**‘Jekyll and Hyde’ – Knowledge Organiser**

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| **Context** | **Key Things to Remember** | |
| **Robert Louis Stevenson**   * RLS 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. * The descriptions of London in the novella are based on Edinburgh. London is described with areas of wealth and poverty.   **Victorian London**   * The population of 1 million in 1800 increased to 6.7 million in 1900, with huge numbers migrating from Europe. It became the biggest city in the world and a global capital for politics, finance and trade. The city grew wealthy. * As London grew wealthy, poverty in the city also grew. The overcrowded city became rife with crime. * Gothic and detective literature became more relevant. There were extreme areas of poor and rich within the city. * In the novella, Jekyll lives in an affluent area of London, whereas Hyde lives in Soho (poor area). When Mr Hyde is in the novel it is usually night time. * A high crime rate is shown when Hyde brutally kills Danvers Carew.   **Religion vs. science**   * Religious people believed that you should not go against God and what he created but then scientists such as Dr Jekyll manipulated DNA. * 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. * In the novella, Lanyon and Jekyll are no longer friends, as Lanyon does not agree with Jekyll’s scientific experiments. Lanyon calls Jekyll’s work “scientific balderdash”. * Mr Hyde behaves like an animal. He is described as one too- “ape like fury”. Ultimately, he cannot be controlled.   **Reputation and duality**   * Victorian Gentleman had to behave and act in a certain way in public in order to keep their reputation. They were expected to behave in a certain way and meant to only visit reputable establishments. * In the novella, Jekyll creates the persona of Hyde in order to do what he wants in society and to keep his reputation. Jekyll is the good side, whereas Hyde is the evil side.   **What it means to be a traditional Victorian Gentleman.**   * Victorian Gentleman were meant to show sexual restraint, low tolerance of crime, religious morality and a strict social code of conduct. * In the novella, Utterson and Lanyon are typical Victorian Gentlemen. Jekyll does not behave like a Victorian gentleman at all times. This is because he is able to do immoral and criminal acts as Hyde. | * The novella is set in London but Edinburgh influenced the setting of the novella. * Edward Hyde is not a separate personality living in the same body as Henry Jekyll. Hyde is just Jekyll, having transformed his body into something unrecognisable, acting on unspecified urges that would be unseemly for someone of his age and social standing in Victorian London. * When Lanyon witnesses the transformation, he sees Hyde transform into Jekyll. * A typical Victorian gentleman would tend to own their own land and have a generous income. They would be helpful, respectful, secretive (keeping themselves to themselves) and reputable. | |
| **Characters** | |
| Jekyll | A doctor and experimental scientist who is both wealthy and respectable. |
| Hyde | A small, violent and unpleasant-looking man; an unrepentant criminal. |
| Lanyon | A conventional and respectable doctor and former friend of Jekyll. |
| Utterson | A calm and rational lawyer and friend of Jekyll. |
| Poole | Jekyll’s manservant / butler. |
| Enfield | A cousin of Utterson and well-known man about town |
| Carew | A distinguished gentleman who is beaten to death by Hyde. |
| **Themes** | |
| **Duality** | Many contrasts in terms of setting, character and themes including: reality vs appearance, Jekyll and Hyde, light and dark, the good and evil side of someone, upper class London and Soho. |
| **Secrecy and Silence** | The novel's secrets come out in parts:  -[Enfield](http://www.litcharts.com/lit/dr-jekyll-and-mr-hyde/characters/mr-enfield) shares his story with [Utterson](http://www.litcharts.com/lit/dr-jekyll-and-mr-hyde/characters/mr-gabriel-utterson), but he is only persuaded to share [Hyde](http://www.litcharts.com/lit/dr-jekyll-and-mr-hyde/characters/mr-hyde)’s name at the end.  -When Utterson hears Hyde's name he does not reveal that he has heard it before, in Jekyll's will.  -From that point on, most of the story’s revelations are through a sequence of letter and documents, addressed, sealed and enclosed in safes, so that they need to be put together like a puzzle at the end. (The dependence on these sheets of paper for the unravelling of the mystery creates a sense of silence and isolation about each character.) |
| **Reputation** | Each man seems to be isolated from every other, and there is a sense that this masculine world has been hushed by the need to maintain social reputation. (Keep their secrets) The men in the novel avoid gossip. Through Mr. Hyde, Jekyll believes he can maintain his reputation while enjoying his darker urges. |
| **Religion** | Reference to Satan, God, religion & charity work. The men discuss various religious works. Mr Hyde’s evilness is shown as he defaces Dr.Jekyll’s favorite religious work. Mr. Hyde is often likened to Satan. |
| **Gothic** | The key features of the gothic genre are shown through the: setting e.g. the alleyway,character e.g. the antagonist of Hyde, the plot e.g. the vicious murder of Carew. |
| **Good vs. Evil** | Seen through the encounters that Hyde has with other characters, particularly with the murder Danvers Carew. It can also been seen with the differences between Hyde and Jekyll. |
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| **Plot** | **Terminology** | |
| * 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 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) * 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 / death. Utterson watches the door and sees Hyde unlock it, then goes to warn Jekyll. Jekyll isn’t in. Poole tells him the servants have been told to obey Hyde. * Dr. Jekyll was Quite at Ease: 2 weeks later, Utterson goes to a dinner party at Jekyll’s house and tells him about his concerns. Jekyll laughs off his worries. * 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 find Hyde, but are told he hasn’t been there for 2 months. They find the other half of the cane. * 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 believes the letter has been forged by Jekyll to cover for Hyde. * Remarkable Incident of Dr. Lanyon: Hyde has disappeared. Jekyll seems happier and more sociable until a sudden depression strikes him. Utterson visits 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 & leaves a note for Utterson to open after the death or disappearance of Jekyll. Utterson tries to visit Jekyll but is told (by Poole) that he’s living in isolation. * 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. * 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 a twitching body with a vial in its 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. * 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. * 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. | Narrative Perspective | Who is narrating the plot or events of a story. |
| Pathetic fallacy | Using the elements of weather to predict events or show emotion. |
| Antithesis | The direct opposite of something. |
| Motif | A narrative element with symbolic meaning that repeats throughout a work of literature. Motifs may come in the form of reoccurring imagery, language, structure, or contrasts. |
| Zoomorphism | Giving animal-like qualities to anything that is not that animal such as humans, gods and inanimate objects. |
| **Key Vocabulary** | |
| Countenance | A person’s face or facial expressions. |
| Juggernaut | A huge, powerful and overwhelming force. |
| Duality | 1. The quality or condition of being dual. 2. An instance of opposition or contrast between two concepts or two aspects of something |
| Evolution | The process by which different kinds of living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth. |
| Husky | 1. Sounding low pitched and slightly hoarse. 2. (of a person) big and strong. |
| Hoarse | (of a person's voice) sounding rough and harsh, typically as the result of a sore throat or of shouting. |
| Morality | Principles concerning the distinction between right and wrong or good and bad behaviour. |
| Troglodytic | A person characterised by reclusive habits or outmoded or reactionary attitudes. |
| Phial | A small cylindrical glass bottle, typically used for medical samples or for potions or medicines. |
| Apothecary | A person who prepared and sold medicines and drugs. |
| Baize | A coarse, typically green woollen material resembling felt, used for covering billiard and card tables. |
| Balderdash | Senseless talk or writing; nonsense. |
| Façade | A deceptive outward appearance. |
| Austere | 1. Severe or strict in manner or attitude. 2. (of living conditions or a way of life) having no comforts or luxuries. |