

AQA English Literature GCSE

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Quote Bank



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Jekyll	"he was now no less distinguished for religion"	This shows his difficult relationship with religion. He has previously studied religious texts but appears here to have rejected it.
	"had fallen upon his knees and lifted his clasped hands to God"	He has turned to God for redemption after realising his mistakes.
	"A fortnight later, by excellent good fortune, the doctor gave one of his pleasant dinners to some five or six old cronies, all intelligent, reputable men and all judges of good wine"	He is sociable and well respected.
	"charitable man"	He has an image of a generous person.
	"I concealed my pleasures"	He suppressed his sinful side in order to gain social respect.
	"He came out of his seclusion"	After indulging in Hyde, Jekyll attempts to re-assimilate into society.
	"My devil had long been caged, he came out roaring."	Jekyll's inner "devil" is a manifestation of his deeper desires. The connotations of "devil" also suggest that Jekyll's desires are in direct opposition to contemporary Christian ideology.
	He was conscious of his "more furious propensity to ill"	"propensity to ill" implies a now natural inclination towards immorality.
	"the hand that lay on my knee was corded and hairy"	The hand, a symbol of respectability and honour, is invaded by free-flowing hair insinuating ideas of an unrestrained and uncontrolled freedom.
	"I felt younger, lighter, happier in body"	Stevenson uses triadic structure to show how burdensome the restraints of society are on Jekyll.
	An overdose might "blot out that immaterial tabernacle which I looked to change"	"immaterial tabernacle" is lexis from the semantic field of religion so shows that in Jekyll's experiments he is encroaching on God's territory.
	"I was no more myself when I laid aside restraint and plunged in shame"	He has failed in splitting his good and bad and has instead allowed the evil in him to thrive.
	"man is not truly one but truly two"	He believes that the human psyche can be split.
	"I was driven to reflect deeply and inveterately on that hard law of life which lies at the root of religion"	Alliteration is used and refers to the common concept of guilt, conscience and sin. Jekyll attempts to isolate the moral and immoral to undercut the "root of religion".
	"Late one accursed night, I compounded the elements, watched them boil...with a strong glow of courage, drank off the potion"	"Late one accursed night" creates darkness, adding gravitas to the scene. "Strong glow of courage" suggests Jekyll to be erratic as well as showing that he was aware of the risks he was taking.
"Had I approached my discovery in a more noble spirit...I had come forth an angel instead of a fiend"	He was intending to extract the good in his character, not the bad.	

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<i>"I bring the life of that unhappy Henry Jekyll to an end"</i>	The novella ends on a sad note, creating sympathy for Jekyll.
<i>"This is the last time...that Henry Jekyll can think his own thoughts"</i>	He eventually permanently loses control over himself.
<i>"Smooth-faced man of fifty"</i>	His external appearance doesn't reflect his internal truth.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Hyde	<i>He conveys a "strong feeling of deformity"</i>	Through physiognomy, his appearance would convict him as a criminal.
	<i>"ape-like"</i>	Gives him animalistic qualities.
	<i>"with a flush of anger"</i>	Shows his volatile personality.
	<i>He leaves Carew's body "incredibly mangled"</i>	This shows the intentionality behind his acts of violence.
	<i>"Shrank back with a hissing intake of the breath"</i>	
	<i>"The creature"</i>	
	<i>"Seizing, surprising and revolting"</i>	
	<i>"Into a savage laugh"</i>	He is characterised as animalistic.
	<i>"Damned Juggernaut"</i>	Means a hugely overwhelming destructive force.
	<i>"A man who was without bowels of mercy"</i>	Alliterative "w" shows how difficult it is to articulate Hyde as a character as he is a being who lacks all conventional morals.
	<i>"So ugly that it brought out the sweat on me like running"</i>	Hyde is a physical manifestation of evil who evokes disgust in all simply by sight.
	<i>"His every act and thought centered on self"</i>	He is selfish so this further aligns him with animals rather than humanity.
	<i>"Drinking pleasure with bestial avidity from any degree of torture to another; relentless like a man of stone"</i>	The hedonistic connotations of excessive drinking further cause the reader to dislike Hyde for his self-indulgence.
	<i>"He had borne himself to the lawyer with a sort of murderous mixture of timidity and boldness"</i>	Stevenson's use of antithesis highlights the internal conflict present in him, providing depth to his character. The use of alliteration could imply that violence is an intrinsic behaviour.
	<i>"He is not easy to describe. There is something wrong with his appearance; something displeasing, something downright detestable. I never saw a man I so disliked, and yet I scarce know why. He must be deformed somewhere, he gives a strong feeling of deformity"</i>	Hyde is vague in nature and unable to be defined in words, this evokes fear in other characters and the reader. Stevenson's use of ambiguity forces the reader to imagine their worst fears in Hyde. Alliterative "d" reinforces a sense of repulsion; anaphoric repetition of "something" creates an air of intangibility.
<i>"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"</i>	"savage" and "snarled" gives a sense of unrestrained and uncontrollable destruction, and freedom: Hyde is a degenerate. Sibilance reinforces his underlying sinisterness. "extraordinary	



