poole about Jekyll and Hyde	This is a reference to atavism, that the way you appear reflects the person you are, and in Victorian society tallness was often associated with respectability and dwarfism and deformity with transgressions.
'life was quite gone... body of a self-destroyer' Hyde	Here, we are made to feel sympathy for Hyde; however, the Victorian reader may despise him more because 'self-destroyer' as a euphemism for suicide was a sin in the Christian society.
'if your master has fled or is dead, we may at least save his credit.' Utterson about Jekyll	Despite Utterson being a Lawyer, he tells Poole not to say anything of the letter they find, therefore he is hiding evidence from the police, something illegal. He is also more concerned about Jekyll's wealth and reputation than whether he is dead or alive.

#### Chapter 9:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'disgustful curiosity' Lanyon	The oxymoron shows how Lanyon is drawn to Hyde's evil out of natural human and scientific curiosity. But he is disgusted with Hyde, but also himself for being drawn to such a thing because the repressive society that surrounds him teaches gentlemen to repress emotions and limit inquiries and curiosity.
'something abnormal and misbegotten in the very essence of the creature' Hyde	Hyde is the ultimate form of evil, as most describe him, and he is never really referred to as a human, but always an animal or creature. The fact that his 'essence' is evil links to the theory of Darwinism, that Hyde could be a specimen of reversed evolution. This also diminishes any hope within the reader that Hyde may have a tiny spark of goodness inside of him because now, not only his appearance is described as diabolical, but his inner subconscious as well.
'he uttered one loud sob of such immense relief' Hyde	Here, Stevenson humanizes Hyde with the visual image of him sobbing in 'relief', juxtaposing the earlier idea of Hyde being 'pure evil'. Stevenson may do this to present Hyde as the protagonist and not as the antagonist, since Hyde is the only one in the novella that does not repress his feelings and conform to Victorian decorum – the thing that Stevenson is attempting to mock.
'a new province of knowledge and new avenues to fame and power shall be laid open to you' Hyde to Lanyon	Hyde is tempting Lanyon to watch him transform into Dr Jekyll, like how Satan in the form of a snake tempted Adam and Eve in The Fall of Man. This further links Hyde with Satan and suggests that it is in fact Jekyll who is killing Lanyon out of revenge for calling his work 'unscientific balderdash' and refusing to accept his views. The name Jekyll is a combination of 'Je' the French word for I and 'kyll' a homophone of kill, emphasising that Stevenson wants to subtly add that Jekyll is the antagonist and murderer, not Hyde.
'reeled, staggered, clutched' Hyde	The asyndetic list fastens the pace of reading the transformation, elevating the tension and suspense.
'shaken to its roots' Lanyon	Lanyon's exaggerated response reflects how the upper class was oblivious to the horrors due to their egotistical facades. Stevenson wants to create a society where there are no entitled gentlemen, so he moves to Samoa.

