

YOUR **4-Step** CHECK-UP ON **DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE**

Step 1 PLOT AND CHARACTERS

Where are you in your *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* studies? Start by answering these quiz-style questions to check your knowledge of the plot and characters.

1. What is Utterson's profession?
2. What sum of money did Enfield get as compensation from the man who 'trampled' on the child?
3. How does Enfield think the man got the money?
4. Who benefits from Dr Jekyll's will if he dies?
5. What room did Hyde enter Jekyll's house through?
6. Who did Hyde attack in the street and beat to death with his stick?
7. Who witnessed the events?
8. What does Mr Guest, the clerk, notice about the letter from Hyde and Jekyll's written invitation?
9. How had Dr Lanyon changed when Utterson finally got to see him?
10. Who do Utterson and Enfield see at the window of the house on the corner?
11. What was the contents of the note Poole took to Maw's the Chemists?
12. Whose body do Poole and Utterson find when they smash down the door of the 'cabinet'?
13. How did this person die?
14. What task had Jekyll asked Dr Lanyon to do on his behalf (as revealed in the letter)?
15. In Dr Lanyon's letter, what does he say he witnessed in the house at Cavendish Square?
16. What is Lanyon's reaction to what he sees?
17. According to Jekyll's statement, found after his death, how rich was Jekyll when he was born?
18. What was Jekyll's initial reason for his experiments into creating the drug he used?
19. What did Jekyll worry was happening to him?
20. What was Jekyll worried would happen to his confession if he became Hyde while writing it?

Step 2 LANGUAGE AND THEMES

How much do you know about the language and themes of the novel?

- Here are **five quotations** from the story. Can you identify **who** is being described?
 - a man of a rugged countenance [...] lean, long, dusty, dreary and yet somehow lovable.* (Chapter One)
 - 'a sort of murderous mixture of timidity and boldness, and he spoke with a husky, whispering and somewhat broken voice...'* (Chapter Two)
 - 'There was no man from whom he [Utterson] kept fewer secrets...'* (Chapter Five)
 - 'He had his death-warrant written legibly upon his face.'* (Chapter Six)
 - 'I was the common quarry of mankind, hunted, houseless, a known murderer, thrall to the gallows.'* (Chapter Ten)
- Read these **further quotations**. What **theme(s)** do you think they are linked to, or explore, e.g. Science? Good and evil? Why?
 - Describing Jekyll:** *'you could see by his looks that he cherished for Mr Utterson a sincere and warm affection.'* (Chapter Three)
 - Description of Soho:** *'this mournful reinvasion of darkness, seemed, in the lawyer's eyes, like a district of some city in a nightmare.'* (Chapter Four)
 - Hyde to Lanyon:** *'you, who been so long bound to the most narrow and material views...'* (Chapter Nine)
 - Dr Jekyll writing:** *'my evil, kept awake by ambition, was alert and swift to seize the occasion...'* (Chapter Ten)
 - Dr Jekyll writing:** *'I have been doomed to a dreadful shipwreck: that man is not truly one, but truly two.'* (Chapter Ten)

Step 3 WRITING SKILLS

A student has drafted this paragraph about the character of Mr Hyde.

Stevenson presents Hyde as , as if he is more like an animal or creature than a person. When Utterson challenges him by the door, Stevenson describes how Hyde shrank back with a hissing intake of breath. It is as if he is some sort of snake-like fiend. However, what is perhaps surprising is that Hyde is not huge and powerful, but

- Copy out the paragraph and add in the **missing detail** in the **first sentence**
- Put **quotation marks** around the quotation the student uses
- Finish** the paragraph, completing the **last sentence**

Step 4 CLOSE ANALYSIS

This scene comes from Chapter Three: *Dr Jekyll was Quite at Ease*. Utterson is telling Dr Jekyll that he has learnt some new information about Mr Hyde.

“Well, I tell you so again,” continued the lawyer.

“I have been learning something of young Hyde.”

The large handsome face of Dr Jekyll grew pale to the very lips, and there came a blackness about his eyes. “I do not care to hear more,” said he. “This is a matter I thought we had agreed to drop.”

“What I heard was **abominable**,” said Utterson.

“It can make no change. You do not understand my position,” returned the doctor, with a certain **incoherency** of manner. “I am painfully situated, Utterson; my position is a very strange – a very strange one. It is one of those affairs that cannot be mended by talking.”

“Jekyll,” said Utterson, “you know me: I am a man to be trusted. Make a clean breast of this in confidence; and I make no doubt I can get you out of it.”

“My good Utterson,” said the doctor, “this is very good of you, this is downright good of you, and I cannot find words to thank you in. I believe you fully; I would trust you before any man alive, ay, before myself, if I could make the choice; but indeed it isn’t what you **fancy**; it is not as bad as that; and just to put your good heart at rest, I will tell you one thing: the moment I choose, I can be rid of Mr Hyde”.

Why is this episode important? Write one to two paragraphs (between 75 and 100 words) about:

- What it tells us about the characters or relationships at this point
- Any themes or ideas which are suggested
- How the extract could link with other scenes or moments in the novel



Glossary

abominable:
hateful and causing revulsion

incoherency:
confusion, lack of clarity

fancy: imagine

Well done for completing your 4-Step Check-Up on *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*!

You’ll find lots of help with studying and revising the novel, including revision cards and practice tests, on our website www.yorknotes.com