		quickness" highlights Hyde's supernatural force.
	"There was something abnormal and misbegotten in the very essence of the creature"	"Abnormal" differentiates Hyde from all other beings. In his reference to the "very essence", Stevenson is commenting on the true evil personality of Mr Hyde. This could also imply that Mr Hyde is the true essence of Dr Jekyll.
	"That masked thing like a monkey jumped from among the chemicals"	By mentioning the "chemicals" from which he has been created, Hyde is separated from the rest of the characters.
	"In the ranks of mankind was pure evil"	Implies that Hyde has somehow infiltrated civil society.
	"It wasn't like a man"	Shows that he is inhuman.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Utterson	"the clock of the neighbouring church rang out the hour of twelve, when he would go soberly and gratefully to bed"	Religion has a subtle but rigid influence on his life.
	Dr Jekyll- "you could see by his looks that he cherished for Mr. Utterson a sincere and warm affection"	This shows that Utterson is trustworthy and loyal.
	"A rugged countenance that was never lighted by a smile"	He is reserved and seemingly unaffected by emotion.
	"If he be Mr Hyde...I shall be Mr Seek"	Shows his innate curiosity which propels the plot forwards. It also emphasises the theme of opposites throughout the novel.
	"The last good influence in the lives of down-going men"	He is a man of significant morals as he is the last role model for criminals.
	"I shall consider it my duty to break in that door"	He is investigative, reasoned and rational but feels duty-bound to protect his friend.
	"professional honour and faith to his dead friend were stringent obligations; and the packet slept in the inmost corner of his private safe"	Friendship is valued over curiosity. This makes Utterson an even more reliable narrator.
	"The lawyer put it in his pocket. 'I would say nothing of this paper. If your master has fled or is dead, we may at least save his credit'"	Utterson has a strong bond with Jekyll also on a professional basis.
	"They have only differed on some points of science"	Science doesn't interest Mr Utterson so he has no conflict of interest in his investigation.
	"Besieged by questions"	Warlike imagery shows the extent of Utterson's curiosity.
	"Hyde sat heavy on his memory"	Alliteration is used to show the physical impact of Utterson's insatiable curiosity in this metaphor.



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Enfield	"I was coming home from some place at the end of the world, about three o'clock of a black winter morning"	Shows that he may not be as morally strict as he presents. This links to the theme of duality.
	"a girl of maybe eight or ten who was running as hard as she was able down a cross street"	He is passive, yet observant.
	"I make it a rule of mine: the more it looks like Queer street, the less I ask."	Whilst his self imposed rule may initially seem admirable, it also shows that if Utterson did not defy societal expectations by investigating, Jekyll would have been totally isolated. Enfield acts as a foil to Utterson here.
	"I am ashamed of my long tongue. Let us make a bargain never to refer to this again"	The metonymy "long tongue" shows that he feels comfortable using informal language around Mr Utterson, demonstrating their familiarity. It also shows his hypocrisy as he previously says that he doesn't gossip.
	"But Mr Enfield only nodded his head very seriously, and walked on once more in silence."	His silence highlights his inaction, highlighting Utterson's admirable traits.
	"We told the man we could and would make such a scandal out of this"	Shows Enfield's cruel streak.
	"I took the liberty of pointing out to my gentleman that the whole business looked apocryphal"	Enfield shows common sense here. Mr Hyde's actions are completely illogical and Enfield sees this.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Lanyon	"Welcomed him with both hands"	He is kind, respectful and warm.
	"Jekyll became too fanciful for me"	He is traditional and remains rooted in traditional science, highlighting the absurdities in Jekyll's experimentation. This allows him to act as a foil to Jekyll. Fricatives create a harsh tone in his rejection of Jekyll.
	"conscious at his touch of a certain icy pang along my blood"	Even Lanyon who symbolises rationality is shaken by his encounter with Hyde.
	"I wish to see or hear no more of Dr Jekyll"	Ironic as this will soon come true. This also seems to be a cruel rejection.
	"I made sure my colleague was insane"	Lanyon fulfills Jekyll's instructions out of curiosity not care.