#### Chapter 10:

Quotation	Connotation or effect
'the worst of my faults was a certain impatient gaiety of disposition' Jekyll	This quote is ironic because Jekyll believes that his worst fault is giving into his desires: however, the modern reader would know that it is his huge care with his reputation that is his worst fault and a result of Victorian prejudice. This may evoke a feeling of sympathy, therefore, in the reader, although a Victorian reader may disapprove of him because of his lack of will power to overcome the temptations. His statement about wearing a 'more commonly grave countenance' may also link with Freud's theories of alter-egos, that Jekyll created a superego for himself.
'I came to myself as if out of a great sickness' Jekyll into Hyde	Jekyll describes his Hyde alter-ego with the pronoun 'myself' illustrating that he sees Hyde as his superior alter-ego and he sees Jekyll as a 'sickness' or a disease that affects Hyde
'I felt younger, lighter, happier in body' Jekyll into Hyde	Jekyll almost always seems to feel better in the body of Hyde, and this not only suggests that Stevenson prefers the Hyde form of man, but that Hyde is a younger version of Jekyll who had a 'son's indifference'. This implies that Jekyll wants to become his younger self who was reckless and free, through this way, Stevenson is mocking the older, respectable generation who repress their desires. The asyndetic list also gives the impression that the benefits are limitlessly better than his state as Jekyll before.
'My devil had long been caged, he came out roaring.' Jekyll	Here, the reader realises that Jekyll is to blame for Hyde's transgressions because he repressed Hyde to the extent that he became angry and aggressive.
'natural and human' 'glee' 'delight' 'gloating' 'tortured with throes and longings' 'terrors' 'cursed' 'that child of Hell had nothing human'	In chapter 10, Henry Jekyll's Full Statement of the Case, Jekyll constantly changes from positive descriptions of his 'glee' and 'delight' to diabolical descriptions of 'terrors' and how he was 'tortured with throes and longings' and 'cursed'. This symbolises the vicious internal struggle going on between Jekyll and Hyde, and at some moments he loves Hyde and thinks of him as 'natural and human', but at other moments, he is 'that child of Hell' who 'had nothing human'.
'the hand that lay on my knee was corded and hairy' Jekyll into Hyde	'the hand' is a symbol of respectability and honour and this is invaded by the growth of hair which has been allowed to grow freely, representing Hyde's free nature to do as he wishes.

## THE AUTHOR

- Even before J&H Stevenson was already very well known for the novel *Treasure Island*, which was published in 1883.
- Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, 1850. His childhood was difficult as he was a sick child.
- His father wanted him to become an engineer.
- His nanny was a very strict Christian and is thought to have had a great influence on Stevenson, talking about matters like sacrifice and hoping to be accepted to heaven after death.
- In Victorian society mentioning sex or sexuality was forbidden. This divide, the idea that something, which was occurring, could not be spoken about in a rational way, was something that Stevenson was very aware of and something that inhabits J&H.
- **Stevenson often rebelled against his parents' wishes and was aware of two personalities within him 'myself and the other fellow' he called them.**

J&H takes much of Stevenson's personal life and adjusts it to ask the question – what if the evil side won out?

## THE NOVEL

- **The book was dismissed as a 'shilling shocker', a cheap, quickly produced story of low quality that is consumed by the masses just for entertainment.**
- Published in 1886, and it came to him in a dream when he was very ill.
- Some of the key ideas in the novel, the nature of dreams revealing truths, of the subconscious and the idea of drugs of powders releasing something within men are all played out in Stevenson's own life.
- **The book cost him his reputation, at the time, as a 'serious' writer.**
- In J&H, Hyde is physically deformed or somehow terrible to look at. This would link quite well to the Victorian notion that deformity or disfigurement somehow meant a person was evil, that their inner deformity was visible. But anyone can have a secret self, buried deep within them, and this idea is what would have been so unsettling to the Victorian reader.

## THE SETTING

- *The Strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* is set in the London of the late Victorian period – around the 1880s. However, in many other stories, the city of London comes alive becoming a character in itself.
- **London of the novel is actually closer to Stevenson's home city of Edinburgh, as it was divided into the Old town and the New town.** In the Old town there were dangerous characters all within walking distance of the respectable citizens of Edinburgh. While the action takes place in London, the story is really, at heart, from the winding alleyways and divided society of Edinburgh.

## THE CONTEXT

- **Class:** One of the most challenging things for the established upper classes was the influx of people viewed as lower classes. Rich people tended to live in the west and stories of the debauchery in places like the East End and Soho were both shocking and fascinating to them. Furthermore, J&H differs from traditional 'shilling shockers' as it was written about the sort of upper-class gentlemen who would read them.
- **Medical Discoveries:** Famous surgeons were experimenting and dissecting bodies to learn all they could about human anatomy. It was a common fear of discovering something shocking or creating something monstrous that would overpower and destroy us. In J&H, instead of this being a creation from the East End, it comes from within.
- **The Development of Psychoanalysis:** Stevenson was obsessed with dreams, their meanings, and their relation to our subconscious selves. Freud's theories cover the ideas of the subconscious and how the conscious self covers up desires and wishes.

