

# Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde Y10 HT3

## Plot

1 The Story of the Door	Passing a strange-looking door whilst out for a walk, Enfield tells Utterson about an incident involving a man (Hyde) trampling on a young girl. The man paid the girl compensation. Enfield says the man had a key to the door (which leads to Dr Jekyll's laboratory).
2 Search for Hyde	Utterson looks at Dr Jekyll's will and discovers that he has left his possessions to Mr Hyde in the event of his disappearance. Utterson watches the door and sees Hyde unlock it, then goes to warn Jekyll. Jekyll isn't in, but Poole tells him that the servants have been told to obey Hyde.
3 Dr Jekyll was Quite at Ease	Two weeks later, Utterson goes to a dinner party at Jekyll's house and tells him about his concerns. Jekyll laughs off his worries.
4 The Carew Murder Case	Nearly a year later, an elderly gentleman is murdered in the street by Hyde. A letter to Utterson is found on the body. Utterson recognises the murder weapon has a broken walking cane of Jekyll's. He takes the police to Jekyll's house to find Hyde, but is told he hasn't been there for two months. They find the other half of the cane and signs of a quick exit.
5 Incident of the Letter	Utterson goes to Jekyll's house and finds him 'looking deadly sick'. He asks about Hyde but Jekyll shows him a letter that says he won't be back. Utterson and Mr Guest believe that the letter has been forged by Jekyll to cover for Hyde.
6 Remarkable Incident of Dr Lanyon	Hyde has disappeared and Jekyll seems more happy and sociable until a sudden depression strikes him. Utterson visits Dr Lanyon on his death-bed, who hints that Jekyll is the cause of his illness. Utterson writes to Jekyll and receives a reply that suggests he is has fallen 'under a dark influence'. Lanyon dies and leaves a note for Utterson to open after the death or disappearance of Jekyll. Utterson tries to revisit Jekyll but is told by Poole that he is living in isolation.
7 Incident at the Window	Utterson and Enfield are out for walk and pass Jekyll's window, where they see him confined like a prisoner. Utterson calls out and Jekyll's face has a look of 'abject terror and despair'. Shocked, Utterson and Enfield leave.
8 The Last Night	Poole visits Utterson and asks him to come to Jekyll's house. The door to the laboratory is locked and the voice inside sounds like Hyde. Poole says that the voice has been asking for days for a chemical to be brought, but has rejected it each time as it is not pure. They break down the door and find Hyde's twitching body with a vial in his hands. There is also a will which leaves everything to Utterson and a package containing Jekyll's confession and a letter asking Utterson to read Lanyon's letter.
9 Dr Lanyon's Narrative	The contents of Lanyon's letter tells of how he received a letter from Jekyll asking him to collect chemicals, a vial and notebook from Jekyll's laboratory and give it to a man who would call at midnight. A grotesque man arrives and drinks the potion which transforms him into Jekyll, causing Lanyon to fall ill from shock.
10 Henry Jekyll's Full Statement of the Case	Jekyll tells the story of how he turned into Hyde. It began as a scientific investigation into the duality of human nature and an attempt to destroy his 'darker self'. Eventually he became addicted to being Hyde, who increasingly took over and destroyed him.

## Characters

Dr Henry Jekyll	A doctor and experimental scientist who is both wealthy and respectable.
Mr Edward Hyde	A small, violent and unpleasant-looking man; an unrepentant criminal.
Gabriel Utterson	A calm and rational lawyer and friend of Jekyll.
Dr Hastie Lanyon	A conventional and respectable doctor and former friend of Jekyll.
Richard Enfield	A distant relative of Utterson and well-known man about town.
Poole	Jekyll's manservant.
Sir Danvers Carew	A distinguished gentlemen who is beaten to death by Hyde.
Mr Guest	Utterson's secretary and handwriting expert.

## Context

**Fin-de-siècle fears** – at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there were growing fears about: migration and the threats of disease; sexuality and promiscuity; moral degeneration and decadence.

**Victorian values** – from the 1850s to the turn of the century, British society outwardly displayed values of sexual restraint, low tolerance of crime, religious morality and a strict social code of conduct.

The implications of **Darwinism and evolution** haunted Victorian society. The idea that humans evolved from apes and amphibians led to worries about our lineage and about humanity's reversion to these primitive states.

**Physiognomy** – Italian criminologist Cesare Lombroso (1835-1909) theorised that the 'born criminal' could be recognised by physical characteristics, such as asymmetrical facial features, long arms or a sloping forehead.

**Phrenology** – The belief that the size and shape of the skull determines a person's attributes, intelligence and behaviours. For example, a certain skull shape can show whether you are honest, a good parent or how intelligent you are.

**Urban terror** – as London grew wealthy, so poverty in the city also grew. The overcrowded city became rife with crime. Examples include the Burke and Hare murders (1828) and Jack The Ripper (1888). The crowd as something that could hide sinister individuals became a trope of Gothic and detective literature.

**Robert Louis Stevenson** was born and raised in Edinburgh, giving him the dual identity of being both Scottish and British. Edinburgh was a city of two sides - he was raised in the wealthy New Town area, but spent his youth exploring the darker, more sinister side of town.

**Deacon Brodie** – a respectable member of Edinburgh's society and town councilor, William Brodie lead a secret life as a burglar, womaniser and gambler. He was hanged in 1788 for his crimes. As a youth, Stevenson wrote a play about him.

## Stretch yourself

- Research Freud's theory on the id, the ego and the superego. How could these apply to Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde?
- Research the 'Double Brain' theory. How could this be applied to Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, thinking about what happens in the text.

## Top Tips

- One question in the exam v- turn and find the correct page.
- Extract from the text given. You must use this AND other parts of the text.
- Highlight the key word in the question so that you know what to focus on.
- Integrate your knowledge – try to integrate quotes and integrate context so that it all fluently links.
- Spend 5 minutes planning your answer and 45 minutes answering the question.
- Remember to read through and check your work at the end.

## Assessment Objectives

**A01-** Demonstrate an understanding of the question and text, use quotations to evidence understanding.

**A02-** Carefully analyse the language used by the writer and comment on the intended effect on the reader. Ensure that you include subject terminology in your response. Comment where you can on structure/form.

**A03-** Show understanding of 19<sup>th</sup> century contextual information, in particular knowledge of Victorian London and the gothic genre. \*Note that context is only worth a small amount of marks.

## Themes

The duality of human nature – Man is a mix of both good and evil; it is up to you which part is the strongest. 

Science and the unexplained – The text shows how science can be dangerous if mishandled and abused. 

The supernatural – Hyde is seen as an almost supernatural and unnatural creature that doesn't belong in society. 

Reputation – Jekyll, Utterson and Lanyon are all focused on reputation. These all become fractured in the text. 

Urban terror – Hyde's spree of crime and violence shows how dangerous behavior disrupts society. 

Secrecy and silence – Jekyll keeps secrets throughout the text, betraying his own identity but also those around him (Utterson). 

Addiction – Jekyll becomes addicted to the darker side of himself (Hyde) and being able to behave without limits or rules. 