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Poole	<i>"doggedly disregarding the question"</i>	He doesn't want to tell Utterson about his worries out of fear of hurting Dr Jekyll. This also suggests that Poole is treated well by Jekyll.
	<i>"that thing in the mask was never Dr Jekyll"</i>	He is loyal and concerned for Jekyll's safety. It also shows that Poole is very familiar with his master's behaviours.
	<i>He spoke "with a ferocity of accent that testified to his own jangled nerves."</i>	This is a rare expression of emotion in the novella, showing how Poole is less restricted due to his lower class.
	<i>"master's made away with"</i>	By referring to Jekyll as "master", the reader is reminded of how the two characters are expected to interact with each other. This also propels the narrative as Poole is able to be sure that Jekyll has been replaced with Hyde.
	<i>"he's shut up again in the cabinet; and I don't like it, sir- I wish I may die if I like it."</i>	Poole is expressing concern for his master so involves himself in the investigation. His respectful nature is also shown through the use of "sir". He also acts as a plot device to propel the narrative by seeking Mr Utterson's help.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Sir Carew	<i>"an aged and beautiful gentleman with white hair"</i>	"white hair" is a symbol of age, distinguishment, and perhaps purity. This perpetuates Carew's presentation as a victim in the plot, and the description of Carew is feminised, adding to the view that females are helpless in the novella.
	<i>"such an innocent and wild-world kindness"</i>	This emphasises Carew's vulnerability, heightening the magnitude and effect of the violence committed by Hyde against him.
	<i>"with the air of one very much surprised and a trifle hurt"</i>	Increases the tension surrounding his death, as this leads the reader to assume he was unaware of who Hyde was or why he was trying to hurt him. This reinforces the idea that Carew serves as more of a plot device rather than a three-dimensional character.
	<i>"London was startled by a crime of singular ferocity and rendered all the more notable by the high position of the victim"</i>	Carew is being portrayed as a victim, which heightens tension and works to the mystery / thriller genre of the novella, and the animalistic connotations of "ferocity" place Carew in the role of prey and Hyde as predator.



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Duality	<i>"about three o'clock of a black winter morning"</i>	Enfield is suggested to have engaged in some dubious behaviour which contrasts with his reputable portrayal in the rest of the novella. This makes the reader question what he was doing, which heightens the air of mystery surrounding the novella and the plot.
	<i>"she had an evil face, smoothed by hypocrisy; but her manners were excellent"</i>	Conflict between outermost expression and innermost voice is reflective of the conflict between Jekyll (one's desired expression of morals to society) and Hyde (one's innate repressed desires, that exceed the bounds of society).
	<i>All human beings, as we meet them, are commingled out of good and evil"</i>	Human nature is not truly one, but truly two. Here, Dr Jekyll is being reflective on his experiment and condemning the existence of Hyde as inhuman.
	<i>"That child of Hell had nothing human; nothing lived in him but fear and hatred"</i>	"child" has connotations of innocence which are juxtaposed with the idea of "hell", further reinforcing the disparity between Jekyll and Hyde. 'nothing human' is an inherently abhorrent phrase, evoking fear and hatred in all.
	<i>"Even as good shone upon the countenance of the one, evil was written broadly and plainly on the face of the other"</i>	The duality of human nature cannot be isolated - the two elements are in delicate equilibrium, disrupting this equilibrium has terrible consequences.
	<i>"I had gone to bed Henry Jekyll, I had awakened Edward Hyde"</i>	"awakened" shows a deeper association between the two and implies a fluidity between either state.
	<i>"an air of invitation" vs "sinister block of building"</i>	The duality of the city is explored here.
	<i>"This too, was myself"</i>	Jekyll is aware of the duality present in human nature.
	<i>Jekyll is committed to "a profound duplicity of life"</i>	Jekyll is self aware here of his true nature.
	<i>"Double dose"</i>	Alliterative consonants emphasises the theme of duality here.
	<i>"Double dealer"</i>	
	<i>"Duality of purpose"</i>	Jekyll is divided between his duties as an upstanding member of society and his basal instincts. This pressure is heightened as he is a member of the upper class so is held to higher standards.
	<i>Hyde was "a really damnable man; and the person that drew the cheque is the very pink of proprieties"</i>	The contrast between Jekyll and Hyde is shown in a single sentence. This is reinforced by the plosives used in "pink of proprieties".
	<i>Uttersen's "Rugged countenance" is described which can be juxtaposed against "something human beacons from his eye"</i>	This shows that Uttersen who is presented to be opposing to Dr Jekyll also has duality within his character.
<i>"man is not truly one but truly two"</i>	The significance of the phrase is reinforced by the use of repetition and harsh consonants.	