In this context, J&H emerges to shock, fascinate, and hold up a mirror to the people who were reading it.

- Stevenson originally wanted 'Jekyll' to be pronounced like 'Jeekyll' so that 'Hyde and Jekyll' rhymed with hide and seek.
- Stevenson would have nightmares of eternal damnation as a child due to a nanny.
- His parents were often away on business, so his nanny was his main influence.
- He was drawn to the old town
- He started breaking away more and more from his parents
- Burk and Hare started murdering people to dissect them

# THE CHARACTERS

## Dr Henry Jekyll

**Name:** "Je", if translated from French, means "I", and "Kyll", when pronounced, sounds like "kill". This may allude to his attempts to kill the evil in him later on in the novella. The idea of this portmanteau word, which combines the two languages of French and English, also links to the theme of duality in the novella.

- **Upper-class:** He is a well-respected scientist, who is famous for his intellect, his gentlemanly qualities, and his dinner parties. At these parties, we learn, there are usually men 'all intelligent and reputable' and also, all 'judges of good wine'. Jekyll, then, is a member of the upper classes who is liked by his peers and used to the finer things in life.
- **Charitable and social:** Jekyll is a 'charitable man', and a sociable man compared to Utterson and Enfield. He holds dinner parties, and he is well-known in the community for his reputable character. He behaves in a socially acceptable way, and he is very aware of how other people see him, especially amongst the upper class. He is described as carrying 'his head high' in public and he seeks approval from others.
- **Appearance:** Jekyll is a man of fifty who is 'large, well-made, smooth-faced... [with] every mark of capacity and kindnesses.' Stevenson, in his first presentation of Jekyll is sure to present him as a character for whom we have positive feelings.
- **Gentleman:** He was 'inclined by nature to industry, fond of the respect of the wise and good among my fellow-man, and thus, as might have been supposed, with every guarantee of an honourable and distinguished future.' Jekyll is the perfect Victorian gentleman.
- **Reputation:** Jekyll has always put on an excessively respectable front – he shows 'a more than commonly grave countenance before the public.' He worries about his hidden desires and thinks they are far worse than they are because he is obsessed with appearing respectable. This obsession leads to the creation of Hyde, and it is further displayed through the great length of the final chapter, where Stevenson may be lengthening the narrative in order to reflect Jekyll's self and reputation-obsessed trait. Furthermore, Jekyll's excessive sense of guilt for what he sees as his 'faults' may be a criticism of the pressures Victorian society placed on people to appear respectable.
- **Guilt and shame:** His hidden desires make him feel very guilty, so he creates a 'deeper trench' than most people between his good side and bad side. He hides his desires with an 'almost morbid sense of shame.'
- **Duplicity:** As a result, Jekyll finds himself committed to a 'profound duplicity of life', which is why making a potion to split his two sides appeals to him. This is also a criticism of Victorian society, which forces people to live disloyal and have a façade. 'Duplicity' means to be disloyal, or to be unfaithful- so this implies that Jekyll is disloyal to the Christian upper-class community he lives in.
- **Ambitious man of science:** Jekyll's experiments in 'transcendental medicine' show that he's a brilliant scientist. However, his research is controversial – he's lost the respect of Dr Lanyon because of his 'unscientific balderdash'. This contradicts his obsession to seem respectable because as a result of his experimenting, Lanyon doesn't respect him, suggesting that Jekyll is a 'mad scientist' and has lost his mind.

Jekyll's 'fanciful' work is not seen as respectable because it crosses the boundary from the rational science of the material world that Lanyon deals with, into the supernatural and the mystical.

Scientific discoveries in the 1800s sometimes challenged religious beliefs. Jekyll uses science to challenge the religious belief that people should try to lead a life free of sin.