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Repression	<i>"cold, scanty and embarrassed"</i>	These are traits of a repressed character, he channels his passions into his investigation and profession.
	<i>"the man trampled calmly" and</i>	The reader has to imagine and embellish the events described, which arguably makes for a more vivid and personal reading experience, and the evil nature of the
	<i>"something displeasing"</i>	violence juxtaposes the restrained formal tone it is described in.
	<i>"concealed [his] pleasures"</i>	In the final chapter, Jekyll explains how a pressure to keep his indulgences hidden within contemporary society has led to the creation of Hyde.
	<i>"storm of blows"</i>	This metaphor highlights the intensely violent murder of Carew, implying that Hyde is a concentrated form of Jekyll's repressed activities and characteristics.
	<i>"audibly shattered"</i>	Stevenson's use of auditory imagery emphasises Hyde's brutality.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Friendship	<i>"it is more than ten years since Henry Jekyll became too fanciful for me"</i>	Stevenson's use of temporal deixis suggests the distance between them over time. The fricatives in "fanciful" allude to Lanyon's falsity as a friend. Whilst Lanyon is preoccupied with Jekyll's wrongdoing, Utterson is concerned for his friend's wellbeing.
	<i>"I feel as if the presence of a friend might do him good"</i>	This subverts the reader's expectations by explicitly defying the typical gothic theme of isolation as well as highlighting Utterson's concern for his friend.
	<i>"even [Utterson's] friendships seemed to be founded in a similar catholicity of good nature"</i>	"founded" evokes connotations of security, reliability and respectability. The religious connotations of "catholicity" implies however, that many of Utterson's friendships are based on shared values, making his relationship with Jekyll stand out as different.
	<i>"Now that that evil influence had been withdrawn, a new life began for Dr Jekyll. He came out of his seclusion"</i>	Ironic as the evil influence is in fact coming from within, showing that even Utterson has a tendency to overlook the truth. The idea of him coming out from seclusion shows that he is at heart a sociable man, it also has as caveman like connotations, traits commonly attributed to Hyde.
	<i>"The lawyer listened gloomily; he did not like his friend's feverish manner"</i>	Fricative alliteration in "friend's feverish" emphasises Utterson's doubt. Use of "friend" shows Utterson's care of Jekyll. By using a separate clause to refer to Utterson's job it implies that either he cares for Jekyll despite their professional relationship or he cares for him in both a personal and professional sense.



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Science	"the old dissecting room"	Links with immortality and Jekyll's experimentation on the human body and mind.
	"added one of the powders"	This implies that Jekyll wishes to view his actions as scientific rather than self-indulgence, perhaps to justify his behaviour.
	"began, in proportion as the crystals melted, to brighten in colour"	This illogical word order shows Jekyll's irrationality, which is juxtaposed with the traditional rationality of science, and this syntactic manipulation suggests that Jekyll is out of place in the scientific community.
	"unscientific balderdash"	This highlights the difference in scientific study and research that Jekyll and Lanyon undertakes: Lanyon focuses on the material realm, and so is able to balance his experiments with his religious beliefs, whilst Jekyll focuses on metaphysical science. This is shown by the sibilance in "unscientific".
	"war of attitudes"	Shows that Jekyll is rebuked in the scientific community, this is depicted by violent lexis.
	"Ape-like fury", "Damned juggernaut" and "stumping along"	All used to describe Hyde, likening him to an ape.
	Jekyll describes his "scientific heresies"	This shows the conflict between his investigation and religion.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Secrecy	"make his name stink from one end of London to the other"	Olfactory imagery in the metaphor shows the significance of Enfield threatening to ruin Hyde's reputation.
	"It turns me cold to think of this creature stealing like a thief to Harry's bedside"	It has commonly been interpreted that Utterson assumes that Jekyll and Hyde are in a homosexual relationship. The metaphor "turns me cold" shows the severity of the implications of this accusation and the animalistic connotations of "creature" serve to further highlight the criminality of the act and the need to keep it a secret.
	"I am quite done with him. I was thinking of my own character, which this hateful business has rather exposed"	Jekyll attempts to dissociate himself from Hyde. "this hateful business" is ambiguous and heightens the curiosity of the reader.
	"I have had a shock and I shall never recover"	Lanyon's illness is mysterious.
	Jekyll- "I wish you to judge for me entirely...I have lost confidence in myself"	Jekyll has admitted defeat here.
	Jekyll- "'This is a matter I thought we had agreed to drop'"	There is an urgency to Jekyll's desire to retain secrecy.