By splitting his two sides, Jekyll wants to rid himself of 'the curse of mankind' – the curse that man's good and bad sides are bound together. He's motivated by ambition and a selfish desire to be 'relieved of all that was unbearable' – a guilty conscience. Jekyll is so desperate to separate his two sides that he willingly 'risked death' by drinking the potion he creates.

## Grade 9 Ideas

- ❖ **The John Hunter House:** Jekyll's house is described extremely similar to John Hunter's house, with both having a back door, dissecting rooms and lecture theatres. John Hunter was a very famous scientist, but his discoveries were enabled by illegal grave robbery. Through the symmetry of the house, Stevenson may be suggesting that Jekyll is a future John Hunter, perhaps implying that the Victorian strict Christian society should bend more towards science.
- ❖ **Jekyll prefers Hyde:**
  - Jekyll says how he 'came to myself as if out of a great sickness' implying that Hyde is a cure because in this quote Hyde is 'myself'. Hyde, the pleasure seeker, is in Jekyll's more natural state, while Jekyll, the product of society, is a kind of 'sickness', demonstrating the idea that Hyde may be the better version. Jekyll also points out that his new identity is 'natural and human' contradicting the perspective which others hold, which is that he is 'inhuman' and animalistic. Here, through Jekyll, Stevenson is criticising everyone in the novel and presenting Jekyll as a hero who unleashed his natural side. This, of course, would make the Victorian reader appalled and horrified as Hyde does not fear hell or the consequences of his sins, so he is free to do anything he wants.
  - Jekyll is also described as being 'elderly and discontented', contrasted with how he felt 'younger' and 'happier in body' when he was Hyde. He does not describe Hyde as 'evil', only when in front of other does he do this as he wants to maintain the Christian reputation. Through this, Stevenson may be criticising the Christian society, and as the majority of the current readers would have been Christian, he does this very subtly. Hyde also writes 'blasphemies' in Jekyll's book, which are messages against God, so through this Hyde is attacking Jekyll's Christian faith.
  - In addition, Jekyll can't list a single sin. He talks about Hyde performing 'any degree of torture to another', but he is unable to actually give any examples of this. Moreover, Jekyll's name, consisting of 'Je' (French word for I) and 'Kyll' (sounding as 'kill') suggests that Jekyll is the real murderer. Jekyll may also be seen to kill Lanyon out of revenge (as Lanyon calls Jekyll's work 'unscientific balderdash') because Hyde actually gives Lanyon the option to stay or go.
  - After Hyde kills Carew, Jekyll is still in control of him; it is when Jekyll decides to indulge in one of his pleasures in his 'own person' is when he loses control. This idea suggests that once he owns his pleasures and accepts himself, Hyde takes over because Hyde does not feel guilty about these pleasures, whereas Jekyll does.
  - Jekyll's writing of the will at the beginning of the novel may illustrate that even before his loss of control, Jekyll has decided to let Hyde win eventually. He wants Hyde to 'step into the said Henry Jekyll's shoes without further delay', suggesting that he wants to lose the personality of Jekyll and to become Hyde.

After writing Jekyll and Hyde, Stevenson actually decides to leave England forever and travel to Samoa. He rejected the kind of society that Jekyll lived in, and the country he chooses reflects how much he wants to push himself away from European ways. This implies that Stevenson prefers the idea of a Hyde rather than Jekyll. Another idea is that Stevenson left because, despite the wealth that the novel brought him, he did not feel as if the readers got the correct message.

## Mr Gabriel John Utterson

**Name:** 'Gabriel' is most commonly associated with angel Gabriel, God's right-hand man and the most powerful figure of good and moral. This is very ironic because Utterson is only good on the outside, and some may argue that Stevenson is calling him Gabriel because he is questioning the values of Christianity, suggesting that no one can be all good, everyone has that hint of duality within them.

- **Rational and Serious:** Utterson is introduced in the opening lines of the novella as a reserved, cold and dull character who drinks alone and doesn't engage in gossip of any kind. He's a lover of the "sane and customary sides of life" (2) which means that he does not like to engage with emotions or sentimental ideas - especially the ideas of transcendental medicine. He hears about a man trampling on a young girl and takes initiative to investigate. He is an extremely rational character, and he is cautiously curious about Jekyll's actions. But when he explores the possibility of supernatural occurrences, he denies all possibility.
- **Brave and Loyal:** He investigates the mystery of Hyde and he treats the mystery like a murder case. "I shall consider it my duty to break in that door" (8).
- **Manhood is Naturally Dual Natured:** In the opening of the novel he is described as 'a man of a rugged countenance', where the adjective rugged is a typical masculine description, and he is also said to be 'backward in sentiment' again showing that he does not often express emotions, portraying him as a more masculine figure. The opening also shows that to be a man he must be 'austere' with himself and perhaps refrain from enjoying the pleasure of life. Utterson rarely smiles and is described as "cold" and "dreary" - Stevenson is possibly criticising how Victorian men were expected to repress their emotions and their sentiments to appeal to society's expectations of gender roles.
- **Gentleman and Reputable:** Victorian gentlemen were expected to be very concerned for their reputation. They were expected to detach themselves from and not engage in gossip, pleasure, or hedonism. Utterson is described as "austere" and he is strict with himself. In the opening pages of the book, he is described as drinking gin to "mortify a taste for vintages", which means that he drinks alone, in private to try and put himself off the pleasure of drinking itself. In the opening, Utterson is described with oxymorons and a series of adjectives that depict him as being a cold character, with a hint of "loveable" elements hidden behind his stern exterior: "Mr Utterson the lawyer was a man of a rugged countenance, that was never lighted by a smile; cold, scanty and embarrassed in discourse; backward in sentiment; lean, long, dusty, dreary, and yet somehow lovable". This shows how he represses his emotions, and he is the model of Victorian restraint and repression.
- **As the Narrator:** Stevenson presents Mr Utterson very carefully in the opening pages of the novel for a number of reasons. Firstly, much of the action is seen through Utterson's eyes and because its subject matter is quite unbelievable, it's crucial that Stevenson make him as believable as possible. To do this he presents him first and foremost as a lawyer, a man who is professional and used to strange and peculiar cases. He is 'lovable' and this encourages a positive response to Utterson from the reader, having established that he's serious and not prone to any extremes of personality he then goes on to embellish or decorate his character with positive traits. He needs to be a serious man so that we can believe his version of events, regardless of how shocking or strange they are. He also needs to be trustworthy but not interesting in himself so that he doesn't distract too much from the other characters of the story. The introductory passage also reveals certain cracks in his rigid, civilised façade – cracks that make Utterson an ideal person to pursue the bizarre case of J&H. Because we see the novel through Utterson's eyes, Stevenson cannot allow Utterson to be too unimaginative – otherwise the novel's eerie mood would suffer. Correspondingly, Stevenson attributes nightmares to Utterson and grants him ominous premonitions as he moves through the city at night – neither seen to suit a lawyer's normally reasonable personality.
- **Reputation:** Utterson is more concerned with preserving Jekyll's reputation than bringing Hyde to trial. After Carew has been murdered, he says to Jekyll "if it came to trial, your name might appear". Utterson is also wary of gossip, and he tries to avoid talking about Hyde to anyone else. The gentlemanly ideal of repressing one's innermost thoughts causes Utterson to suffer from nightmares. This suggests Stevenson's message is that reputations are only based on appearances. Reputations are not always genuine versions of people - they are just the façades that people try to uphold and show to society.