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Appearance vs reality	<i>"the fellow had a key"</i>	A door acts as a barrier to prevent one's true nature from being revealed, Hyde has a key so is able to transcend the boundaries of appearance and reality.
	<i>"shady lawyers"</i>	The oxymoron is ironic as they should be delivering justice but are in fact exploitative criminals themselves. Utterson defies this stereotype however, by being the moral compass of the novella.
	<i>"That citadel of medicine" vs "The dismal quarter of soho"</i>	An area is able to present itself as being reputable however, it is never far than an area where criminality is rife.
	<i>"I concealed my pleasures"</i>	The appearance Jekyll presents is far from reality.
	<i>"Lost in stature"</i>	Double meaning, Jekyll changes in appearance as Hyde but people also lose respect for him.
	<i>Hyde is described as being 'Alone in the ranks of mankind'</i>	The metaphor shows his differences to civilised society.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Violence	<i>"the man trampled calmly over the child's body and left her screaming on the ground"</i>	Her young age makes the attack more brutal however, the unembellished language used could imply that this is more a disregard for human life than a deliberate act of malice.
	<i>"this will make a deal of noise"</i>	The metaphor and auditory imagery used highlight Carew's status, showing Hyde's disregard for the upper class.
	<i>"All of a sudden he broke out in a great flame of anger, stamping with his foot, brandishing the cane, and carrying on like a madman"</i>	The metaphor "flame of anger" shows Hyde's volatility as well as relating to the semantic field of violence. The ordered series of clauses which depict his behaviour contrast with the violent and irrational nature of it.
	<i>"A certain sinister block of building thrust forward its gable on the street"</i>	The plosive alliteration used in "block of building" emphasises the jarring nature of the building, this impression is reinforced by the sibilant "certain sinister". The active connotations of "thrust" add to the violent imagery.
	<i>"prolonged and sordid negligence"</i>	This suggests that isolation may lead to violent behaviour.
	<i>"You must suffer me to go my own dark way"</i>	
	<i>"If I am the chief of sinners, I am the chief of sufferers also"</i>	Sin has a dual nature: reward and punishment. The novella acts as a cautionary tale, showing how the rewards do not outweigh the punishment of acting sinfully.



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Religion	<i>"really like Satan", "if ever I read Satan's signature upon a face, it is on that of your new friend"</i>	Biblical allusion gives these statements gravitas.
	<i>Uttersen- "I incline to Cain's heresy"</i>	See full explanation on themes sheet.
	<i>Jekyll refers to the "law of life"</i>	This is emphasised by alliteration. The connotations of human dictated justice in "law" are juxtaposed with the natural connotations of "life" implying that he sees society to be at odds with God.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Violation of innocence	<i>"the man trampled calmly over the child's body"</i>	Like many female characters, she is reduced to an object.
	<i>Stevenson describes the maid's "streaming tears"</i>	She is reduced to the stereotype of the irrational woman.
	<i>Carew is described as an "aged beautiful gentleman with white hair"</i>	Stevenson's use of colour in "white hair" provides angelic connotations and emphasises his vulnerability.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Silence	<i>Mr Enfield- "the more it looks like Queer street, the less I ask"</i>	The more it looks like someone is facing difficulting, the less he will pry. The colloquialism shows how intrinsic this rule is to Enfield's character.
	<i>Mr Enfield later chastises his "long tongue"</i>	He claims to avoid gossiping but still does so, making him a hypocrite.
	<i>"he gives a strong feeling of deformity"</i>	Characters find themselves speechless because of Hyde. When faced with the subhuman, language is not enough to express the emotions felt by characters.

Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
The Supernatural	<i>"trampled calmly over the child's body"</i>	The lack of emotive language in this phrase shows Hyde's unemotional detachment from his actions.
	<i>"a fog rolled over the city in the small hours"</i>	Pathetic fallacy for the murder of Carew.
	<i>"The fog still slept on the wing about the drowned city"</i>	Fog is personified to create a sinister atmosphere.
	<i>"He had his death-warrant written legibly upon his face"</i>	



Character/Theme	Quote	Analysis
Society	<i>Jekyll confesses that "[He] concealed [his] pleasures"</i>	This shows that he feels repressed.
	<i>Jekyll thinks that in separating his human nature "life would be relieved of all that was unbearable"</i>	It is the society dictated repression that drives Jekyll to destruction.