- **Hypocrisy:** Utterson wonders ‘almost with envy, at the high pressure of spirits involved in their misdeeds’, meaning that he is almost jealous of the pleasure that others gain from committing crimes. This hints at his hypocrisy because he actually wants to be committing the same misdeeds as his friends, but he holds himself back because he fears giving into evil and sin, he still wants to be a good man even though he naturally isn’t. If Utterson represents all gentlemen, Stevenson is implying that all gentlemen repress their emotions like this, causing them to be hypocritical.

### *Grade 9 Ideas*

- ❖ Utterson represents the perfect Victorian gentleman. He consistently seeks to preserve order and decorum, does not gossip, and guards his friends’ reputations as though they were his own. Even when he suspects his friend Jekyll of criminal activities such as blackmail or the sheltering of a murderer, he prefers to sweep what he has learned – or what he thinks he has learned – under the rug rather than bring ruin upon his good friend. This is why many people like him because he hides other’s misdeeds. He also realises that Jekyll forged a letter but does not tell the police; as a lawyer, this is an incredibly immoral act, causing the reader to believe that he does this because he is attracted to Hyde’s evil.

- **"Pure evil":** Hyde is "pure evil". Jekyll seems to be a mixture of good and evil. Hyde is Jekyll's dark side, released from the bonds of conscience and loosed into the world by a mysterious potion. He seems to be violent for the sake of it, and he enjoys violence. The murder of Carew in Chapter 4 is a senseless attack which he takes "delight" in as he attacks the poor man with a cane. His enjoyment and psychopathic tendencies are what shock the reader most.
- **Inhumane:** His appearance leaves "an imprint of deformity and decay". Hyde is clearly not the average human, and he creates a menacing and threatening atmosphere. atavism was a scientific theory that there were born criminals that looked a certain way, and that the shape of their skull and other features determined whether they were good or bad. Hyde is one of these born criminals and the Victorian reader can relate his 'deformity' to this scientific theory. Stevenson could be trying to suggest through the character of Hyde that our subconscious is more primal and closer to nature than our conscious selves are – this recalls Freud's work.
- **Animalistic:** He is a strange, repugnant man who looks faintly pre-human, and everyone who sees him describes him as ugly and deformed. No one can say exactly why though. He moves like an animal rather than a human, and his laugh and mannerisms are evil: "The other snarled aloud into a savage laugh; and the next moment, with extraordinary quickness, he had unlocked the door and disappeared into the house." He is more savage than he is civilised. His movements are also described with sibilance and he is described to be 'hissing' presenting connotations of a snake, which emphasises his animalistic nature. Snakes often attack their prey in unexpected, quick hits, reflecting Hyde's murder of Sir Danvers Carew in Chapter 4. This image of Hyde as a snake also links with Satan in the form of a snake at the Fall of man, suggesting that Hyde represents all that is evil in Christian beliefs – also shown when Hyde tempts Lanyon to stay and watch the horrid transformation by appealing to his curiosity. Furthermore, he is presented as not fully formed (he walks with a limp, appears young and is short) which could represent that the evil or dark side of Jekyll was when he was a younger man, or it could also mean that he is not yet fully formed in his evil ways. Just like a new-born animal takes time to adjust to the world, the new-born Hyde is getting used to his surroundings.
- **Reactions:** Language itself seems to fail around Hyde: he is not a being who belongs to the rational world. He is often described as a creature: "There was something abnormal and misbegotten in the very essence of the creature". Utterson, Enfield and Poole are all horrified by his physical features, although Stevenson does not explicitly describe his exterior in detail. The context of Darwinism allows the reader to infer that he is a creature of reversed evolution: "He is not easy to describe. There is something wrong with his appearance". This statement from Enfield also highlights that he is 'pure evil' because evil is something that people can sense but not describe.

### Atavism

This was the idea that, if all humans had evolved from primitive forms, then we could potentially return to this basic state, behave like immoral animals, and succumb to primitive urges. Atavistic behaviour was therefore associated with transgressions, as it represented criminality such as violence and murder which shattered the class-conditioned moral framework governing Victorian standards of behaviour.

## Themes in Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde

- **Women and femininity** – Women are totally excluded as main characters and it paints a negative portrayal of women (however, this may be to show the hypocrisy of men). The maid is undermined by the description of her joy of telling everyone about the brutal murder – this is a way that Stevenson is making fun of female, and accusing them of delighting in violence. He does this by exaggerating the event of the murder. The maid also is said to have ‘fainted’ to make fun of the fragile and dependent women. Stevenson is mocking the maid’s description as she describes Hyde to be both ‘trampling’ and the body to be ‘jumping’. Stevenson also portrays the women of Soho really badly, saying that they have ‘a morning glass’, presenting them as alcoholics – **misogynistic**. Hyde’s housekeeper has ‘an evil face, smoothed by hypocrisy; but her manners were excellent’. This shows that women are just as hypocritical as men, only, their hypocrisy can be seen on their face.
- **Christianity** – Stevenson mocks the Victorian Christian society and the absurd concepts of heaven and hell by overexaggerating Hyde’s evil as ‘the slime of the pit’. He does this to point out that he does not believe in hell and eternal punishment, yet to appeal to the reader’s Christian beliefs. He does this to show that Christianity is also an over exaggeration and is not what life is really like – Stevenson sides more with science perhaps.
- **Appearances** – ‘none the less natural to be because they were the expression, and bore the stamp, of lower elements in my soul’ This shows that Jekyll is just as evil as Hyde, it is just the appearance that they differ in. Stevenson refuses to tell us what Hyde looks like to illustrate how it is absurd to know what someone is like based on appearances. Jekyll is presented as a very ‘handsome’ man in order to send the message that you cannot tell the goodness of a person based on their appearance. This links with Stevenson’s ideas of Christianity, suggesting that the appearance of the novella does not tell its message of objecting towards Christianity.
- **Jekyll’s and Hyde’s house** – The house ‘wore a great air of wealth and comfort, though it was now plunged in darkness’ Stevenson personifies the house so that he realises the duality of Jekyll who appears ‘handsome’ but is ‘plunged in darkness’ in reality. ‘for even in the houses the fog began to lie thickly; and there, close up to the warmth, sat Dr Jekyll, looking deadly sick.’ As Jekyll becomes eviller, the fog comes inside the house. Hyde’s house is ‘thrust’ forward – it is violent – and it ‘bore the marks of prolonged and sordid negligence’ showing that the further you repress your inner evil, your ‘negligence’ will make your appearance evil.
- **Duality** – When Jekyll first turns into Hyde without the drug, he describes it as ‘the animal within me licking the chops of my memory’ illustrating that he does not believe that Hyde is a monster, but a part of every person – Darwinism. He describes good and evil as ‘polar twins’ where the word ‘twins’ suggests that we should not try to separate ourselves from our bad sides and instead understand it. Stevenson also refuses to state what Hyde does in his own time, suggesting that he does not actually do anything evil at all – he is just incorrectly seen as evil. Stevenson does this deliberately to question society and the judgemental Victorians. The murder of Sir Danvers Carew may be the fault of Jekyll because he locks and cages Hyde up. Jekyll describes Hyde as an ‘innocent freedom of the soul’, suggesting that it is the Victorian decorum that taints Hyde and makes him evil.
- **Repression and Homosexuality** – The tragedy is that Jekyll cannot give in to his normal homosexual persona due to Victorian society. Enfield’s reference to ‘Queer Street’ when talking about the cheque is a direct suggestion to homosexuality and implies that Enfield suspects that Hyde is in a homosexual relationship with Jekyll. Later on, Utterson also dreams of a sexual event between Hyde and Jekyll, but it is his repression that makes him unable to admit this. Furthermore, all of the characters in the novella are all unmarried, suggesting the possibility of homosexuality. ‘must rise and do its bidding’ is also a euphemism to sexual activity that Stevenson uses to make the theme of homosexuality subtle to the reader who may frown upon it.